

The following extract from the report of the Veterinary Surgeon in charge of the Zoo was forwarded to us by the Private Secretary to H. H. the Maharaja of Jamnagar.

"The tigress *Sunder* was alright on the 9th December. Next morning when the keeper of the animals went to see them as usual, he found the tigress dead. He informed me, whereupon I went there. The tigress was taken out of the cage. On an examination it was found that she was bitten on the lower jaw just below the angle of the mouth on the left side. The part bitten was swollen and there was hæmorrhage from the nostrils and from the rectum. On a post-mortem examination it was found that all the organs inside were little or more congested and blood was found coagulated on exposure to atmosphere, i.e., after removal from the blood vessels."

"The tigress left three cubs—two females and one male about a month old. For their nourishment she-goats are kept and they are suckling them. The cubs are quite well and in good condition. The incident occurred during the night."

We are indebted to the Editor of the *Times of India* for permission to publish the interesting photo reproduced above.

[EDITORS.]

NO. XIII.—RECORD OF A DEATH FROM BITE OF THE HAMADRYAD OR KING COBRA (*NALIA HANNA*).

In your Journal, Vol. XXX, No. 1, 1st October 1924, on page No. 194, in the paper by Col. F. Wall, I.M.S., read before the B.N.H.S.'s meeting held on 22nd July 1924, it says:—

"I know of no case of a bite in a European."

About 10 or 12 years ago, Mr. Slater of the Geological Dept. of the Mysore Service was bitten by a King Cobra.

This happened at Hoonsakoltti, near Thirthally, in the Shimoga District, Mysore State, S. India.

The Forest Ranger informed me that Slater and a cooly were going out one morning with a 12 Bore gun. Close to the Traveller's Bungalow they saw the snake lying sunning itself. The cooly begged of Slater to shoot it. But Slater was keen on snakes, and finding that the Hamadryad was lying quiet went up and put his foot on its head. He was wearing long boots or leather leggings. But the snake managed to wrench its head loose and struck Slater above the knee, and escaped.

Slater cut the wounds and sucked the blood, and put ligatures, etc. The nearest doctor was sent for and everything possible was done. But Slater died in the evening.

The Thirthally jungles are noted for Hamadryads and local people hold it in great dread.

MYSORE, S. INDIA,
4th December 1924.

CHARLES THEOBALD, F.Z.S.

NO. XIV.—RECOVERY FROM THE BITE OF *ECHIS CARINATA*.

The subject bitten was an Indian woman aged about forty years. The snake attached itself to her bare ankle and was killed by her husband, who was accompanying her.

She was seen by me five minutes later.

The snake was recognised to be an *Echis carinata*.

SYMPTOMS.—Very severe pain in the right foot at the seat of the injury. Pain running up the inner side of the leg. Vomiting. No symptoms of fear exhibited. Pulse normal.



Theobald, Charles. 1925. "Record of a Death from Bite of the Hamadryad Or King Cobra (Naia Havna)." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 30, 706–706.

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