

sents Christianity on the borders of that icy sea.

By-and-bye the Ostyak found his way back to the yurts of Taginsk, with an ample store of white bread (a rich luxury to that frugal tribe), which Turchanoff sent in gratitude for their services. The

adventures of the merchant and his companion, during their journey so St. Petersburg, were perilous and strange. The contractor, from whom Turchanoff borrowed, without leave, a bag of silver, received its equivalent in a mysterious manner several years after.



LEOPARDS AND PANTHERS.

LEOPARDS and panthers are among the most beautiful of animals, and, like our domestic cat, when young, are exceedingly playful. They are all expert climbers, and concealed in some branch they watch the approach of their prey and spring down upon it. They also hunt the monkeys and other animals that live upon trees, and the mark of their claws is often seen upon the bark near the top of the tallest trees. The term leopard is generally applied to the species having small black spots, arranged in a circular form upon a yellow ground, and panther to those with larger spots; but whether they are distinct species, or only varieties of the same, has not been determined by naturalists. There is also a black variety in which the ground is dusky black with spots of a jet or glossy black, and both yellow and black have been observed sucking the same mother. It is therefore probable that there is a great diversity of markings upon them, and that specific differences cannot be determined by colour.

The following interesting account of a panther is given in "Loudon's Magazine of Natural History," by Mrs. Bowdich; and, though of considerable length, it is so interesting that we cannot omit it. It is beautifully told, and the traits in the disposition of the animal show that at least some of the race, by gentle treatment, are capable of manifesting great attachment and gentleness:—

"I am induced to send you some account of a panther which was in my possession for several months. He and another were found, when very young, in the forest, apparently deserted by their mother. They were taken to the king of Ashantee, in whose palace they lived several weeks; when my hero, being much larger than his companion, suffocated him in a fit of romping, and was then sent to Mr. Hutchison, the resident left by Mr. Bowdich at Coomassie.

This gentleman, observing that the animal was very docile, took pains to tame him, and, in a great measure, succeeded. When he was about a year old, Mr. Hutchison returned to Cape Coast Castle, and had him led through the country by a chain, occasionally letting him loose when eating was going forward, when he would sit by his master's side, and receive his share with comparative gentleness. Once or twice he purloined a fowl, but easily gave it up to Mr. Hutchison, on being allowed a portion of something else. On the least encouragement, he laid his paws upon our shoulders, rubbed his head upon us, and his teeth and claws having been filed, there was no danger of tearing our clothes. He one morning broke his cord, and the cry being given, the castle gates were shut, and a chase commenced. After leading his pursuers two or three times round the ramparts, and knocking over a few children by bouncing against them, he suffered himself to be caught, and led quietly back to his quarters, under one of the guns of the fortress.

By degrees the fear of him subsided; and orders having been given to the sentinels to prevent his escape through the gates, he was left at liberty to go where he pleased; and a boy was appointed to prevent him from intruding into the apartments of the officers. His keeper, however, generally passed his watch in sleeping; and Saï roamed at large. On one occasion, he found his servant sitting on the step of the door, upright, but fast asleep; when he lifted his paw, gave him a blow on the side of his head, which laid him flat, and then stood wagging his tail as if enjoying the mischief he had committed.

He became exceedingly attached to the governor, and followed him everywhere like a dog; his favourite station was at a window of the sitting-room, which overlooked the whole town; there, standing on his hind legs, his fore-paws resting on the ledge of the window, and his chin laid between them, he appeared to amuse himself with what was passing beneath. The children also stood with him at the window; and one day, finding his presence an incumbrance, and that they could not get their chairs close, they used their united efforts to pull him down by the tail. He one morning missed the governor, who was settling a dispute in the hall, and who, being surrounded by black people, was hidden from the view of his favourite. Saï wandered with a dejected look to various parts of the fortress in search of him; and, while absent on this errand, the audience ceased, the governor returned to his private rooms, and seated himself at a table to write. Presently he heard a heavy step coming up the stairs, and, raising his eyes to the open door, he beheld Saï. At that moment he gave himself up for lost; for Saï immediately sprang from the door on his neck. Instead, however, of devouring him, he laid his head close to the governor's, rubbed his cheek upon his shoulder, and wagged his tail to evince his joy.

Occasionally, however, the panther caused a little alarm to the other inmates of the castle, and the poor woman who swept the floors was made ill by fright. She was one day sweeping the board of the great hall with a short broom, and in an attitude nearly approaching to all-fours, and Saï, who was hidden under one of the sofas, suddenly leaped upon her back, where he stood in triumph. She screamed so violently as to summon the other servants; but they, seeing the panther, as they thought, in the act of swallowing her, one and all scampered off as quickly as possible; nor was she released till the governor, who heard the noise, came to her assistance. Strangers were naturally uncomfortable when they saw so powerful a beast at perfect liberty; and many were the ridiculous scenes which took place; they not liking to own their alarm, yet perfectly unable to retain their composure in his presence.

