THE RIFLE AND THE HOUND IN CEYLON

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The Rifle and the Hound in Ceylon by Sir Samuel W. Baker

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SIR SAMUEL W. BAKER

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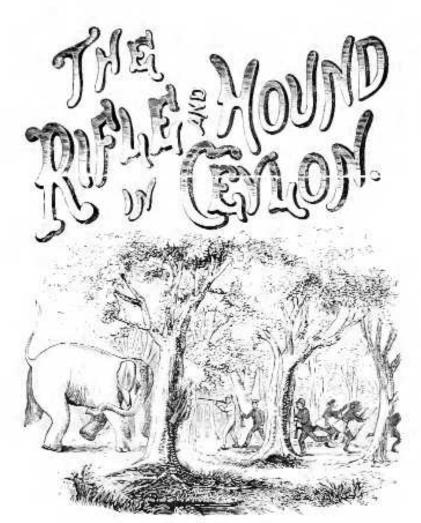
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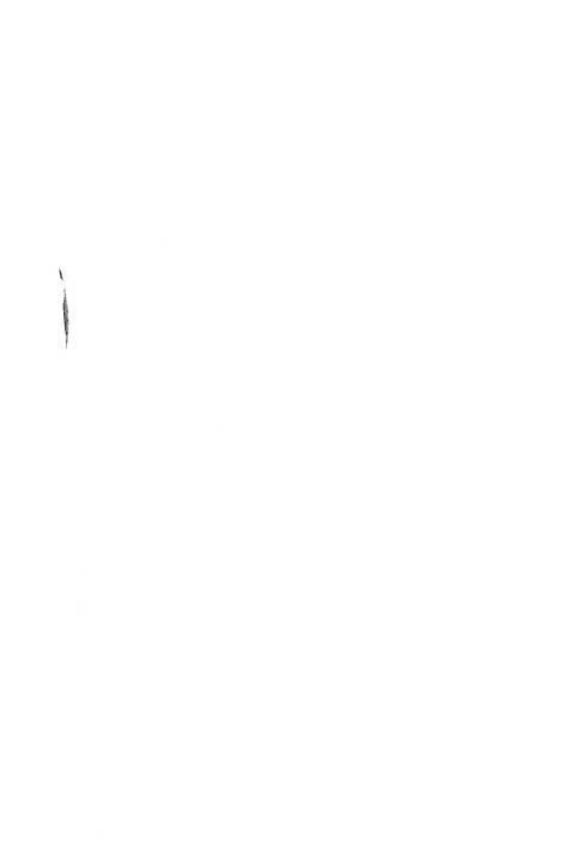




PANIC AMONG THE GUN BEARERS.

Page 250.

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BY SIR SAMUEL W. BAKER,

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INTRODUCTION.

THE love of sport is a feeling inherent in most Englishmen, and whether in the chase, or with the rod or gun, they far excel all other nations. In fact, the definition of this feeling cannot be understood by many foreigners. We are frequently ridiculed for fox-hunting: "What for all dis people, dis horses, dis many dog? dis leetle (how you call him?) dis 'fox' for to catch? ha! you eat dis creature; he vary fat and fine?"

This is a foreigner's notion of the chase; he hunts for the pot; and by Englishmen alone is the glorious feeling shared of true, fair and manly sport. The character of the nation is beautifully displayed in all our rules for hunting, shooting, fishing, fighting, etc.; a feeling of fair play pervades every amusement. Who would shoot a hare in form? who would net a trout stream? who would hit a man when down? A Frenchman would do all these things, and might be no bad fellow after all. It would be his way of doing it. His notion would be to make use of an advantage when an opportunity