

ILLUSTRATED
OFFICIAL GUIDE
TO THE LONDON
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S
GARDENS
IN REGENT'S PARK

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THE ZOOLOGICAL
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REGENTS PARK.
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55. THE ELEPHANT-HOUSE.

The Elephants are the only living representatives of a group of Ungulate Mammals with characters that separate them widely from all other living animals. The nose and upper lip are pulled out into a very long and flexible proboscis (the trunk), at the end of which lie the nostrils. In the living forms there are a pair of incisors, or front teeth, in the upper jaw, and none in the lower jaw ; these grow throughout the life of the animals, and form the long tusks, well known in commerce as the chief source of ivory. The cheek teeth are very large, and have flat surfaces with transverse ridges used for grinding the vegetable food ; not more than one or portions of two teeth are ever in use at once on either side of each jaw. The limbs are very strong, and the feet are broad and massive. The skin in the adult is nearly devoid of hair, but in the new-born young hair is abundant, as in the extinct hairy mammoth.

The Indian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*).

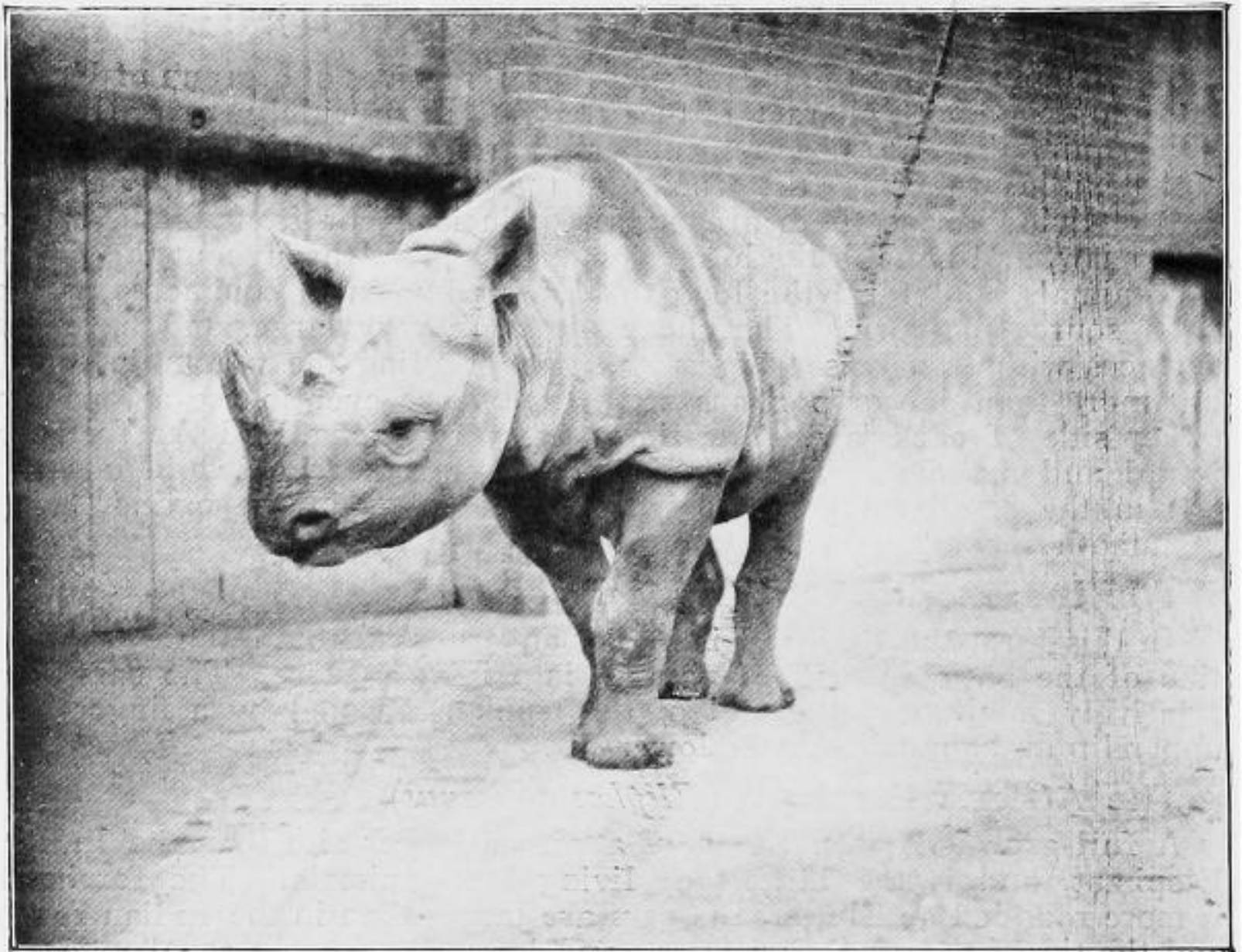
In this form the forehead is higher and runs up to an angle with the line of the back, instead of passing into it in a curve. The ears are relatively small, and the end of the trunk is formed by a finger-like upper lip and a much shorter lower lip.

The African Elephant (*Elephas africanus*)

A full-grown African Elephant attains a larger size than the Indian Elephant, and is the largest of living land animals. The forehead is more rounded and lower, the ears are larger than in the Indian form, and the tip of the trunk has upper and lower lips nearly equal in size.

The Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). **The Javan Rhinoceros** (*R. sondaicus*). **The African Rhinoceros** (*R. bicornis*).

The Rhinoceroses belong to the Odd-toed set of Ungulates, and have three digits, each ending in a strong hoof, on the fore and hind limbs. The middle digit, corresponding to our middle-finger or third toe and to the single digit of the horse, is much longer and stronger than the others. The most striking characters of the Asiatic Rhinoceroses are the large erect ears, the gnarled skin, thickened so as to form massive plates, united by thinner portions forming flexible joints, and the horn or horns, composed of stout hairs matted together, carried on the middle line of the face. The Indian Rhinoceros and the Javan Rhinoceros have each one horn ; the small Sumatran Rhinoceros, and, in Africa, the common Rhinoceros (*R. bicornis*) have two horns, one situated behind the other. The so-called Hairy-eared Rhinoceros, from Chittagong, is probably the same species as the Sumatran form, and, like it, has two horns. The African Rhinoceros is a smaller and less bulky animal, and its skin is not thrown into permanent folds. The Rhinoceroses are vegetable feeders.



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[Photo. by W. S. Berridge, F.Z.S.

Fig. 47.—The African Rhinoceros.

56. THE CHAMOIS' YARD.

The Chamois (*Rupicapra tragus*)

inhabits the mountains of Europe from the Pyrenees to the Caucasus, and is to some extent intermediate between Antelopes and Goats. The pair exhibited came from the collection of the Emperor of Austria at Schönbrunn, near Vienna. These bred in the Gardens in 1909, and successfully reared a young male.

On the Canal Bank, opposite the Chamois, is a large wire enclosure occupied by Parrots; this is

56a. THE CANAL-BANK AVIARY.

This Aviary was erected in 1903 for the hardier Parrots. Cockatoos, Macaws and Parrakeets have been kept in it with success, and some of them have bred. Birds are able to maintain a higher temperature than that of mammals, notwithstanding the temperature of the surrounding