GREAT AND SMALL GAME OF AFRICA

AN ACCOUNT OF THE DISTRIBUTION, HABITS, AND NATURAL HISTORY OF THE SPORTING MAMMALS, WITH PERSONAL HUNTING EXPERIENCES

CONTRIBUTORS

MAJOR A. J. ARNOLD, D.S.O.
H. A. BRYDEN
T. E. BUCKLEY
T. W. H. CLARKE
LORD DELAMERE
DR. D. G. ELLIOT
CAPT. B. T. FFINCH
H. C. V. HUNTER
J. D. INVERARITY
F. J. JACKSON, C.B.
SIR HARRY JOHNSTON, K.C.B.
F. VAUGHAN KIRBY
R. LYDEKKER
CAPT. JOHN MARRIOTT
A. H. NEUMANN
A. E. PEASE
G. W. PENRICE
LE VICOMTE EDMOND DE PONCINS
DR. PERCY RENDALL
F. C. SELOUS
ALFRED SHARPE, C.B.
LT.-COL. WILLIAM SITWELL
A. H. STRAKER
MAJOR H. G. C. SWAYNE
POULETT-WEATHERLEY

General Editor—H. A. BRYDEN

WITH FIFTEEN HAND-COLOURED PLATES AND NUMEROUS PHOTOGRAVURE ILLUSTRATIONS

LONDON

ROWLAND WARD, LIMITED

1899

without coming up with it, certainly not less than 25 miles in all, probably many more.

A. H. Straker.

The White or Square-Mouthed Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros simus*), sometimes called Burchell's Rhinoceros

Wit rhenoster of the Cape Dutch; *Chukuru* of Bechuanas; *Umhofo* of Matabele

The great white or square-mouthed rhinoceros is a form which appears to have been evolved in the southern portion of Africa, for, although many other parts of that vast continent would seem to be eminently suited to its habits, it has not yet been met with anywhere to the north of the Zambesi, in Central and Eastern South Africa, or north of the 17th parallel of south latitude in the more westerly portions of the country. To the south of that line, however, this huge mammal was plentiful a century ago all over South Africa north of the Orange River, except in waterless or mountainous districts. In 1812 Dr. Burchell first met with this species in the Batlapeen country, not far from the present native town and mission-station of Kuruman. Probably the range of the white rhinoceros once extended even farther south than this point, but I should doubt its ever having been an inhabitant of the country lying immediately to the north or south of the Orange River, below its junction with the Vaal, as those districts are very arid and do not produce much grass. At any rate all the rhinoceroses met with south of the Orange River by the earlier travellers in South Africa—including Dr. Burchell—seem to have been of the prehensile-lipped or so-called black species. I do not know whether the emigrant Boers, when in 1836 they first entered the country now known as the Orange Free State, met with the white rhinoceros, but I am inclined to believe that they did, as I have had places pointed out to me just north of the Vaal River, on the

open grassy plains of the Southern Transvaal, where examples of this species were encountered by the early Dutch pioneers ; and as the pasture to the south of the Vaal River is very good and that stream is easily fordable at many points during the dry season, there is no reason why some of these animals should not have crossed it at certain times of the year. In the north-western portions of the Transvaal the white rhinoceros was formerly very abundant. Cornwallis Harris mentions that on one occasion during the year 1836, as he was travelling through the Magaliesberg district, "eighty were seen during the day's march, and on my way from our encampment in the valley of the Limpopo to a hill only half a mile distant, no fewer than twenty-two were counted, of which we were obliged in self-defence to slaughter four." In a footnote Cornwallis Harris also mentions that Sir Andrew Smith, whilst travelling about the same time through the country some two degrees north of Magaliesberg, encountered during one day's march with his bullock waggons, and without wandering to any great distance on either side of their track, between 100 and 150 rhinoceroses, half of which were probably of the square-mouthed species. Between 1840 and 1850 all travellers who have left records of their journeys report having found the white rhinoceros very abundant all over the country, wherever there was water, to the north and west of the Limpopo between Secheli's country and Lake Ngami. Gordon-Cumming encountered great numbers of these animals, and mentions having seen upon one occasion upwards of a dozen congregated together on some young grass, though he speaks of such a sight as being very unusual.

