THE NATURALIST.

THE ANIMALS AT BARNUM'S.

NOT THE LEAST INTERESTING FEATURE of Messrs Barnum and Bailey's gigantic show, now open at Olympia, is the magnificent collection of animals which it includes. Many of these take a very prominent part in the performances in the circuses and the arena, but others are simply on exhibition, and the whole constitutes a travelling collection far exceeding in magnitude any that has ever been previously seen on this side of the Atlantic. Looking at the animals in their dens and cages previous to the show, I was struck with the admirable condition in which they were kept, and the care which was evidently bestowed upon them by the keepers. It is almost a question whether or not the excitement of transport from place to place may not conduce to their well-being, and be better adapted for many species than the monotonous life led by them when in fixed cages.

The large carnivora are in the travelling waggons in which they were shipped, now raised above the ground on wheels. The first contained a very fine lion and two lionesses, another, with her three six-monthsold cubs, being on the other side of the annexe. It is singular how old onts, being on the other she or the annexs. It is singluin now requestly income the control of the control that appear to agree and fourish in their close quarters. The following wargon holds five pums, that are called, for some reason only known to the managers, panthers. A group of five spotted hyenas fills the next waggon, the striped species being shown further on. Four very savage-looking Russian wolves succeed, followed by a good specimen of the black variety of the leopard is in the next cage, alongside of which is a Nigola succeed, and the savage gar of all the availables.

Nylghan antelope and a small tapir.

The largest of all the antelopes, the eland, which was attempted to be introduced into England as a source of animal food some thirty years ago, is represented by a single specimen. Eland beef was found to be very delicious, and the second of th

globe in a very expert manner. globe in a very expert manner.

A two-horned rhinoceros has a waggon to himself; the front horn
has curred backwards, and in the course of time will destroy the eye,
unless the manager imitates the skill of Mr Bartlett, and saws it off
without allowing the animal to suspect it is being operated upon until

the horn is removed.

Date

the norm is removed.

Amongst the other animals is a male hippopotamus, with its water tank in a waggon. The preservation of the health of these animals under these apparently very disadvantageous circumstances is surprising and most creditable to the management; they do not appear to

prising and most cresitation to the smaller than the variety packed that four polar surfer, and live smicably, although so closely packed that four polar. The above may be taken as a nearly complete list of the larger animals in eages; but a not less interesting lot constitute the performing animals. A beautiful team of llamas, with most elegant harness, draw an ornamental car. The procession around the areas includes no the stand wenty camels, nearly as many elephants these are all Indian, there being, strangely enough, no African in the collection). Four American eld draw a light waggon with the greatest ease, and four very fine specimens of Burohell's zebra are attached to another.

nne specimens of Duricait s'zeora are attached to another. The docility of the performing animals is remarkable. The elephants pile themselves up into pyramids, creep under the bellies of horses raised from the ground, ride and guide tricycles, and go through military drill with extraordinary success. The camels also are admirably drilled. One performer in the circus acts like a well-trained horse,

leaping gates, galloping, ambling, &c., at command.
In addition to this large show of animals, the 'side shows' of the exhibition are a host in themselves. The legless, but not footless, man exhibition are a now in themselves. The legiess, but no toloriess, man is a strange lusus, reminding the spectator, if he be an old Londoner, of Harvey Leach, the celebrated London dwarf; then there are two Spanish boys, joined very much after the fashion of the "two-headed nightlingale." There are also our old friends the Aziess, now grown old indeed; obese women alongside of skeleton men; tatlooed Circassians, warranted genuine; bearded women of a fearfully masculine character; and numerous other human and inhuman curiosities too numerous to

Whether we regard the circus performances, the menagerie, the side shows, or the Roman pageant with its 1000 actors and supers, we must allow that Barnum has presented what he truly calls the "greatest show on earth." We should not omit to mention that the show includes our old acquaintance Jumbo, who appears here in a two-fold character, his skeleton being admirably mounted, and his skin no less creditably stuffed, so as to reproduce him "in his habit as he lived."

W. B. TEGETMEIER.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. ADDITIONS TO THE MENAGERIE, REGENT'S PARK, FROM NOV. 4 TO NOV. 10.