Saï was about two feet in height, and was of a dark yellow colour, thickly spotted with black rosettes; and, from the good feeding and the care taken to clean him, his skin shone like silk. The expression of his countenance was very animated and good-tempered, and he was particularly gentle to children. He would lie down on the mats by their side when they slept, and even the infant shared his caresses, and remained unhurt. During the period of his residence at Cape Coast, I was much occupied by making arrangements for my departure from Africa; but generally visited my future companion every day, and we, in consequence, became great friends before we sailed.

When his master was leaving for England, Saï was conveyed on board the vessel in a large wooden cage, thickly barred in the front with iron. But the canoe-men were so alarmed at taking him from the shore to the vessel, that, in their fright, they dropped the cage and all into the sea. For a few

minutes the poor panther was in danger of being drowned, but some sailors jumped into a boat belonging to the vessel, and dragged him out in safety. The beast himself seemed completely subdued by his ducking; and as no one dared to open his cage to dry it, he rolled himself up in one corner, nor roused himself till an interval of some days, when he recognized his master's voice. When he first spoke, Sai raised his head, held it on one side, then on the other, to listen; he jumped on his legs, and appeared frantic; he rolled himself over and over, he howled, he opened his enormous jaws, and cried, and seemed as if he would have torn the cage to pieces. However, as his delight subsided, he contented himself with thrusting his paws and nose through the bars of the cage to receive his master's caresses.

The greatest treat I could bestow upon my favourite was lavender water. Mr. Hutchison had told me, that, on the way from Ashantee, he drew a scented handkerchief from his pocket, which was immediately seized on by the panther, who reduced it to atoms; nor could he venture to open a bottle of perfume when the animal was near, he was so eager to enjoy it. I indulged him twice a week by making a cup of stiff paper, pouring a little lavender water into it, and giving it to him through the bars of his cage; he would drag it to him with great eagerness, roll himself over it, nor rest till the smell had evaporated.

By this I taught him to put out his paws without showing his nails, always refusing the lavender water till he had drawn them back again, and in a short time he never, on any occasion, protruded his claws when offering me his paw. We lay eight weeks in the river Gaboon, where he had plenty of excellent food, but was never suffered to leave his cage, on account of the deck being always filled with black strangers, to whom he had a very decided aversion,

although he was perfectly reconciled to white people. His indignation, however, was constantly excited by the pigs, when they were suffered to run past his cage; and the sight of one of the monkeys put him in a complete fury. While at anchor in the before-mentioned river, an orang-outang was brought for sale, and lived three days on board; and I shall never forget the uncontrollable rage of the one or the agony of the other, at this meeting. The orang-outang was about three feet high, and very powerful, so that when he fled with extraordinary rapidity from the panther to the farther end of the deck, neither men nor things remained upright when they opposed his progress: there he took refuge in a sail, and although generally obedient to the voice of his master, force was necessary to make him quit the shelter of its folds. As to the panther, his back rose in an arch; his tail was elevated, and perfectly stiff; his eyes flashed, and, as he howled, he showed his huge teeth; then, as if forgetting the bars before him, he tried to spring on the orang-outang to tear him to atoms.

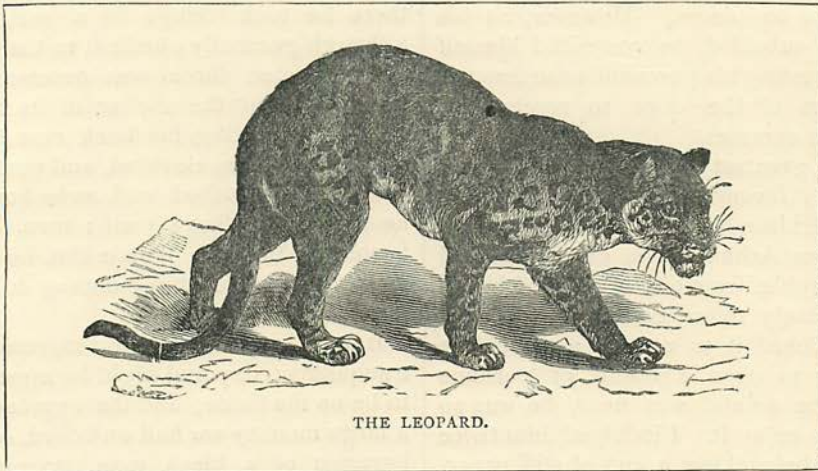
It was long before he recovered his tranquillity; day and night he appeared to be on the listen; and the approach of a large monkey we had on board, or the intrusion of a black man, brought a return of his agitation. We at length sailed for England, with an ample supply of provisions; but, unhappily, we were boarded by pirates during the voyage, and nearly reduced to a state of starvation.