In one short hunting trip during 1847 or 1848 Messrs. Oswell and Vardon are credited with having killed eighty-nine rhinoceroses, the majority of which were probably of the square-mouthed species.

C. J. Andersson also found these animals very numerous during his travels between 1850 and 1854 in the country lying to the west and north-west of Lake Ngami, and speaks of killing nearly sixty rhinoceroses of both

species during one season. He also mentions the fact of nine of these ponderous animals, which must have weighed some thirty to forty tons in the aggregate, having been killed in one day by a single European at no great distance from Walfish Bay. Yet, notwithstanding the great, and in many instances it is to be feared unnecessary, slaughter of white rhinoceroses which has taken place at the hands of Europeans, South Africa is such a vast country, that in many districts these animals might still have been numerous had it not been for the rapid spread of firearms amongst the native tribes, who have carried the war against these easily-killed beasts into their remotest retreats.

At the date of my first visit to South Africa, in 1871, the range of the white rhinoceros had been very much reduced since the days of Cornwallis Harris, but these animals were still numerous in the uninhabited districts of Matabeleland, Mashunaland, Gazaland, and Zululand, as well as certain portions of the Eastern and South-Eastern Transvaal. In August 1872 I first saw the fresh tracks of the white rhinoceros near Mangwe, about 60 miles south-west of Bulawayo, and a month later met with many of the animals themselves to the north-west of that place. At this time these animals were still very numerous in that part of the country, and whilst elephant hunting during the last three months of the year between the Gwelo and Umniati Rivers, I saw white rhinoceroses almost daily, and sometimes as many as six or eight in one day. In 1873 I was hunting in the country to the west of the River Gwai, and found these animals plentiful to the south of the mountainous tract of country which extends eastwards from the Victoria Falls to the junction of the Gwai and Tchangani Rivers. In the following year I was hunting along the southern bank of the Chobi River, and still found white rhinoceroses not uncommon, but three years later, in 1877, during several months spent in the same district, I only saw the tracks of two of these animals, whilst in 1879, during eight months spent in hunting on and between the Botletlie, Mababi, Machabi, Sunta, and Upper

Chobi Rivers I never even saw the spoor of a white rhinoceros, and the bushmen said there were none left. In July 1884, however, whilst camped near the reed-bed in which the Mababi River loses itself, some natives coming to my camp from their villages a few miles distant came on a white rhinoceros crossing the footpath on its way back to the bush from the water where it had just been drinking. The fact that it came to the water in the middle of the day shows that this animal must have been very thirsty, and had probably come from some vley in the desert country to the south which had lately dried up. I followed its tracks for a long way, but did not come up with it, and never either heard or saw anything of it again. It probably went down the Tamalakan towards the Botletlie, but could not have escaped the bushmen and Masubias—most of whom possessed firearms—for very long. This is the last rhinoceros that I ever heard of in any part of Western South Africa.

In the country to the north-east of Matabeleland, between the Sebakwe and the Manyami Rivers, white rhinoceroses were still fairly numerous in 1878, in which year I one day saw five together, and their numbers only commenced to be seriously reduced after 1880. About that time rhinoceros horns—of all sorts and sizes—increased very much in value, and as ivory had then become very scarce in South Africa, the traders in Matabeleland employed natives to shoot rhinoceroses for the sake of their horns—no matter of what length—and their hides, which were utilised as waggon whips and sjamboks.

One trader alone supplied 400 Matabele native hunters with guns and ammunition, and between 1880 and 1884 his large store always contained great piles of rhinoceros horns, often the spoils of 100 of these animals at one time, although they were constantly being sold to other traders and carried south to Kimberley on their way to England. What caused this sudden demand for short rhinoceros horns from 1880 to 1885 I do not know. But this freak of fashion in knife handles, combs, or what

not sounded the death-knell to the white and black rhinoceros alike in all the country that came within reach of the Matabele native hunters. At this time, however, the Manyami River was looked upon as the boundary of Lo Bengula's dominions to the north-east, and none of his people dared to hunt in small parties much to the east of the Lower Umfuli River; and it thus came to pass that the white rhinoceroses inhabiting a small tract of country between the Angwa and the Manyami, though they were occasionally killed by the natives living in the surrounding districts, were not so systematically slaughtered as their brethren to the west of the Umfuli River. In 1886 two Boer hunters, Karl Weyand and Jan Engelbrecht, shot ten white rhinoceroses in this little tract of country, and five more were killed during the same year by some Fingo hunters who had been long resident in Matabeleland. A few were still left, and in the following year I saw the tracks of two or three of them, but did not come across any of the animals themselves, though one of my waggon-drivers shot a big bull.

