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Oace when disaster-nay, when lightest cloud Of darkness crossed the sunshine of my ways, Sudden my breast waved full of dread dismays, And, bending earthward as a reed is bowed, Oft would I crouch, cold as a corpe in shroud-

So, radiating not e'en feeblest rays, Did then for me the fire of courage blaze; So readily my spirit then was cowed! But now! Miraculous doth seem the change. Why, not fate's earthquake furies, nor fate's rude, Most maddened waves of vengeance could

My soul from its firm grasp of fortitude ! Love, means it not that your life is more dear To me than mine, that so I conquer fear? -William Struthers in Home Journal.

BENGAL INCIDENT.

There were two entrances to the drawing room; this must be borne in mind. The house itself was old fashioned, a large and many gabled one, standing quite alone and solitary in a spacious garden; all the windows had been closed and the jalousies shut and secured from the outside; the tatty grass blinds on the piazza had been rolled up and put away till another blazing morning called for their refreshing shade. The night was perfectly fine, but moonless; there was a heavy dew rapidly falling like misty rain, which in hot countries is a perfectly natural occurrence.

A few miles away was that part of the delta called the Sunderbunds, through which the Ganges expands its branches as it approaches the sea-a labyrinth of creeks and rivers, of jungle and stagnant water.

I went into the drawing room by what may be called the back door, as it led into the back drawing room and smaller one of the two; the other, a far larger apartment, communicated with this one by great folding doors of gold and white. The back drawing room was very full of furniture, rather inconveniently so,

As I was carrying an armful of books and in my disengaged hand a lamp, by throwing the rays in front of me I proceeded with tolerable security, though slowly, but then of course I knew the room and could have gone to my destination in the dark. What struck me as both curious and irritative was the fancy that the room seemed more impeded than ever with the furniture, dark old fashioned rosewood furniture that had been made to match the grand piano. The various articles looked as if they had been dragged about the room. Possibly the darkness above and around me helped the illusion, anyway they had the appearance of having been gradually spreading toward the center of the room round a heavy and solid table. It was this table that I wished to go to. I walked very slowly, partly because

did not wish to spill the books that I spent the last hour in collecting and posity because of an unaccountably horrible from ; that had come over me. This part of fine i use was quite silent, indeed it was often so of an evening, and then it was very late. My brother had passed me on his way upstairs, baving been all day at Madrepore, and no doubt being tired had gone to bed. There were very few stairs at all, and the house was practically a one storied one, rambling and full of angles, having been built and added to at various times; here and there little staircases streamed out leading to long passages and unexpected closets; the back drawing room door itself opened from a side flight of

As I had encountered two small chairs and an overturned music stand, I stood still for a second, looking for a clear passage, and thereby holding the lamp high and well in front of me. As I paused, amid the complete silence that reigned, an immense tiger slowly crossed the path of light, turning on me two yellow burning eyes, gleaming like vivid topazes-I stood there in stiffened terror and heard my heart beat-its mouth was loosely parted and running with saliva; so wide was it hanging open at the corners that the serrated edges of the lower lips were plainly visible. It gazed with a steadfast look of such grinning cruelty, such conscious malignity, that it petrified my blood and turned my rigid limbs to stone. This description of sight and feeling was of course the impression of one vivid conception condensed by a minute's agony. The tiger crossed the India matting of the room with a noiseless swinging gait, as it appeared to have come from the obscurity near the piano, so it vanished into the obscurity beyond, that is, outside the pathway of the lantern light. I stood perfectly immovable, still clutching the books with my left arm, still holding the lamp before me, still gazing at the place it crossed, and apparently forever seeing that awful look upon the tiger's broad face. It seemed as if my eyes saw the face, though my mind had rapidly suggested the frightful probability that the tiger was behind me. At the same time by some dual mental process it was holding out hope that the animal had passed through the great folding doors into the dark room beyond.

I have no remembrance at all of my mind dictating the next action I pursued; it seemed just an instinct indulged in by the body upon its own account and for its own immediate preservation. "It is obviously the mind 'hat wills," so say the scientists. Much confusion has arisen by the misuse of the term "will power." The will, instead of being, as define 1 by Professor Edwards, "that by which the mind chooses anything," is the mind's faculty or power of making effort, and that, as regards choice, we make effort to ascertain which of two or more things is preferable.

I laid the books very carefully down without making the slightest unnecessary noise or disturbing the hand that held the lamp, and then raising with slow effort one of the heavy little chairs that had blocked my passage, I silently swung it on to my shoulders and held it so that it covered my head, then turned slowly sidewise, with my mind impressed with the necessity of keeping the lamp as far as possible behind. This struck me at the time as clever and of unquestionable importance in saving my life. I managed to walk gently out of the room. I suppose I had been in the room ten minutes, but it seemed like a weary hour. As I closed the door and locked it my brother came down the passage and passed on the flight of stairs. He was rather in a hurry. "Ezra," I called out to him, "do you mind fastening the front door in the large drawing room as you go by?" I could think of nothing else to say, and I said it slowly and quite naturally. He assented and passed on, and I, without noticing it at the time, took up the chair again, and with my lamp ascended the short flight of stairs and proceeded along the passage to my own room, walking slowly and guardedly. The mind had evidently been so shocked that it had not recovered its dominant sway over the body. It is not always the mind that wills; here was the body taking care of itself, while the mind's faculty of making effort was held in abeyance.

