

THE RHINOCEROS—(R. Unicornis Linn.)— now exhibited 62 South Fourth street, is well worthy the attention of the public. In addition to the description heretofore published, we add a few particulars respecting this extraordinary animal, from Le Keux and Sand's Illustrations of Natural History, a work now publishing in London.

In general the species is not numerous, and is much less diffused than the elephant. The single horn of this animal marks its species. The under lip is like that of an ox, but the upper more like that of a horse; and the Rhinoceros uses it as that creature does, to gather up hay from the rack or grass from the ground; but with this superior advantage that he has the power of extending the lip to six or seven inches in length from the nose, and it is so pliable that he can move it from side to side, grasp a stick with it or any small substance, and hold it extremely fast. The skin is almost impenetrable, insomuch, that it will turn or break the edge a scimitar, and resist a musket ball—between the folds the skin is penetrable, as soft to the touch as silk, and of a light flesh colour.

This animal has four cutting teeth, one on each corner of the jaw, and six grinders in each, the first remote from the cutting teeth—without being carnivorous, or even extremely wild, the Rhinoceros is quite untractable.—It is said that which Emanuel, King of Portugal, sent to the Pope in the year 1518, destroyed the vessel in which they were transporting it, and it is said that the tiger will rather attack the elephant than the rhinoceros.—He is dull of sight, but has a most exquisite scent. From the peculiar construction of their eyes, he can only see what is immediately before him; consequently, when he pursues any object he usually proceeds in a direct line, overturning every obstruction—his sense of hearing is as acute as his smell. The female produces but one at a time, at considerable intervals and is very solicitous about her young.—The flesh of this animal is eaten and considered excellent food by the natives of India and Africa, and in the former country, the skin, hoofs, teeth and dung are used medicinally.—The horns are quite in repute as an antidote against poison. The rhinoceros is the unicorn of scripture, and possesses all the properties ascribed to that animal—rage, untameableness, great swiftness, and immense strength.

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