It had always been one of my ambitions to preserve a complete specimen of the white rhinoceros for our national collection at South Kensington, and finding the fresh tracks of three of these animals—a bull, a cow, and a calf—when on my way from Matabeleland to the Manyami River in 1882, I followed them up with the intention of killing them and preserving their skins and skeletons. I shot the bull and the cow and let the calf go, but as neither of them had good horns, although they were full grown, I decided not to preserve them, but to try and get better specimens, so I only kept the skull and head skin of the bull, which are now in the South African Museum at Cape Town.

I did not come across any more white rhinoceroses that season, and was not able either then or in 1883, 1885, or 1887 (in all of which years I was camped at no great distance from the country which I knew was their last refuge) to afford the time and expense of making a special expedition after

them. In June 1892, however, my term of service with the British South Africa Company being completed, and having a clear month at my disposal, I left Salisbury with native guides who knew exactly where the few white rhinoceroses still left were to be found, fully determined to secure the skin and skeleton of at least one of these animals. Unfortunately, a fall from my horse whilst chasing an ostrich bruised my leg so badly that I could not put my foot to the ground for more than three weeks, and when I recovered there was no time to go on to the white rhinoceros country and then return to Salisbury in time to carry out an engagement to take a shooting party to the Pungwe River. Therefore the two white rhinoceroses which I shot in 1882 are the last of their species that I have ever seen alive, or am ever likely to see, and when I left Africa towards the end of 1892 I fully expected that these animals would become extinct within a short time, and remain for ever unrepresented in the collection of any European Museum.

Fortunately, however, this fear has proved to have been unfounded.

In August 1892 two members of Mr. Rhodes's Pioneer Force which occupied Mashunaland in 1890 were returning to Salisbury from a trip to the Zambesi. These gentlemen were Messrs. R. T. Coryndon and Arthur Eyre, both of them good field naturalists as well as good hunters and pioneers, and when about 100 miles to the north-west of Salisbury, they ran right into a family of white rhinoceroses — a bull, a cow, and a calf. The bull and the cow were both wounded, but got away, whilst the calf was killed by mistake by a stray bullet. Whilst following the wounded animals on the next day Messrs. Coryndon and Eyre came on to a large cow, accompanied by a half-grown animal and a very young calf. Eyre shot the big cow, and the small calf was captured alive, not without considerable difficulty, but it unfortunately died in a few days' time. The skin and skeleton of the cow were preserved, but had to be abandoned, as it was found impossible

to transport them to Salisbury. In 1893, however, Mr. Coryndon having been commissioned by Mr. Walter Rothschild to obtain the complete skin and skeleton of a white rhinoceros for the Tring Museum, set out once more for the same part of the country where he had met with these animals the preceding year, accompanied by a large staff of native carriers. He was fortunate enough to come upon two bulls consorting together, and he shot and preserved the skins and skeletons of both. One of these two specimens is mounted in the Mammalia Gallery of the Natural History Museum at South Kensington, and the other is in the Tring Museum. In 1895 Mr. Arthur Eyre obtained yet another white rhinoceros bull in the same district of Northern Mashunaland. This fine specimen was bought by Mr. Cecil Rhodes and presented by him to the South African Museum at Cape Town.

