

THE HANDBOOK OF TANGANYIKA

FIRST ISSUE 1930

Issued by the Chief Secretary's Office

GENERAL EDITOR

GERALD F. SAYERS

(AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN THE CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE)

This Handbook, though in part compiled from Official Records, is not an Official Publication.

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON 1930 safari should one be shot. In small waters they spend much of their time on land, even lying about in the bush. When found on land the animal is apt to be dangerous if met on its path back to the water. They are full of curiosity, and, where they have not been much shot at, may be attracted nearer and nearer to the bank by noises and waving of cloths.

When shot in the water, the body of a hippopotamus sinks and may take nearly a day to rise, though in particularly hot weather the corpse may come to the surface in an hour or two. The teeth of a large hippopotamus, when mounted, make a fine trophy.

BLACK RHINOCEROS (Rhinoceros bicornis)

Native name: Kiswahili-Kifaru.

This rhinoceros is present almost throughout the Territory. A few of the areas in which it is particularly abundant are western Bukoba, Shanwa, and thence to the Serengeti Plains, the Lake Yaida-Eyasi area (Mbulu), Sonyo (Loliondo), Mbugwe.

Twelve-inch horns are common, an eighteen-inch horn is good, and horns more than double this length have been got.

Good horns have been obtained in Bukoba and Sonyo, in Kampi ya Faru near Mbulu, and at Rasha-rasha near Arusha, where a horn of over forty inches was secured.

Where they have been much hunted, rhinoceros keep to the thickets, coming out into the glades and other open spaces in the evening. They return to their retreats, criss-crossed with their paths, very early in the morning. They are found much on hillsides covered with the cactus-like euphorbias which to human beings are poisonous but to the rhinoceros, food. The animal's reaction to the discovery that human beings are near is often a stupid rush, which occasionally is in the direction of his disturbers and still more occasionally may develop into a purposeful charge. This very stupidity, combined with a blind ferocity, makes him a danger, but he is not to be compared with the purposefully charging, deliberately waiting buffalo. He is very blind, and a detour down wind will commonly take a caravan safely past a rhinoceros

that has not noticed its presence. An approach to the animal up-wind is easy. A charging rhinoceros is frequently turned by a shot or even temporarily felled by a head-shot which just misses the brain, but he is not so easily killed. The novice is advised to take the heart shot. The mark is large and, should the heart be missed, even a lung shot is apt to be more rapidly effective here than in elephant.

It has been necessary, as a result of excessive shooting, to restrict the hunting of rhinoceros to holders of a special licence. As in the case of elephant tusks, the horn of any rhinoceros shot must, within one month of the killing, be produced to the nearest Administrative Officer for registration.

EAST AFRICAN LEOPARD (Felis pardus suahelica)

Native names: Kiswahili—Chui. Kisngara—Duma. Chigogo—Sui. Kinyamwezi—Sui. Kisukuma—Sui.

The leopard is very abundant in the Territory, but, owing to its secretive habits and protective colouring, is more generally obtained by means of the gun-trap than by straightforward shooting. The average leopard will weigh little more than 100 lb., or one-fifth of the weight of a lion. The Game Warden once shot one of 130 lb. and has seen a magnificent skin of one that weighed 150.

It is fortunate that the leopard is light, for its ferocity and rapid movements, and the fact that nothing but death will turn it, would make it by far the most formidable of animals, were it larger in size. Even so, many who have followed a wounded leopard have paid with their life, or have been seriously mauled. The moral is never to follow a wounded leopard into dense bush.

Cases of unprovoked attack by leopards on man are uncommon, but near Morogoro it was ascertained that a leopard which ran amok killed and wounded no less than eleven people. In one or two cases a leopard has dropped from a branch on a native passing below, while at times a leopard has broken through the thatch of a hut—a commoner feat on the part of a lion, except where the hut contains small stock.

Goats and fowls are frequently taken and dogs are a favour-