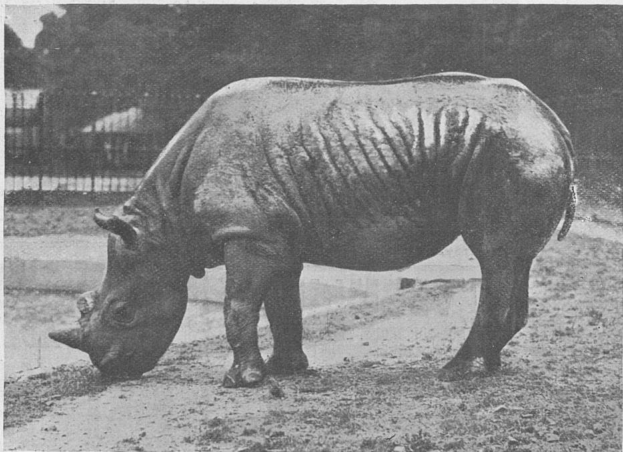


THE NATURALIST.

THE AFRICAN RHINOCEROS AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THE SOCIETY'S AFRICAN RHINOCEROS is in some particulars a remarkable specimen. He was procured as a calf for the Society in 1911 by the late Capt. R. B. Wooman, at that time the Game Warden of British East Africa, and came from Nairobi. We noticed on his arrival that the skin of the flanks was marked by a number of oblique sub-parallel grooves, and since these grooves have not shown the slightest tendency to disappear with advance of years and high feeding, their presence must be regarded as natural, and



THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S RHINOCEROS SHOWING GROOVES ON THE FLANKS.

not attributable to poverty of condition, as has been thought by well-meaning but ill-informed visitors, who have supposed them to be caused by the ribs bulging under the skin, and have written to us actuated by the belief that the animal lives in a state of semi-starvation. As a matter of fact, the ridges, and grooves separating them run obliquely across the ribs and have nothing directly to do with those bones. They lend elasticity to the thick hide, and are functionally comparable to the deep cutaneous grooves which are so noticeable in Asiatic rhinoceroses, where the limbs are attached to the body and subserve freedom of movement. The interesting point to note, however, is that no such grooves have been described or figured in other African rhinoceroses, all of which appear to have the skin over the ribs perfectly smooth and tight, and the question arises whether their presence in our specimen is an individual peculiarity or whether it is characteristic of rhinoceroses from Nairobi. Sportsmen or residents at Nairobi could probably ascertain this without difficulty. R. I. POCCOCK.

THE LATE MR ROLAND TRIMEN, F.R.S.

A DISTINGUISHED ENTOMOLOGIST has just passed away in the person of Mr Roland Trimen, F.R.S., a

summer, and we have known two cases in which the entire brood was white. But we have seen comparatively few white sand martins. We remember one, years ago, in the collection of the late Frederick Bond and noticed in the *Zoologist* for 1889, p. 417; another in possession of the late Philip Crowley, of Croydon, in 1906; and two from Norfolk in the extensive collection of varieties belonging to Mr Whitaker, of Rainworth, Notts, who has also an ash-coloured sand martin from Gloucestershire, a pearl-grey one from Norfolk, and a dull white one with a brown head from Lancashire.—Ed.]

DEATH OF DR J. A. HARVIE BROWN.

We have just heard with great regret that Dr J. A. Harvie Brown, the well-known Scottish naturalist, author of many important volumes on the vertebrate fauna of Scotland and

[Phot: F. W. Bond.

kindred subjects, died on July 26 at his residence, Dunpace House, Larbert, Stirlingshire, at the advanced age of seventy-five. Having been for many years in close correspondence with all the leading naturalists of this country and many abroad, his death will prove a great loss to those who have learnt to value the extent and accuracy of his work and to rely upon the useful information to fellow

EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF THE KING OF ITALY.

IN THE PRESENT ISSUE an illustration of a statue of the King of Italy, by Mr Walter Winans, is given. This statue has been presented to the city of San Francisco, where there is an extensive Italian colony. Mr Walter Winans, who is perhaps best known to readers of the *Field* in connection with big game, revolver shooting, or show horses, is an accomplished sculptor, who treats more particularly with equine subjects, but in this particular case he has excelled himself, and probably the "King of Italy on Horseback" will always rank amongst his principal productions. The statue, which is cast in bronze from a model fashioned by Mr Winans, is exactly half life-size, and fits the horse; the famous Bugle March, so well known as the winner of countless prizes at Olympia and elsewhere, has been chosen. Bugle March is by the Hampton horse Bushey Park, and was always a remarkably handsome horse, well built, symmetrical, and presenting a fine combination of quality and power. In the statue Mr Winans has done full justice to his old favourite, and he has likewise made a most excellent likeness of the King of Italy, and this we state not on our own authority, but on that of Prince Borghese, First Secretary to the Italian Embassy in London, and who was kind enough to explain to us that in every detail of face, figure, and outline his Majesty of Italy had been copied to the life. Perhaps the strongest feature of the work from an artistic point of view is to be found in the manner which the rider fits the horse. There are well-known equestrian statues in which the horse is good and the rider not so good; there are others in which the rider is excellent, while the horse is poorly done, but in this statue both horse and rider are exceptionally well done, and together they form as fine an equestrian bronze as we ever saw.

The Holidays: Where to Stay and What to See.

—Of publications affording information useful to holiday seekers some of the most valuable are those issued by the railway companies. The reason is that, besides giving particulars respecting the desirability of the numerous places dealt with, their advantages from the health resort and holiday points of view, and so forth, they are helpful in the matter of hotels, boarding-houses, apartments, furnished houses to let, houses and estate agents, private business houses, &c. The guides of the Midland, London and North-Western, Great Northern, Great Eastern, Great Western, and Great Central Railways are published in one volume at the price of 1s. by Mr Walter Hill, 67, Southampton-row, London, W.C. Illustrations are numerous in each section.

British Prisoners of War.—The recent revelations respecting the condition and needs—physical and mental—of some of the British prisoners of war interned abroad, coupled with the recently imposed restrictions on the transmission, by private individuals, of any printed matter to enemy or neutral countries, makes it more important than ever that friends and correspondents of our interned men, when writing to them, should acquaint them with the existence of an educational book scheme under which they can get their wants supplied. Under this scheme any such prisoner can obtain, free of charge and carriage paid, good books of an educational character (not fiction or light literature) on almost any subject for reading or private study during his interment by communicating (either