Although it has always been known that a few white rhinoceroses still survived in a certain district of Northern Mashunaland, I think it was generally believed that by 1890 this species had become extinct in every other part of South Africa. In 1894, however, a few of these animals were discovered to be still surviving in a corner of Zululand, and it is said that six of them were shot there during that year. Of these, two fell to the rifle of the late Mr. C. R. Varndell, the skin and skeleton of one of which (a bull) was preserved, and has since been bought by Mr. Carl Jeppe, and presented to the Natural History Museum at Pretoria. Thus it will be seen that the great square-mouthed rhinoceros, the largest of terrestrial mammals after the elephant, which, sixty years ago, was excessively common over an enormous area of country in Southern Africa to the south of 17° of south latitude, and which, even so lately as thirty years ago, was still very plentiful throughout many large districts of that vast country, is now on the very verge of extinction. A few, a very few, still survive in one small district of Zululand, whilst perhaps a dozen others yet wander over the Mahobohobo forests between the Angwa and Manyami Rivers in

North-Eastern Mashunaland. But that twenty of these strange old-world creatures are alive to-day I very much doubt, and in spite of game laws, which may be more or less efficient in Zululand, but in the nature of things must be entirely inoperative in an outlying district of Northern Mashunaland, I cannot think that the species will survive very far into the coming century.

In habits white rhinoceroses were always of a rather sluggish disposition, spending the greater part of the day sleeping in some shady place, either standing, or more usually lying down, in which latter position they looked for all the world like enormous pigs.

In the afternoon, as the sun got low and commenced to lose its heat, they would wake up and begin to feed down to the water, and I have so often seen them drinking just at sunset, both during the cool season and in the hot weather which always precedes the commencement of the rainy season, that I fancy it was their usual habit to drink before dark, when they had no reason to think that they might be attacked at the water. In South-Western Africa, where there are very few running rivers, and where all the rhinoceroses which during the rainy season were scattered over an enormous area of country were necessarily collected towards the end of the dry season in great numbers round the few permanent springs, these animals probably soon learned that it was unwise to drink until after dark, and even then must have found it far from safe, as Andersson and Chapman speak of having killed as many as eight of these animals—besides others that got away wounded—at a water-hole in one night. The food of the white rhinoceros was grass, and never, I believe, anything else, for I never remember to have seen any sign in their dung of their having eaten any kind of leaves or wild fruits, though the ground they used to frequent in parts of Mashunaland was often thickly strewn with several kinds of the latter, on which elephants, koodoos, and elands were fond of feeding. Of all animals—with the exception, perhaps, of the elephant—the

white rhinoceros was the easiest to approach unobserved, if the wind was favourable and there were no rhinoceros birds on him to warn him of danger. Apart from any obstruction of vision caused by the position of the horns, his eyesight was very bad, and I remember to have walked to within 30 or 40 yards of white rhinoceroses upon several occasions without attracting their attention, although apparently in full view of them.

They, however, always seemed to me to be quick of hearing, as the breaking of a small twig or any other slight noise immediately attracted their attention. Their sense of smell too, as with the black rhinoceros and all other animals, was acute. When accompanied by rhinoceros birds, they could not be approached very closely, as these latter always gave the alarm by screeching and running about their heads in an agitated manner. All wild animals in South Africa know that these demonstrations indicate the approach of human beings, and I have seen many a rhinoceros of both the white and black species, as well as buffaloes and other animals, on receiving the well-understood warning, first show unmistakable signs of uneasiness and then run off, without having ascertained the nature of the danger which actually threatened them. When white rhinoceroses got the wind of a human being, even although he was several hundred yards distant, they always at once decamped. When alarmed, they used to start off at a trot, which was so swift, that I never saw a man on foot able to keep up with it. If pursued on horseback, however, they would break from their trot into a gallop, and maintain a speed for a considerable distance, perfectly astonishing in animals of their huge size and ungainly appearance. A white rhinoceros was always an easier animal to shoot from horseback than one of the black species, as the latter animal was not only swifter, but was in the habit of constantly swerving as one ranged alongside, and never offering anything but his hind-quarters to be fired at, whilst one could gallop a little wide of and in front of a white rhinoceros, and

get a good chance of shooting him through the lungs or heart as he came broadside past.