Upon reaching my own room I put the chair carefully down and sat upon it. The lamp I had placed on the table at the same time. I sat there fully five minutes, feebly wondering which room the tiger was in. Then I got up with a sudden alacrity, took from my case a large revolver and turned into the passage. In a few minutes I was in Ezra's

room; he was half undressed. "What's the matter?" he demanded, with startled eyes. When I had told him he took my hard and wrung it. "You may thank God that you are alive, old fellow;" then be

dressed burriedly, took a heavy rifle from a rack and filled his pocket with cartridges, "Come along-stay, let me go first-your

nerves are a bit shaken yet." We crept out and awakened the "siniar" (superintendent or butler), an old and faithful Hindoo whom my brother had once nursed through a long sickness-a brave, reliable and trustworthy man, who would have

laid down his life for Ezra. "It is the man eater!" said the Hindoo,

after my recital. "You will come with us?" asked my brother, The old man looked as if the question was

superfluous. "Will the sahib let his servant advise him?"

"Yes! Ramee, tell me your plan!" As the Hindoo rapidly unfolded it my brother smiled dubiously and shook his head at the length of time it would involve.

"Cunning may be met with cunning," said the Hindoo, "It'll take three hours to arrange it," I re-

marked. "Truly, three hours will bring the dawn, and who can see in the dark? Not the sahib;

but yes, the tiger." "Very well," said Ezra, "let's set about it at

From the gardener's room we brought a roll of wire netting that had been put there a few days previously for fencing in a paddock. Together we gathered armfuls of shavings the workmen had not cleared away, dried leaves, rags, everything we could find soft and pliable, and having cut the wire into three lengths, laid them side by side and lashed them together. When completed it was the shape, but rather larger than the big window in the room where the tiger still lay. Our operations had been carried on outside upon the veranda near the gardener's room and the new outhouse, then in process of erection. Rolling up the wire netting we carried it round the corner of the house, within a few yards of the big window. Here it was unrolled again and flattened out; then upon its surface we strewed all the shavings and leaves we had collected, some bundles of long grass and rags, and then upon the mase smeared and spread a quantity of lime left by the workmen. This we smoothed down as well as we were able till the whole mass assumed some consistency and clung to the interstices of the netting. Ramee next took some stout twine and improvised a rough kind of needle from a bamboo cane. With this he sewed all over the mass of stuff a netting of string that helped to keep the composition in its place. When finished it resembled nothing so much as a huge mattress. So far so good. The most difficult operation yet remained.

"Take my gun," said Ezra to me, "and give me the revolver."

"Sahib," said the Hindoo, "let Ramee complete his task. Is it not his work! If he fails,

shall be not suffer!" "You foolish man!" said Ezra. "How can you do it alone? We are wasting time." He pushed the revolver in his belt, laid hold of one end of the netting and threw off his shoes. With slow and noiseless steps the netting was carried exactly opposite the window and laid gently down; then both retired as silently as they had advanced. Ramee then brought from the outhouse a ladder, and with a gesture of entreaty signed to my brother to stand aside and take his rifle in his

With bare feet the Hindoo crept up to the window again and reared the ladder against the wall. Taking a coil of wire rope from his neck he deftly fastened it to the highest wall staple of the shutter. Descending, he quickly enlaced the short strand in the netting, placed the ladder on the other side and ran it through the other staple.

For the first time he made a noise. It was unavoidable and was caused by the netting being drawn upward till it hung like an immense curtain hiding the whole of the window from us. Ezra and I stood waiting and ready to fire.

The Hindoo, with perspiration running from him at every pore, descended the ladder, which he took and placed horizontally on the windowsill and lashed it to the bottom of the netting and again fastened that to the two lower staples on either side. The thing was done. Far away in the east the dawn was breaking; overhead the morning star was slowly paling its silver fire.

"But-Ramee, the shutters are still fasened."

"Sahib! I unfastened them. Presently the light will stream through. They are open the breadth of two hands." "Quick! fetch another rifle."

He was gone, and swiftly returning handed me the gun, into which I slipped a couple of cartridges, and gave him the revolver. A light breath of wind passed, murmuring through the feathery crowns of the slender cocoa palms, two great spears of light shot up into the sky, and somewhere in the garden a little bird sang. The sun had risen. "Wait for my signal," whispered my

brother; "now, Ramee." The Hindoo knelt down and imitated the

bleating of a kid that has lost its mother. At the instant he sprang to his feet the silence was rent by a sundering crash and one terrific roar, the shutters were torn from their sockets as a great mass hurled itself through the window, and the tiger, with its head and shoulders buried in the lime colored debris, was grappling in maddened rage with an enemy he could not see.

"Wait," said Ezra. The animal was twenty feet from us, tearing up the graveled path and coiling itself in inextricable confusion in the broken netting and splintered ladder. Ramee uttered a loud cry. The animal had freed his head and stood, in an enforced listening attitude, with his mouth full of mingled wire and lime stained matter.

It was the moment Ezra had waited for, and he fired. The tiger, evidently not seeing us, sprang at the window, but missed the opening, hurling itself against the wall and falling on the broken shutter. At the moment it alighted I aimed at the spot behind the shoulder and fired. It gave a convulsive leap and turned in our direction with bloodshot eyes; then Ezra fired again and called to me to do the same. It fell. "Back, back," cried Ramee.

The animal had gathered itself together, sprang forward with one mighty bound and rolled over. It was dead .- Charles Lillie in San Francisco Chronicle.

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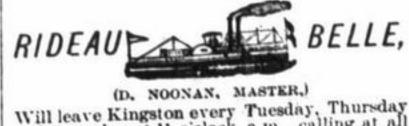
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