How obtained. Where located in the Gardens. Name. Country.

never bred, having killed two mates provided for him. His temper is never orea, naving since two mases provided for him. His temper is very bad in his old age, and he is dangerous for children. His manners and antics are most anusing. The male is much superior to the female in whistling and talking. Clip the wing at first if fully fledged until quite tame.—H. H.

SABINE'S SNIPE IN HAMPSHIBE.—A Sakine's snipe was the at Bishops Waltham, Hants, on Oat. 29, tyn W. M. Green and is now can be supported by the state of the stat

DESTRUCTION OF WILD ANIMALS IN NORWAY .- Recently published official statistics give the numbers of beasts and birds of published official statistics give the numbers of ceasts and birds of prey destroyed in Norway in 1888, for which rewards were paid. For the sake of comparion, 1 spend 95, 1889, for which rewards were paid. For the sake of comparion, 1 spend 95, 1899,

WOODPECKER CARRYING OFF ACORNS AND NUTS .- With WOULFBULER URBAITING UFF ACURNS AND MULS.—With reference to your editorial remark on Lord (Ulfton's letter, I beg to say that the pied woodpecker is exceedingly fond of sweet clear-nuts, accras, walnuts, filteris, and not fruit of almost every kind, notably apples, grapes, and cherries. I had a young pair of these birds this summer who seemed to prefer filters to any other food.—Lincond Bournemout

(Bonnementh).

— A few days ago a spotted woodpecker flew close over my head, with a walnut (freed from the outer skin), and perching on a thick branch of a walnut free, some tewarty-five yards off, commenced vigorously to peck at it. Trying to get closer I startled it, when it dropped the nut and flew off. You days afterwards I saw it again on an othe close by, and, having a Colite 2 contamition I found only one too of the right leg-remaining, and that with the leg (the high had evidently been broken by a previous gun shot wound) was glued, as it were, to the body, and was quite dry and healed. With one leg it would find it difficult to go round a tree in search of insects. Might that not account for my seeing it with a nut, as it would be easier for it to plok one up and extract the Cliffon, sary have been wounded in like manner. The colour was: Wings, black and white bands crossed transversely; nead back, with a narrow band of red on the back part of the skull; breast dirty white; red under the tail...—Q. D. P. red under the tail.—C. O. P.

TRAVEL AND COLONISATION.

SLAVE-DHOWS AND YACHTS IN THE RED SEA.

SIR,-I wonder if the good people in England, who subscribe so Six,—I wonder if the good people in England, who subserties go emerculy to the different societies for the suppression of alawary, are of personal satisfaction they derive from such literature. Biblical students are aware of the fact that slavery is a very ancient institution. It was the labour question of the ancients, and even subject to strikes, as in modera times it is often the case with free labour. It is a vexed question at best, and one which very few people can discuss without losing their tempers. It is no use to try and convince these fanatics that there are thousands of men and convince these fasation that there are thousands of men and women in every large town in England whose fate is a much harder and more hopeless one than the position of the typical negro. I would myself rastly prefer being a slare out here than the denizen of a British workhouse, or be in receipt of free board and lodging in one of our charming "unions." The words "slawe" and "slarery" have the same effect on some people as a red flag on a bull. That the free and enlightened citizens of the Orest Repoullo bullied their slaves has been acknowledged by everyone. It man, thowever, awas in contact, and consequently clashed thousand the contact of t time in time paractimer instance two difference elements dame in Contact, and consequently clashed together, whilst out here no such difference exists, and the relations between master and servant are more or less defined in the Koran, and generally acted upon. Besides which, an out-and-out Republican is always more tyrannical towards his fellow-men than any Eastern potentate.

But it is not my intention to enter into any polemics on the subject. Since the loss of the Soudan, however, slavers have had good times of it, and the trade is very brisk at present. Hardly a day passes in which a sambouk or dhow does not land its living cargo at some point of the coast of Arabia. The trade is well organised, and the chances of capture coast of Araons. The trade is went organized, and the chances of capture, have been reduced to a minimum. The principal slave merchants have their agents in all the ports of the Red Sea, and are kept well posted up as to the movements of H.M.'s cruisers. These sambouks, which vary from 20 to 50 tons, lie hidden in some snug nook till the road is clear. From 20 to 50 tons, ine initied in some sang nook in the road a creer. They set sail towards injelfidal, and, as they carry no side lights and all dires on board are strictly forbidden, taye easily avoid detection, and land their freight next morning. The slaves are immediately sent into the interior, and then drafted off to Mecca, Medina, Persia, &c.—in fact, wherever there is a demand for them. Female slaves, especially Abyssinians, fetch the highest price, as they are reserved for especially Adyssimans, recent the inguest price, as they are reserved for the harens. I have known as much as \$200 given for a fourteen-year-old girl, but this was considered exorbitant. The march across the desert to the coast is, no doubt, fatiguing, and no pity is shown to those who, through sickness or other causes, are unable to proceed with the body of the caravan. These are left to their fate, but never shot or beaten to death, as has often been stated; neither are they obtained, as generally pictured in sensational illustrated books and periodicals by artists who have never seen a gang of slaves on the march across the desert. There would be no object in shackling them, for this would impede their movements and retard them on the road. As to any SPORT IN ALGERIA.