The white rhinoceros always appeared to me an easy animal to kill. A shot through the upper part of the heart was soon fatal. The lungs, too, were remarkably large, and a white rhinoceros shot through both lungs usually succumbed very quickly. If only wounded in one lung, however, or shot too far back behind the lungs, I came to the conclusion that it was of very little use following up a white rhinoceros, as I found from experience that these animals, if they did not succumb to their wounds within a short distance, were likely to travel for many miles before dying or coming to a halt. With a broken hind-leg, neither a white nor a black rhinoceros can run at all, but I have seen an example of both species run a mile with a broken shoulder, going off first at a gallop on the three sound legs, and then slowing down to a halting kind of trot.

When feeding, a white rhinoceros had necessarily to hold its mouth near the ground, as it ate nothing but grass, which at certain seasons of the year was very short, and white rhinoceroses were as fond of young grass as are all other species of grazing animals. And not only when feeding, but at all other times also, did the white rhinoceros hold its head low. When walking, trotting, or galloping, its great square nose was always close to the ground, and if the animal carried a straight horn over $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, or one slightly bent forward, as it was in some instances, the point of the anterior surface got worn flat by constant contact with the ground. A white rhinoceros calf always walked in front of its mother, and she apparently guided it with the point of her horn, which seemed to rest on the calf's hind-quarters. It always struck me as most remarkable how, in all changes of pace, however sudden, this position seemed to be invariably maintained. This mode of procedure evidently struck that observant sportsman, the late Roualeyn Gordon-

Cumming, and there is a good illustration of it at page 330 of his well-known work on South African hunting. In disposition the white rhinoceros was undoubtedly sluggish, timid, and as a general rule the reverse of vicious, as the very small number of accidents which have taken place in the last sixty years during the extermination of this once numerous species sufficiently proves.

It is true that the late Mr. Oswell had one of his horses transfixed by the horn of one of these animals; whilst the veteran elephant hunter, Mr. Hartley, was also severely injured by a white rhinoceros in Mashunaland about thirty years ago. I remember too to have seen one that I had wounded in 1874 make a charge at one of my gun-carriers, who threw down his gun and climbed a tree. These, however, were only rare exceptions to the general rule, and do not disprove the fact that, speaking generally, the white rhinoceros was a very harmless and inoffensive animal.

The individual differences between the horns of white rhinoceroses were very great. The anterior horns of the bulls might measure from 18 inches to 40 inches in length, when full grown; those of the cows from 24 to nearly 60 inches. As a rule the front horn curved slightly backwards, but was often straight and sometimes bent slightly forwards, at other times strongly curved backwards. The posterior horn varied from a mere lump 3 or 4 inches in height to a horn of 2 feet in length. The longest white rhinoceros horn known is, I believe, now in the possession of Colonel W. Gordon-Cumming. This remarkable specimen, which measures 62½ inches in length over the curve, was brought from South Africa by that well-known hunter, the late Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming. The next longest is in the collection of the British Museum. It is that of a white rhinoceros cow, and measures 56½ inches over the curve. Another fine horn in the possession of Colonel Gordon Cumming—also brought home by Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming—measures 52½ inches. These two horns—

the 62½-inch and 52½-inch—are shown in the illustration. I have seen two very long horns in South Africa, one measuring 54 inches and the other

