

of from twenty to a hundred individuals. The food of the elephant consists of the branches, leaves, and roots of trees, and also of a variety of bulbs, of the situation of which he is advised by his exquisite sense of smell. To obtain these he turns up the ground with his tusks, and whole acres may be seen thus ploughed up. Elephants consume an immense quantity of food, and pass the greater part of the day and night in feeding. Like the whale in the ocean, the elephant on land is acquainted with, and roams over, wide and extensive tracts. He is extremely particular in always frequenting the freshest and most verdant districts of the forest; and when one district is parched and barren, he will forsake it for years and wander to great distances in quest of better pasture.

The elephant entertains an extraordinary horror of man, and a child can put a hundred of them to flight by passing at a quarter of a mile to windward; and when thus disturbed, they go a long way before they hunt. It is surprising how soon these sagacious animals are aware of the presence of a hunter in their domains. When one troop has been attacked, all the other elephants frequenting the district are aware of the fact within two or three days, when they all forsake it, and migrate to distant parts, leaving the hunter no alternative but to inspan his waggons, and remove to fresh ground. This constitutes one of the greatest difficulties which a skilful elephant-hunter encounters. Even in the most remote parts, which may be reckoned the head-quarters of the elephant, it is only occasionally, and with inconceivable toil and hardship, that the eye of the hunter is cheered by the sight of one. Owing to habits peculiar to himself, the elephant is more inaccessible, and much more rarely seen, than any other game quadruped, excepting certain rare antelopes. They choose for their resort the most lonely and secluded depths of the forest, generally at a very great distance from the rivers and fountains at which they drink. In dry and warm weather they visit these waters nightly; but in cool and cloudy weather they drink only once every third or fourth day. About sundown the elephant leaves his distant mid-day haunt, and commences his march towards the fountain, which is probably from twelve to twenty miles distant. This he generally reaches between the hours of nine and midnight; when, having slaked his thirst and cooled his body by spouting large volumes of water over his back with his trunk, he resumes his path to his forest solitudes. Having reached a secluded spot, I have remarked that full-grown bulls lie down on their broadsides, about the hour of midnight, and sleep for a few hours. The spot which they usually select is an anthill, and they lie around it with their backs resting against it; these hills, formed by the white ants, are from thirty to forty feet in diameter at their base. The mark of the under tusk is always deeply imprinted in the ground, proving that they lie upon their sides. I never remarked that females had thus lain down, and it is only in the more secluded districts that the bulls adopt this practice; for I observed that, in districts where the elephants were liable to frequent disturbance, they took repose standing on their legs beneath some shady tree. Having slept, they then proceed to feed extensively. Spreading

out from one another, and proceeding in a zigzag course, they smash and destroy all the finest trees in the forest which happen to lie in their course. The number of goodly trees which a herd of bull elephants will thus destroy is utterly incredible. They are extremely capricious, and on coming to a group of five or six trees they break down not unfrequently the whole of them, when, having perhaps only tasted one or two small branches, they pass on and continue their wanton work of destruction. I have repeatedly ridden through forests where the trees thus broken lay so thick across one another that it was almost impossible to ride through the district; and it is in situations such as these that attacking the elephant is attended with most danger. During the night they will feed in open plains and thinly wooded districts; but as day dawns, they retire to the densest covers within reach, which nine times in ten are composed of the impracticable wait-a-bit thorns; and here they remain drawn up in a compact herd during the heat of the day. In remote districts, however, and in cool weather, I have known herds to continue pasturing throughout the whole day.

The appearance of the wild elephant is inconceivably majestic and imposing. His gigantic height and colossal bulk, so greatly surpassing all other quadrupeds, combined with his sagacious disposition and peculiar habits, impart to him an interest in the eyes of the hunter which no other animal can call forth. The pace of the elephant when undisturbed is a bold, free, sweeping step; and from the peculiar spongy formation of his foot, his tread is extremely light and inaudible, and all his movements are attended with a peculiar gentleness and grace. This, however, only applies to the elephant when roaming undisturbed in his jungle; for when roused by the hunter, he proves the most dangerous enemy, and far more difficult to conquer than any other beast of chase. (*Cunning's Adventures in South Africa.*)

11 Skull of Muchocho, or White Rhinoceros

Animal next in size to the elephant.

