

a sign to mount and seat Myself on his back I really had not courage to cut capers or ride the great horse with such a monstrous animal but he immediately took me up in his mouth and placed me on his back in spite of me as his sides were steep and his skin slippery immediately stepped down to the ground and he as quickly lifted me up again and having placed me on his neck I saw that there was a hole among his scales and having fixed myself there I held stouly with both hands and recommended myself to god as the verse goes -

While tis a ground that holds the rope
Where'er he leads me I have hope
When the snake perceived that I had got so firm a hold that there was no farther fear of falling he began to stir himself with such agility that he presently outstripped the wind and every time that he drew his breath a flame of fire burst from his mouth that parched and shivelled the whole desert when he had travelled on for