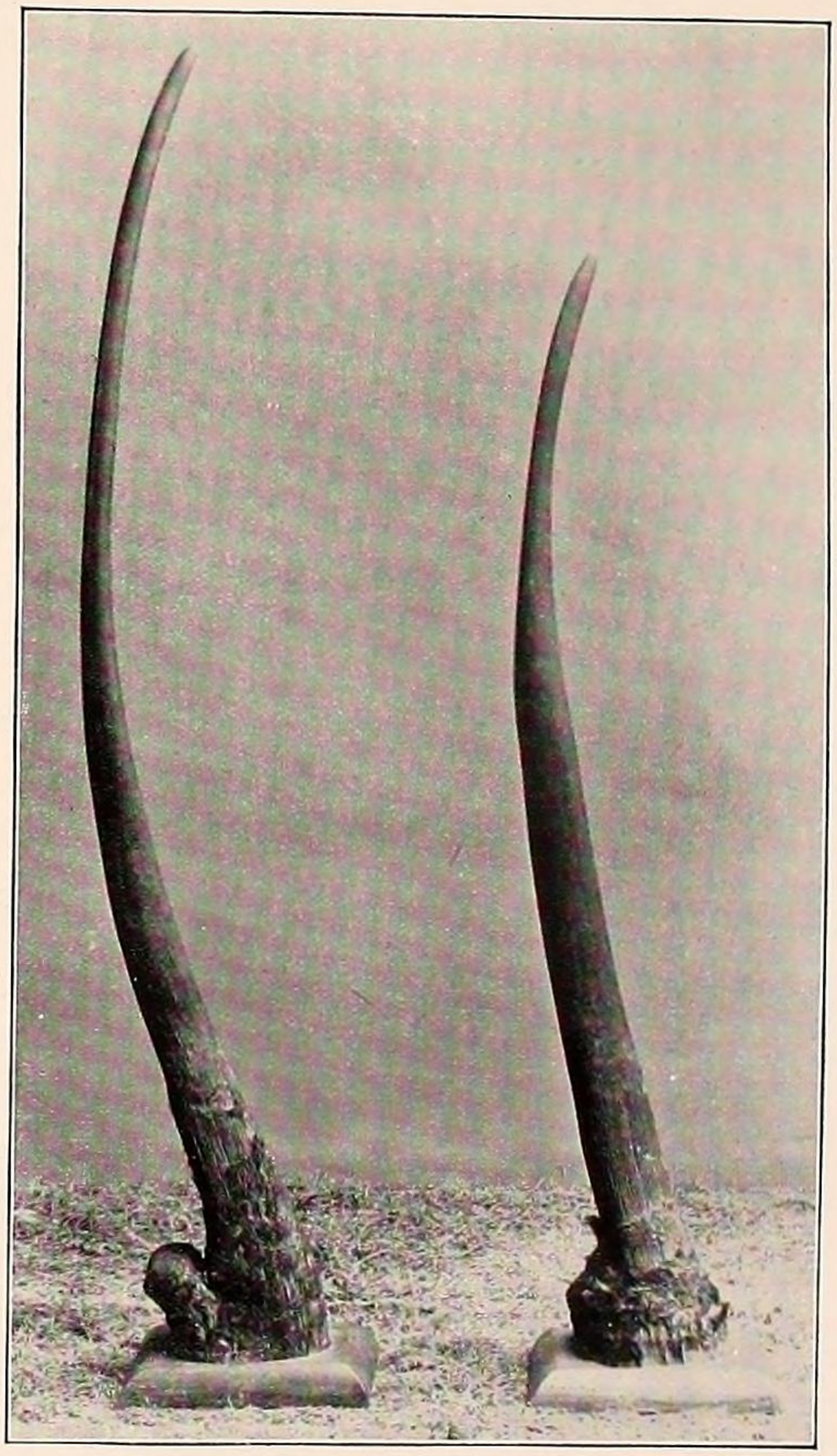


Fig. 7.—Front Horns of White Rhinoceros.
From specimens in the collection of the late Roualeyn Gordon-Cumming, now in the possession of Colonel W. Gordon-Cumming.

52 inches, and in October 1872 I shot a white rhinoceros cow myself with a beautiful horn, strongly bent backwards, which measured 45 inches

over the curve. During the same month of the same year three other white rhinoceros cows were shot by Griqua hunters close to my camp, with horns over 3 feet in length, and in July 1880 one of my waggon-drivers shot a white rhinoceros bull with a very fine pair of horns, which I now have in my collection. In this pair the front horn measures $37\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length, and over 27 inches in circumference, whilst the posterior horn is $17\frac{7}{8}$ inches long.

I doubt if there is a finer pair of bull white rhinoceros horns in existence than this, as the males in this species never carried such extraordinarily long horns as some of the cows.