12 Skull of Borele, or Black Rhinoceros

An animal remarkable for ferocity.

13 Horns of Muchocho or White Rhinoceros

14 Horns of Borele, or Black Rhinoceros

15 Horns of *Keitloa*, or long horned Black Rhinoceros

A dangerous animal.

15a Horns of *Kobaoba*, or long horned white Rhinoceros

Supposed to be the unicorn of antiquity.

Of the rhinoceros there are four varieties in South Africa, distinguished by the Bechuannas by the names of the borelé or black rhinoceros, the keitloa or two-horned rhinoceros, the muchocho or common white rhinoceros, and the kobaoba or long-horned white rhinoceros. Both varieties of the black rhinoceros are extremely fierce and dangerous, and rush headlong and unprovoked at any object which

attracts their attention. They never attain much fat, and their flesh is tough, and not much esteemed by the Bechuans. Their food consists almost entirely of the thorny branches of the wait-a-bit thorns. Their horns are much shorter than those of the other varieties, seldom exceeding eighteen inches in length. They are finely polished with constant rubbing against the trees. The skull is remarkably formed, its most striking feature being the tremendous thick ossification in which it ends above the nostrils. It is on this mass that the horn is supported. The horns are not connected with the skull, being attached merely by the skin, and they may thus be separated from the head by means of a sharp knife. They are hard and perfectly solid throughout, and are a fine material for various articles, such as drinking cups, mallets for rifles, handles for turner's tools, &c. &c. The horn is capable of a very high polish. The eyes of the rhinoceros are small and sparkling, and do not readily observe the hunter, provided he keep to leeward of them. The skin is extremely thick, and only to be penetrated by bullets hardened with solder. During the day the rhinoceros will be found lying asleep or standing indolently in some retired part of the forest, or under the base of the mountain, sheltered from the power of the sun by some friendly grove of umbrella-topped mimosas. In the evening they commence their nightly ramble, and wander over a great extent of country. They usually visit the fountains between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock at night, and it is on these occasions that they may be most successfully hunted, and with the least danger. The black rhinoceros is subject to paroxysms of unprovoked fury, often ploughing up the ground for several yards with its horns, and assailing large bushes in the most violent manner. On these bushes they work for hours with their horns, at the same time snorting and blowing loudly, nor do they leave them in general until they have broken them into pieces. The rhinoceros is supposed by many, and by myself among the rest, to be the animal alluded to by Job, chap. xxxix. verses 10 and 11, where it is written, "Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? Wilt thou trust him because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him?" evidently alluding to an animal possessed of great strength and of untameable disposition, for both of which the rhinoceros is remarkable. All the four varieties delight to roll and wallow in mud, with which their rugged hides are generally encrusted. Both varieties of the black rhinoceros are much smaller and more active than the white, and are so swift that a horse with a rider on his back can rarely overtake them. The two varieties of the white rhinoceros are so similar in habits, that the description of one will serve for both; the principal difference consisting in the length and set of the anterior horn; that of the muchocho averaging from two to three feet in length, and pointing backwards; while the horn of the kobaoba often exceeds four feet in length, and inclines forward from the nose at an angle of 45°. The posterior horn of either species seldom exceeds six or seven inches in length. The kobaoba is the rarer of the two, and it is found very far in the interior, chiefly to the eastward of the Limpopo. Its horns

