

IBEX SHOOTING ON THE HIMALAYAS

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Ibex Shooting on the Himalayas by Neville Taylor

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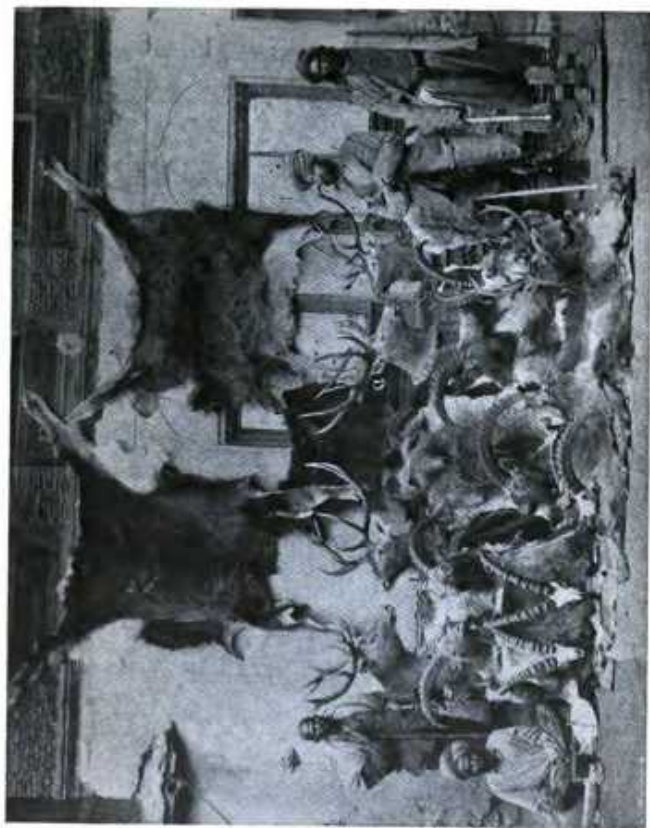
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NEVILLE TAYLOR

**IBEX SHOOTING ON
THE HIMALAYAS**



CHYBRA.
BEARER.

THE BAG, 1895.

AUTHOR.

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IBEX SHOOTING

ON THE
HIMALAYAS

BY
MAJOR NEVILLE TAYLOR

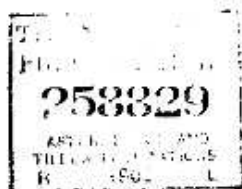
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TO MY GODFATHER
FIELD-MARSHAL
SIR NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN,
G.C.B., G.C.S.I.

Stevenson ms 7/03 5/

PREFACE

ALTHOUGH I had served in India for ten years in a native regiment, many of the officers of which had had experience of hill shooting, and some of them of ibex shooting in Cashmere, I had found it impossible to gather any idea of the general principles on which an ibex expedition should be conducted, and this partly because sportsmen are as a rule better narrators of incidents than exponents of theories, and partly because they seem to be incapable of grasping the extent of the questioner's ignorance of the conditions which determine the nature of the sport in question ; moreover, the training of a young soldier makes him diffident about monopolizing the time of his seniors.

My experience in this matter is a common

one, hence it frequently occurs that the inexperienced find themselves on the wild snowfields of Cashmere in a state of ignorance, which puts them at the mercy of the shikari. They are forced to follow his advice blindly, and chafe unreasonably at the constant halts and wearisome checks which, if their *raison d'être* be not understood, are most exasperating to the keen; they are inexpressibly trying, even if one is lucky enough to have a good and reliable shikari, but reduce the man to despair who has reason to doubt his guide's ability or good faith.

In this case the way is far from smooth. The shikari presumes at first on his master's ignorance, and after a bit the master, who has lost confidence without gaining knowledge, issues orders and interferes generally, in a manner which is fatal to success.

It is undeniable that the necessary information may be quickly acquired on the spot by a man who is familiar with the