

the first of a party of three young girls walking in single file through the jungle was seized and carried off by a tiger. Nothing daunted, the second girl, seizing a chopper from the one behind her, rushed in pursuit, and actually killed the striped marauder by a rain of blows on its head. It is true that both anecdotes rest on native testimony, but they seem to have the impress of truth.

Mr. Wilson's book is, however, by no means confined to tigers, and will be found to contain a number of more or less interesting observations on the habits and character of many denizens of the Burmese jungles, from meloks downwards to snakes and lizards.

(2) Colonel Mockler-Ferryman's volume, on the other hand, is a "tiger-book" pure and simple, and for those who enjoy animal "autobiographies" is an excellent example of that class of literature, for the author appears to be thoroughly well-acquainted with the habits of the striped tyrant, and records the history, in what are supposed to be the animal's own words, of a member of the race from cubhood to mature age. Incidentally he mentions that there are "castes" among the species, and that the sleek hill-tiger, with a fully-striped coat, is an altogether superior class of animal to its fat, and often sparsely striped, brother of the lowlands. An attractive feature of the volume is formed by the eight coloured plates, reproduced in excellent style by the tricolour process from sketches by Mr. Harry Dixon. Whether when a tiger has knocked over a sambar stag by a vigorous rush, its mate would take a flying leap on to the victim in the manner shown in the plate on the cover of the volume, I am not competent to say, but the action certainly looks like a somewhat unnecessary display of energy. In the plate representing a tiger clinging to the shoulders of a tame buffalo in the arena of a native chief, the horns are of somewhat antelope-like type, but we are told on p. 16 of the text that the buffalo in question, together with its fellows, possessed horns of abnormal shape. R. L.

#### OUR BOOK SHELF.

*Anton Dohrn: Gedachtnisrede gehalten auf dem Internationalen Zoologen-Kongress in Graz am 18 August, 1910.* By Prof. Th. Boveri. Pp. 43. (Leipzig: S. Hirzel, 1910.) Price 1.25 marks.

ALTHOUGH the labours and personality of the late Anton Dohrn have been strikingly presented in this journal, the motives that led him to found the "Stazione Zoologica" and the influence he has exerted are matters of great interest, not to be exhausted by a single article. In a wonderfully artistic manner this aspect of Dohrn's life is made clear in a speech delivered by Prof. Boveri during the Graz Zoological Congress last August, and now published by Hirzel, of Leipzig.

In that pure, nervous German to which he has accustomed us, Prof. Boveri sets forth the inspiration that led Dohrn to undertake his life-work, the capacity that enabled him to overcome difficulties of the severest nature, and to win support of the most international character. Now that it is done we are apt to forget the originality, the clear-sightedness, and the zeal which underlaid such a splendid success; and it is well that the man himself should be known who has

raised on alien territory buildings that cover 2000 square metres, that enclose 250 rooms, and employ fifty officials. The international value of such a laboratory is immense, and the work is that of one man who faced the forebodings of failure from his father, friends, and colleagues, who strove against misfortune upon misfortune, and who, in spite of this, staked his whole interest in the ultimate success of the scheme. The speech is one of lasting value.

*Fly-Leaves from a Fisherman's Diary.* By Captain G. E. Sharp. Pp. xi+175. (London: Edward Arnold, 1910.) Price 5s. net.

Books about fishing, and above all about dry-fly fishing, are so constantly appearing that the reader tends to become critical, not to say fastidious. Yet we do not think that the most fastidious will complain of Captain Sharp's little book. The writing of it has obviously been a labour of love undertaken by a keen sportsman, and an ardent lover of nature and open-air life. The episodes described are ordinary, and, we had almost written, commonplace, but they are set forth with the charm which is inseparable from the descriptions of the really sympathetic student of the life of a river.

It has been the good fortune of the author to find employment in a country town within bicycling distance of the water that he fishes, and, month by month, he has been able to spend his days and half-days of leisure by the river. Month by month he has described his days, or some of them, for, "Even in fishing there are sometimes evil days, but they are not the days which we remember." The book is illustrated with three really admirable pictures of stretches of a chalk stream and a charming view of a nameless Wiltshire village. L. W. B.

*Mating, Marriage, and the Status of Woman.* By James Corin. Pp. xii+182. (London and Felling-on-Tyne: Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., 1910.) Price 2s. 6d. net.

IN an essay of considerable interest, the author reviews the causes which have led to the development of the relations existing between the human male and female.

The phenomenon of a relatively inferior female bound to a relatively dominant male is peculiar to man. The contention is that the marriage system is the cause of human progress while at the same time it affords an explanation of woman's physical and mental inferiority. Progress depends on the birth-rate. If woman is to be a highly developed breeding machine she must occupy an inferior position, being economically dependent on the male. Centuries of selection, for breeding purposes, of the feeblest, most submissive, and patient of women have had a marked effect.

Mating, in which the woman was free, belongs to the first period of human affairs, and marriage to the second. In the opinion of the author, the marriage system, fostered by militarism, has developed from the practice of communal rape, and the relation of victorious soldiers to captive women. According to Skeat, the word wife is allied to vibrare, to tremble; hence wife means a trembling thing, a captive. The essay is interesting and the argument is well sustained.

*Mother and Child. Being Letters from an Old Nurse to a Young Mother.* By L. M. Marriott. Pp. 126. (London and Felling-on-Tyne: Walter Scott Publishing Co., Ltd., 1910.) Price 1s.

IN a small volume of 120 pages much sound advice is given about the management of pregnancy, the health of young mothers, the care of infants, the early training of children, and other domestic matters.