are very valuable for loading rods, supplying a substance at once suitable for a sporting implement and excellent for the purpose. Both these varieties of rhinoceros attain an enormous size, being the animals next in magnitude to the elephant. They feed solely on grass, carry much fat, and their flesh is excellent, being preferable to beef. They are of a much milder and more inoffensive disposition than the black rhinoceros, rarely charging their pursuer. Their speed is very inferior to that of the other varieties, and a person well mounted can overtake and shoot them. The head of these is a foot longer than that of the borèlé. They generally carry their heads low, whereas the borèlé, when disturbed, carries his very high, which imparts to him a saucy and independent air. Unlike the elephants, they never associate in herds, but are met with singly or in pairs. In districts where they are abundant, from three to six may be found in company, and I once saw upwards of a dozen congregated together on some young grass, but such an occurrence is rare. (*Cumming's Adventures in South Africa*.)

16 Skull of male Hippopotamus

17 Skull of female Hippopotamus

Frequents rivers, feeds on grass.

18 Tusks of male and female Hippopotamus

This most interesting and comparatively little known animal is only met with in the great continent of Africa, where it inhabits rivers, lakes, and inlets of the sea in the vicinity of the mouths of rivers; though of moderate height, they attain when full grown an incredible size, both in length of body and in circumference, and I have seen twenty powerful draught oxen exert their utmost strength to drag a full grown male out of the river on to dry land. From tusks and skulls which I have examined, it appears to me that the hippopotamus of the White Nile and Northern Africa attain to even greater dimensions than their congeners of the Southern hemisphere, which is the reverse with most other African animals. Nature has formed this animal with short legs, and of low stature for facility in swimming, and to enable it more easily to conceal itself in water of moderate depth, and to pass unnoticed over the shallows or fords connecting the deep still pools which constitute its strongholds and haunts by day. By its colossal size it has nothing to fear from its amphibious neighbour, the crocodile, which would no doubt otherwise quickly annihilate the race; and it is gifted with a hide of extraordinary thickness like the elephant and rhinoceros, to defend it from the various formidable thorns which clothe the dense jungles which form an almost impenetrable barrier around their mid-day haunts, these thick skins are moreover an indispensable protection to their bodies against the formidable tusks of their opponents in the desperate fights which occur between both males and females, and it is common to see both sexes, but particularly the males, so fearfully lacerated in some recent fight, as to remind the beholder of a crimped salmon, or of an animal affected with some leprous malady. They probably attain maturity at about fifteen years of age, and from my know-

the day dawned, the lion occasionally springing after them and driving them in upon the kraal. The horrible monster lay all night within forty yards of us, consuming the wretched man whom he had chosen for his prey. He had dragged him into a little hollow at the back of the thick bush, beside which the fire was kindled, and there he remained till the day dawned, careless of our proximity.

It appeared that when the unfortunate Hendrick rose to drive in the ox, the lion had watched him to his fireside, and he had scarcely lain down when the brute sprang upon him and Ruyter (for both lay under one blanket), with his appalling murderous roar, and, roaring as he lay, grappled him with his fearful claws, and kept biting him on the breast and shoulder, all the while feeling for his neck; having got hold of which, he at once dragged him away backwards round the bush into the dense shade.

As the lion lay upon the unfortunate man he faintly cried "Help me, help me! Oh God! men, help me!" After which the fearful beast got a hold of his neck, and then all was still, except that his comrades heard the bones of his neck cracking between the teeth of the lion. John Stofolus had lain with his back to the fire on the opposite side, and on hearing the lion he sprang up, and, seizing a large flaming brand, he had belaboured him on the head with the burning wood; but the brute did not take any notice of him. The Bushman had a narrow escape; he was not altogether scatheless, the lion having inflicted two gashes in his seat with his claws. (*Cumming's Adventures.*)