The flesh of the white rhinoceros was always considered by both Dutch and English hunters to be superior to that of any other game animal in South Africa, and in this verdict I entirely agree. The part in greatest favour was the hump, which was situated just in front of the withers. This hump was cut off whole and roasted, just as it was in the skin, in a hole dug in the ground. Towards the end of the rainy season, in February and March, white rhinoceroses used to become excessively fat, and would often keep in very good condition till late in the dry season. I have seen them so fat, that between the skin and the flesh over the greater part of the body there was a layer over 1 inch in thickness, whilst the whole belly was covered with fat 2 inches thick. The fat was soft and oily, well flavoured, and most excellent for culinary purposes. These animals were in the habit of depositing their dung day after day in the same place, and as long as they were plentiful large accumulations were often met with. They must have been a very slow-breeding animal, as, although I have often seen a white rhinoceros cow accompanied by a calf at least three quarters as large as herself, which must have been several years old, only a small number of these had a small calf with them as well. I once saw a cow with two three-parts-grown young ones with her, both about the same size, and presume they were twins, though I should imagine that

it was very rare for a white rhinoceros to give birth to two calves at a time. This particular cow I shot, and we had a lot of trouble to drive her big calves away. They did not attempt to charge, but kept trotting round and hanging about all the time we were cutting up their mother's carcase, and though, when sticks were thrown at them, they often moved away out of sight, they always came back again. They had long been weaned, and were quite able to take care of themselves. When, however, a white rhinoceros calf was very small it was almost impossible to drive it away from its mother's carcase, and it would charge most viciously at anything that approached it, just as a very young elephant will do.

Speaking of the young calf which he caught alive in 1892, Mr. R. T. Coryndon wrote, "When its mother fell, the little calf at once swung round, with ears cocked, charging viciously at anybody coming within 10 yards of the carcase, after every charge returning to the mother and whining for all the world like a fox-terrier pup, though rather louder. As the old cow took no notice of his movements, he put his nose under her and, apparently with the greatest ease, shook the enormous mass of flesh and bones, as if it had been a framework covered with canvas." After Mr. Coryndon had secured this calf he remarked that, "as it lay on the ground struggling hard it began to sweat freely, the moisture dripping off it as though a bucket of water had been thrown over it."

I once recorded a very similar fact concerning a very young black rhinoceros calf,[1] and this profuse perspiration from the backs of young African rhinoceroses is the more remarkable because I have never seen any sign of sweating in an adult either of the black or the white species. In colour the so-called white rhinoceros was a neutral gray. It is true that when standing in open ground on a winter morning, with the sun shining full upon them, they looked very white, and as the Boers must first have

[1] See *A Hunter's Wanderings*, page 361.

encountered these animals on the open grass plains in the neighbourhood of the Vaal River, this fact may have appealed to them, and caused them to bestow upon the square-mouthed rhinoceros a name which has always appeared to me to be singularly inappropriate. I have often seen large sheets of hide from freshly-killed specimens of both species of African rhinoceroses lying in camp side by side, waiting to be cut into sjamboks, and certainly never noticed much difference between the two in the colour of the epidermis, though the hide of the square-mouthed rhinoceros was a good deal thicker than that of the prehensile-lipped species. Cornwallis Harris, however, speaks of the white rhinoceros as varying in colour, but being usually a dirty brownish-white. All that I have seen appeared to me to be of about the same colour, a uniform gray, with no suspicion of brown or white about them.

White rhinoceroses used generally to be met with in pairs or families, a bull and cow living together with a calf, or perhaps two calves, one of which, in such a case, would be quite a large animal.

In old days, when white rhinoceroses were very numerous, no doubt several pairs or families were often attracted to the same piece of pasture, and when feeding near together would have presented the appearance of a herd, though, had such a herd been watched, I expect it would have been seen to break up, and divide into families of three or four, on leaving the feeding-grounds. In height a white rhinoceros bull often stood well over 6 feet at the withers.

Cornwallis Harris gave their height as from 6 feet 6 inches to 6 feet 8 inches at the withers, and Mr. R. T. Coryndon, who is a very careful and reliable field naturalist, has recorded the following measurements of the last two white rhinoceros bulls which he shot in Mashunaland. No. 1—height at shoulder, 6 feet 9 inches; length of anterior horn, 1 foot 11 inches; of posterior horn, 8 inches; length from base of front horn to tip of tail, 16 feet. No. 2—height at shoulder, 6 feet 6 inches; length of anterior

horn, 1 foot 7 inches; of posterior horn, 7 inches; length from base of front horn to tail, 14 feet 6 inches.