My panther must have perished but for a collection of more than three hundred parrots, with which we sailed from the river, and which died very fast while we were in the north-west trades. Sai's allowance was one per diem; but this was so scanty a pittance that he became ravenous, and had not patience to pick off the feathers before he commenced his meal. The consequence was, that he became very ill, and refused even this

small quantity of food. Those around him tried to persuade me that he suffered from the colder climate; but his dry nose and paw convinced me he was feverish, and I had him taken from the cage; when, instead of jumping about and enjoying his liberty, he lay down, and rested his head upon my feet. I then made three pills, each containing two grains of calomel. The boy who had the charge of him, and who was much attached to him, held his jaws open, while I pushed the medicine down his throat. Early the next morning I went to visit my patient, and found his guard

and gentle deportment. In the evening, when her royal highness's coachman went to take him away, he was dead, in consequence of an inflammation on his lungs."

Sir Stamford Raffles obtained two young ones of a peculiar species that inhabit the island of Sumatra, of which he says, in the *Zoological Journal*, vol. i.:—"Both specimens, while in a state of confinement, were remarkable for good temper and playfulness; no domestic kitten could be more so; they were always courting intercourse with persons passing by, and in the expres-



sleeping in the cage; and having administered a further dose to the invalid, I had the satisfaction of seeing him perfectly cured in the evening. On the arrival of the vessel in the London docks, Sai was taken ashore, and presented to the Duchess of York, who placed him in Exeter Change, to be taken care of till she herself went to Oatlands. He remained there for some weeks, and was suffered to roam part of the day without any restraint. On the morning previous to the Duchess's departure from the town, she went to visit her new pet, played with him, and admired his healthy appearance

and their countenance, which was always open and smiling, showed the greatest delight when noticed, tickled, and rubbed. There was a small dog, which used to play round the cage and with the animal, and it was amusing to observe the playfulness and tenderness with which the latter came in contact with his inferior-sized companion. When fed with a fowl that died, he seized the prey, and after sucking the blood and tearing it a little, he amused himself for hours in throwing it about and jumping after it, in the manner that a cat plays with a mouse before it is quite dead.

He never seemed to look on men or children as prey, but as companions, and the natives assert that when wild they live principally on poultry, birds, and the smaller kinds of deer."

This animal is called in Sumatra, the

rimau-dahan. The word *dahan* means the fork of a tree, in which they commonly rest. It is larger than the leopard, and remarkable for the thickness of its limbs, but its head is smaller and less expressive of ferocity.

THUROT'S INVASION.



THE town of Carrickfergus, in the county of Antrim, Ireland, boasts an antiquity which carries us back to the early days of history. It was, doubtless, an important place during the

eventful wars which occurred in Ireland during the middle ages, and its castle is supposed to have been built in the year 1178. Coming down to later times we find that the town was besieged in 1689 by the Duke of Schomberg, to whom it surrendered on August 28th of that year; and it was at Carrickfergus that King William III. landed with his army, twelve days before the battle of the Boyne. In 1760 the castle was taken, and the town plundered, by the daring French commodore, Thurot—an episode distinguished in history as "Thurot's Invasion."

Of the career of Commodore Thurot, and his last exploit—the attack on Carrickfergus—the following is a brief sketch:—

François Thurot was born in the year 1727, at Nuits, in Burgundy, and was of Irish extraction, his grandfather being Captain O'Farrell, one of those who loyally adhered to the cause of James II. after his abdication. Thurot's mother was a French lady, her connections being of some distinction; and it was to this circumstance that Thurot owed his escape on the occasion when his life had been forfeited to the laws of his country.

As a lad, Thurot evinced an insatiable passion for adventure; and when only fifteen years of age he surreptitiously

left his home, and proceeded to Dunkirk, with a view of indulging his taste for the sea. By a singular coincidence, amongst the seafarers with whom Thurot now came into contact, was a roving Irish smuggler, bearing Thurot's family name of Farrell. Being told by this individual that the O'Farrells were still a flourishing family in Connaught, amongst whom he would find a friendly reception, Thurot agreed to accompany his new acquaintance to Ireland.

On reaching the Isle of Man, however, a dispute arose between the two rovers, and the lad determined to remain on the island, leaving his friend to proceed alone on his adventures. Failing to meet with an opportunity of continuing his journey, Thurot entered the service of a gentleman from Anglesey, who was engaged in the smuggling business; and in this service the youth was employed in "running" goods between Anglesey and the Isle of Man. In this occupation, Thurot increased his knowledge of the English language, and at the same time acquired some skill in seamanship. Impelled by his thirst for adventure, Thurot abandoned this employment and went to Dublin, where he entered the service of a nobleman as valet; but, before long, his love of the sea returned, and he again took up his old avocation of smuggling.

The boldness of Thurot's transactions attracted the attention of the revenue officers, who kept a vigilant watch upon his proceedings, and on his return from one of his expeditions they fell upon his