SIR,-I have read a letter in The Field of Oct. 26 from an aggrieved call, "—" have reds a settler in The Fred of Oct. 20 from an aggraved RI Plan, his contention between the first search of the second RI Plan, his contention harms of the search good aport at this place, Ocrespondents' column, he was led to expect good aport at this place, whereas there was, he found on visiting the spot, great searchy of game. An editorial footnote thanks the correspondent for "the correction," and explains that the information given in the nawer referred to was and expanse that the information given in the answer reterred to was derived from a guide-book on Algeria, recently published, "which was considered reliable," Now, Six, I may perhaps lay myself open to the retort "qui s'excuse s'accuse, in assuming that the book referred to was "Mediterranean Winter Resorts," but that is the most recently published guide book which deals with Hammam R'Irha.

In noticing this place, I remarked, under the head of sport, "There is a fair amount of game, which is well preserved, and shooting may be had by visitors over 1800 acres." This guarded statement was based on personal inquiries and observations made on the spot, when last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. I submit his with all defenses the last visiting Hammer R! Dist. personal inquiries and observations made on the spot, when may visiting Hamman B'rlha. I submit, Sir, with all deference, that by calling the exparts statement of a solitary correspondent a "correc-tion," you stigmatised, by implication, the guide-book as inaccurate the property of the state of the state of the state of the state of the hardly fail or logical. I hardly think that the few data given by your hardly fail or logical. I hardly think that the few data given by your correspondent warrant the acceptance of his conclusions as unim-

It appears that during his strolls about the "preserves" he started no game to speak of, and that on one occasion the bag of one spotsman consisted only of a brace of partridges and a rabbit. On these insufficient grounds your correspondent pens an irate letter of complaint to that journal which, in the world of sport, represents the Times. THE AUTHOR OF "MEDITERRANEAN WINTER RESORTS,"

The letter to which our correspondent refers was not written by The letter to which our correspondent reters was not written by an aggriered correspondent, 'I was sent to us by a gentleman, well an aggriered correspondent,' I was sent to us by a gentleman, well person to the present year, and was intended to correct a reply given in the correspondence columns of The Field of the 12th uit, which reply, as the writer of the above letter correctly infers, was derived from 'Meeliteranean Winter Resorts.'—ED. J

SOUTH AFRICA.

JUTA.—Juta's Map of South Africa from the Cape to the Zambesi. Compiled from the best Imperial and Colonial Information. London: Edward Stanford, 25, Cockspur-street, Charing-cross.

Mr Jura could hardly have chosen a more opportune time for pub-lishing a new and enlarged edition of his map of South Africa. Extended as it now is to latitude 10° 30′ S., it includes all that country Extended as it now is to initiate 10° 30° S., it includes all that country to the south of the Zambesi to which public attention has just been drawn, by the arbitrary annexation by Fortugal of about 28,000 square miles of the best of the country which has been granted by a charter from the British Government to the South Africa Company. In other from the British Government to the South Africa Company. In other respects this map is most useful in placing before us the exact state of the possessions, and spheres of influence, of Great Britain, Germany, and Portugal in South Africa. 1t has been most carefully compiled from the best available materials, shows all means of communication, and is, in every respect, a thoroughly good map of Africa south of the Zambesi.

eation, and is, in every respect, a thoroughly good map of Africa south of the Zambert of Zambe

CRICKET.

EGYPT.

2ND ROYAL IRISH RIPLES V. THE MOUNTED INFANTRY. This match was played at Abbassiyeh on Oct. 21. Score: