

4. PROSECTOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Mr. F. E. Beddard, the Prosector to the Society, reports that the number of deaths during the year amounted to 990, being a decrease of 112 as compared with the previous year.

The only two deaths of importance were the Sondaic Rhinoceros, and one of the two Sumatran Rhinoceroses that were purchased by the Society on April 1st, 1885.

The Sondaic Rhinoceros died on June 23rd, the apparent cause of death being an inflammation of the stomach. The animal was dissected by the Prosector and Mr. Frederick Treves, F.R.C.S., and an account of its anatomy will appear in the 'Transactions.'

The Sumatran Rhinoceros died on May 22nd quite suddenly; the cause of death was found to be a rupture of the cæcum. By the kindness of the authorities at the London Hospital, a tank in their dead-house was allowed to be used for the body of the Rhinoceros; and it has therefore been possible to preserve the animal for a considerable period, and to study the myology. It is proposed to offer to the Society a detailed account of the muscular anatomy of this Rhinoceros: this will form a supplement to the paper on the Javan Rhinoceros, which dealt exclusively with the visceral anatomy.

Material from this Department has been supplied, for the purposes of research, to Mr. Treves, Dr. Hoggan, Dr. Beevor, and Prof. Windle; for museum purposes, to the Royal College of Surgeons, the Natural-History Museum, Prof. d'Arcy Thompson, Prof. G. B. Howes, and University College, London.

Mr. Treves has continued his investigations into the mammalian alimentary tract and mesenteries, and has put forward his results in a series of lectures on that subject, delivered in the College of Surgeons.

Mr. J. B. Sutton has utilized most of the pathological material, and his results have been published in the Society's 'Proceedings' and elsewhere.

The Prosector has read and published the following papers during the year 1885:—"On the Structure of the Cuckoos"; "On the Heart of *Apteryx*"; "Notes on the Visceral Anatomy of Birds."