- 138 Skin of one of four large male Lions, two of which were shot right and left in an open plain, the other two escaped
- 139 Tail of the second of the above
- 140 Skin of Lioness shot at a fountain west of Boötlonamy at about twelve yards. She was one of six which came together to drink, after feeding on the remains of three Rhinoceros, shot the night before
- 141 Skin of Lion killed with two balls. He was found beside a Buffalo which he had just killed. The head of his victim is also in the Collection.
- 142 Skull of Buffalo mentioned above
- 143 Skin of Lion shot from a hole by a fountain at mid night while dragging away the carcass of a Blue Wildebeeste, killed shortly before
- 144 Skull of a Lioness attacked in an open plain, and killed after fearfully lacerating the haunches of the Sportsmen's favourite horse Colesburg
- 145 Skull of the Leopard, that cruelly maimed an English gentleman, a companion of Mr. Cumming
- 146 Skull of a female Buffalo. One of four killed in one night. Three of these were partially devoured by Lions before

day broke, within a few yards of the Hunter and his Kaffir attendant.

- 147 Skull of Hippopotamus; one of seven first-rate Hippopotami killed in the Limpopo in one day, out of a herd of upwards of forty.
- 148 Skull of Hippopotamus killed after a personal conflict in the waters of the Limpopo
- 149 Horn of Rhinoceros, shot on the same night with a Giraffe and an old Bull Elephant at the Fountain of Pepe.
- 150 The three horns of a triple horned Black Rhinoceros
A remarkably rare specimen.
- 151 Ditto.
- 152 Horn of a Rhinoceros which fell after a very long contest, pierced with twenty-four Balls; the chase having commenced at the fountain of Mangmaluki

ARMS AND COSTUMES.

The Bechuanas are a lively and intelligent race of people, and remarkable for their good humour: they are well formed, if not starved in infancy. They possess pleasing features and very fine eyes and teeth; their hair is short and woolly; the colour of their complexion is of a light copper. The various tribes live in kraals, or villages, of various sizes, along with their respective chiefs. Their wigwams are built in a circular form, and thatched with long grass; the floor and wall, inside and out, are plastered with a compound of clay and cow-dung. The entrances are about three feet high and two feet broad. Each wigwam is surrounded with a hedge of wickerwork, while one grand hedge of wait-a-bit thorns surrounds the entire kraal, protecting the inmates from lions and other animals.

The dress of the men consists of a kaross, or skin cloak, which hangs gracefully from their shoulders; and another garment, termed tsecha, which encircles their loins, and is likewise made of skin. On their feet they wear a simple sandal formed of the skin of the buffalo or camelopard. On their legs and arms they carry ornaments of brass and copper of different patterns, which are manufactured by themselves. The men also wear a few ornaments of beads round their necks and on their arms. Around their necks, besides beads, they carry a variety of other appendages, the majority of which are believed to possess a powerful charm to preserve them from evil. One of these is a small hollow bone, through which they blow when in peril; another is a set of dice formed of ivory, which they rattle in their hands and cast on the ground to ascertain if they are to be lucky in any enterprise in which they may be about to engage; also a host of bits of root and bark which are medicinal. From their necks also depend gourd snuff-boxes made of an extremely diminutive species of pumpkin, trained to grow

in a bottle-like shape. They never move without their arms, which consist of a shield, a bundle of assagais, a battle-axe, and a knobkerry. The shields are formed of the hide of the buffalo or camelopard: their shape among some tribes is oval, among others round. The assagai is a sort of light spear or javelin, having a wooden shaft about six feet in length attached to it. Some of these are formed solely for throwing, and a skilful warrior will send one through a man's body at one hundred yards. Another variety of assagai is formed solely for stabbing. The blades of these are stouter, and the shafts shorter and thicker, than the other variety. They are found mostly among the tribes very far in the interior. Their battle-axes are elegantly formed, consisting of a triangular-shaped blade, fastened in a handle formed of the horn of the rhinoceros. The men employ their time in war and hunting, and in dressing the skins of wild animals. The dress of the women consists of a kaross depending from the shoulders, and a short kilt formed of the skin of the pallah, or some other antelope. Around their necks, arms, waists, and ankles they wear large and cumbersome coils of beads of a variety of colours, tastefully arranged in different patterns. The women chiefly employ their time in cultivating their fields and gardens, in which they rear corn, pumpkins, and water-melons: and likewise in harvesting their crops and grinding their corn. Both men and women go bareheaded: they anoint their heads with "sibelo," a shining composition, being a mixture of fat and a grey sparkling ore, having the appearance of mica. Some of the tribes besmear their bodies with a mixture of fat and red clay, imparting to them the appearance of Red Indians. Most of the tribes possess cattle; these are attended to and milked solely by the men, a woman never being allowed to set foot within the cattle-kraal. Polygamy is allowed, and any man may keep as many wives as he pleases: the wife, however, has in the first instance to be purchased. Among tribes possessed of cattle the price of a wife is ten head of cattle; but among the poorer tribes a wife may be obtained for a few spades with which they cultivate their fields. These spades, which are manufactured by themselves, are fastened in the end of a long shaft, and are used as our labourers use the hoe. Rows of women may be seen digging together in the field singing songs, to which they keep time with their spades. (*Cumming's Adventures.*)