In 1873 I made a note that I had seen a great many black rhinoceroses and one of the square-mouthed species scrambling with great activity up and down steep stony hills.

This latter animal must, however, have gone astray, as he was the only one of his kind that I ever saw in this kind of ground.

As these animals feed entirely upon grass, open valleys or open forest country with good pasturage amongst the trees, as in Mashunaland, were necessary to their existence, and although they used to be plentiful right up to the edge of the hilly country that extends from the Victoria Falls to the junction of the Gwai and Tchangani Rivers, the beast I have spoken of above was the only one that I ever saw amongst the broken country. Like all rhinoceroses the square-mouthed species was an inquisitive animal. I remember one coming to my camp one night evidently attracted by the fire. We saw it approaching some distance away, as the moon, which was in its first quarter, had not yet set. It came on very slowly until it was within 20 yards of our camp fire, and I could see plainly that it belonged to the square-mouthed species. One of my Kafirs then threw a fire stump at it, which struck the ground just in front of its nose. It at once halted, giving a kind of sniff or snort at the smouldering wood. A second bit of wood burning at one end hit the beast fair on the snout, sending a spray of sparks over it. This seemed to alarm it, for it at once wheeled round and trotted off.

F. C. Selous.

Holmwood's Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros holmwoodi*)

The so-called Holmwood's rhinoceros, although it has been classed by scientists, can scarcely be accepted as a true species. It has been mainly created from a number of fine, slender single horns, collected by the late

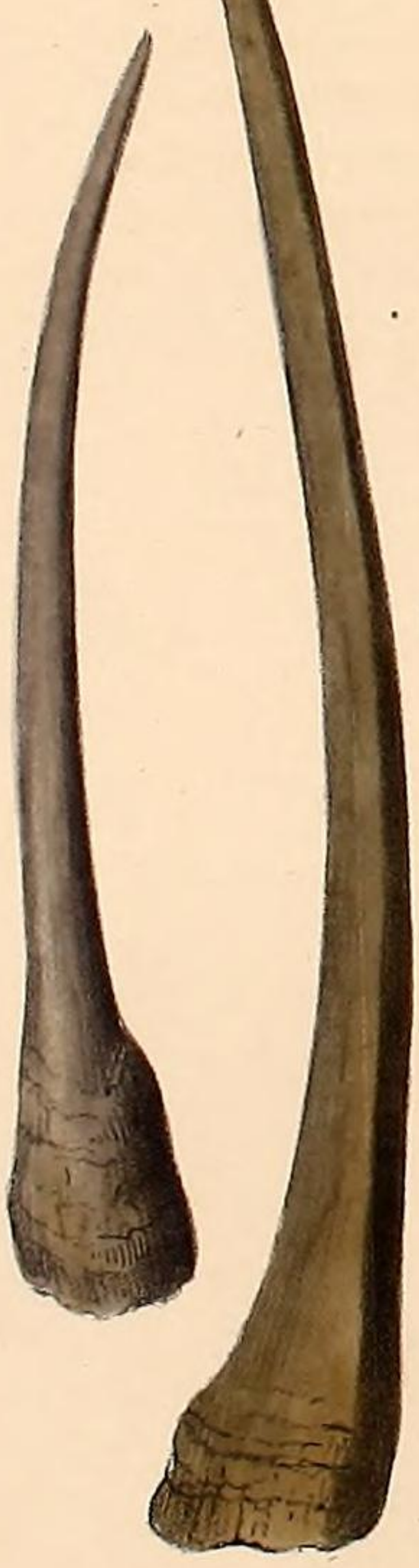
1

2

7

3

5



6

8

9

4

Published by Rowland Ward Ltd.

PLATE I

1. Common Rhinoceros Head.
2. Burchell's Rhinoceros Head.
3. Common Hippopotamus Head.
4. Liberian Hippopotamus Head.
5. Holmwood's Rhinoceros Horn.
6. Burchell's Rhinoceros Horn.
7. Hippopotamus Foot.
8. Rhinoceros Foot.
9. Rhinoceros Foot.