- 153 Kaross of Leopard Skin, which was worn by Schoey King of the Bakaas, a tribe to the eastward of Bamangwoto
- 154 Kaross worn by Sicomy, King of the Bamangwotos, a tribe of the far interior
- 155 Kaross of State worn by Pucoolwey, Chief of a tribe, bordering on the present territories of Moselekatze
- 156 Kaross made for Old Seleka, King of the Basileka, a tribe living on the banks of the Lepalala, a tributary of the Limpopo River
- 157 Kaross worn by Siehely, King of the Baquainas (or they of the Crocodile), a tribe inhabiting the Banks of the Kolubeng, or River of Wild Boars

- 158 Kaross worn by the chief of the six wives of Siehely. This Chief has since embraced Christianity.
- 159 Kaross worn by Mosielely, King of the Bakatlas, who occupy the romantic valley of Mabotsa
- 160 Kaross presented to Mr. C. by Mahura, Chief of the Batlapis (or they of the Fish), a haughty tribe of the Bechuannas located on the Hart River
- 161 Shields, Assagais, and Battleaxes, belonging to the above tribes
- 162 Axes manufactured from the native ore, by the Bamaleti, a very remote tribe
- 163 Knobbed Kerys, manufactured from the Horn of the Rhinoceros, by the various Bechuana tribes, and used by them in War and Hunting.
- 164 Dice used by the Bechuannas to ascertain if they will be successful in Hunting
- 165 Lemues, or Sewing Needles, worn round the neck by the Bechuannas, used for making Karosses
- 166 Gourd Snuff-boxes, worn by the Bechuannas, from their Necklaces
- 167 Bow, Quiver, and Poisoned Arrows, used by the Bosjesmen

Unlike the Kaffir tribes, who lift cattle for the purpose of preserving them and breeding from them, the sole object of the Bushmen is to drive them to their secluded habitations in the desert, where they massacre them indiscriminately, and continue feasting and gorging themselves until the flesh becomes putrid. When a Kaffir has lifted cattle, and finds himself so hotly pursued by the owners that he cannot escape with his booty, he betakes himself to flight, and leaves the cattle unscathed; but the spiteful Bushmen have a most provoking and cruel system of horribly mutilating the poor cattle, when they find that they are likely to fall into the hands of their rightful owners, by discharging their poisoned arrows at them, hamstringing them, and cutting lumps of flesh off their living carcasses. This naturally so incenses the owners, that they never show the Bushmen any quarter, but shoot them down right and left, sparing only the children, whom they tame and convert into servants. The people who suffer from these depredations are Boers, Griquas, and Bechuannas, all of whom are possessed of large herds of cattle, and the massacres of the Bushmen, arising from these raids, are endless. (*Cumming's Adventures.*)

- 168 Shooting Belt worn at the Death of most of the Animals
- 169 Loading Rods, made of Rhinoceros Horn.
- 170 Favourite Knobbed Kery of Sicomy, made of Rhinoceros Horn, and very remarkable for its unusual length