

THE SPORTSMAN'S HANDBOOK
TO
PRACTICAL COLLECTING,
PRESERVING,
AND
ARTISTIC SETTING-UP
OF
TROPHIES AND SPECIMENS.

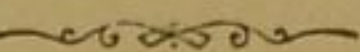
TO WHICH IS ADDED

A Synoptical Guide to the Hunting Grounds of the World.

By ROWLAND WARD, F.Z.S.

Sixth Edition.

WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.



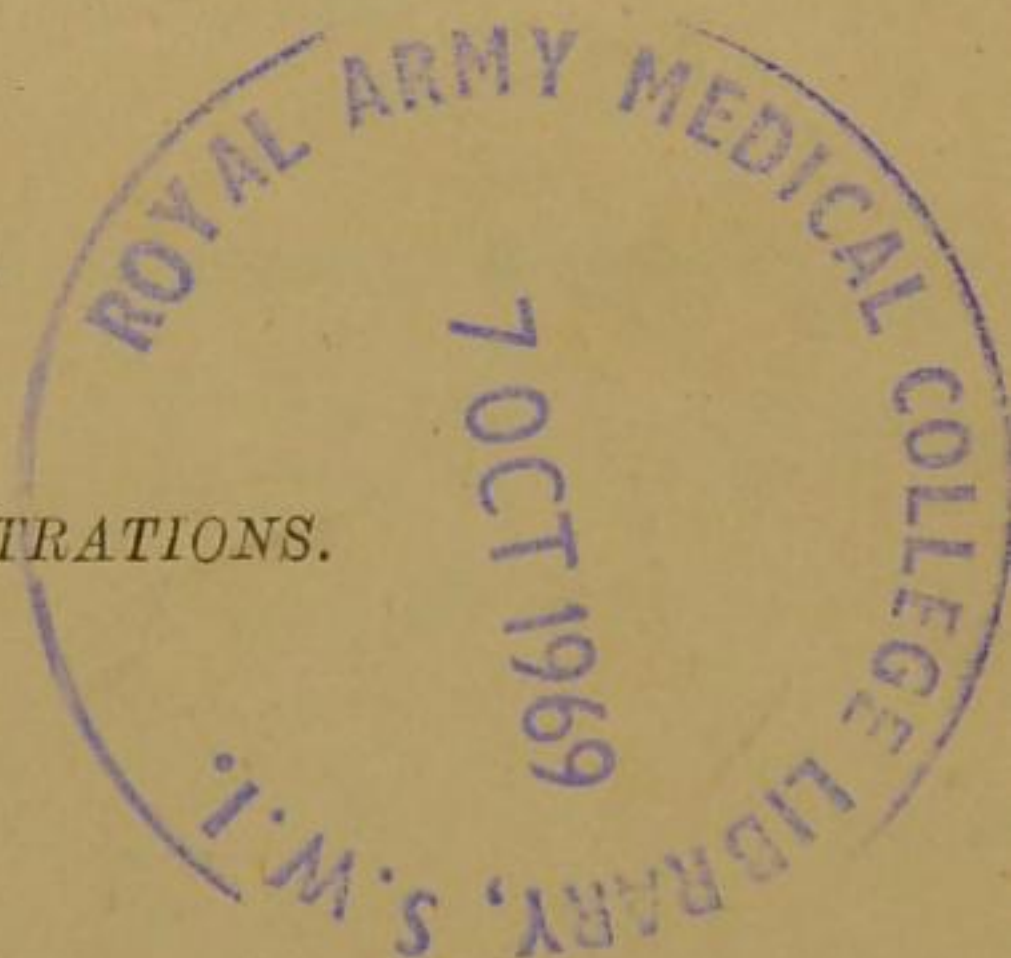
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THE AUTHOR, 166, PICCADILLY.

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1891.



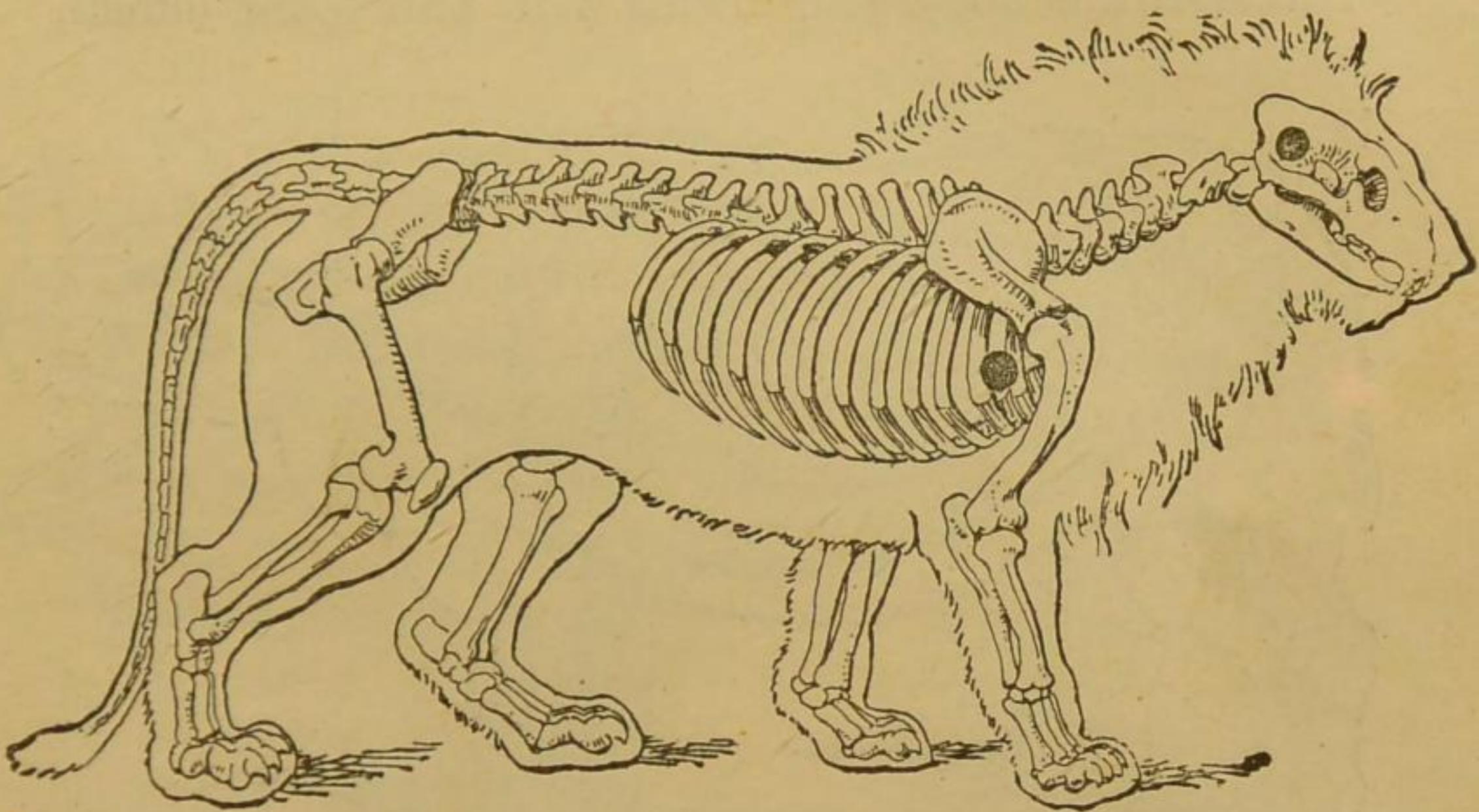
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THE several emendations of and additions to the text, as well as the further illustrations that have been introduced into this the SIXTH EDITION of the SPORTSMAN'S HANDBOOK, will, it is hoped, be found to make the work more complete, not only as an adjunct, but as a record, of world-wide sport among great game.

R. W.

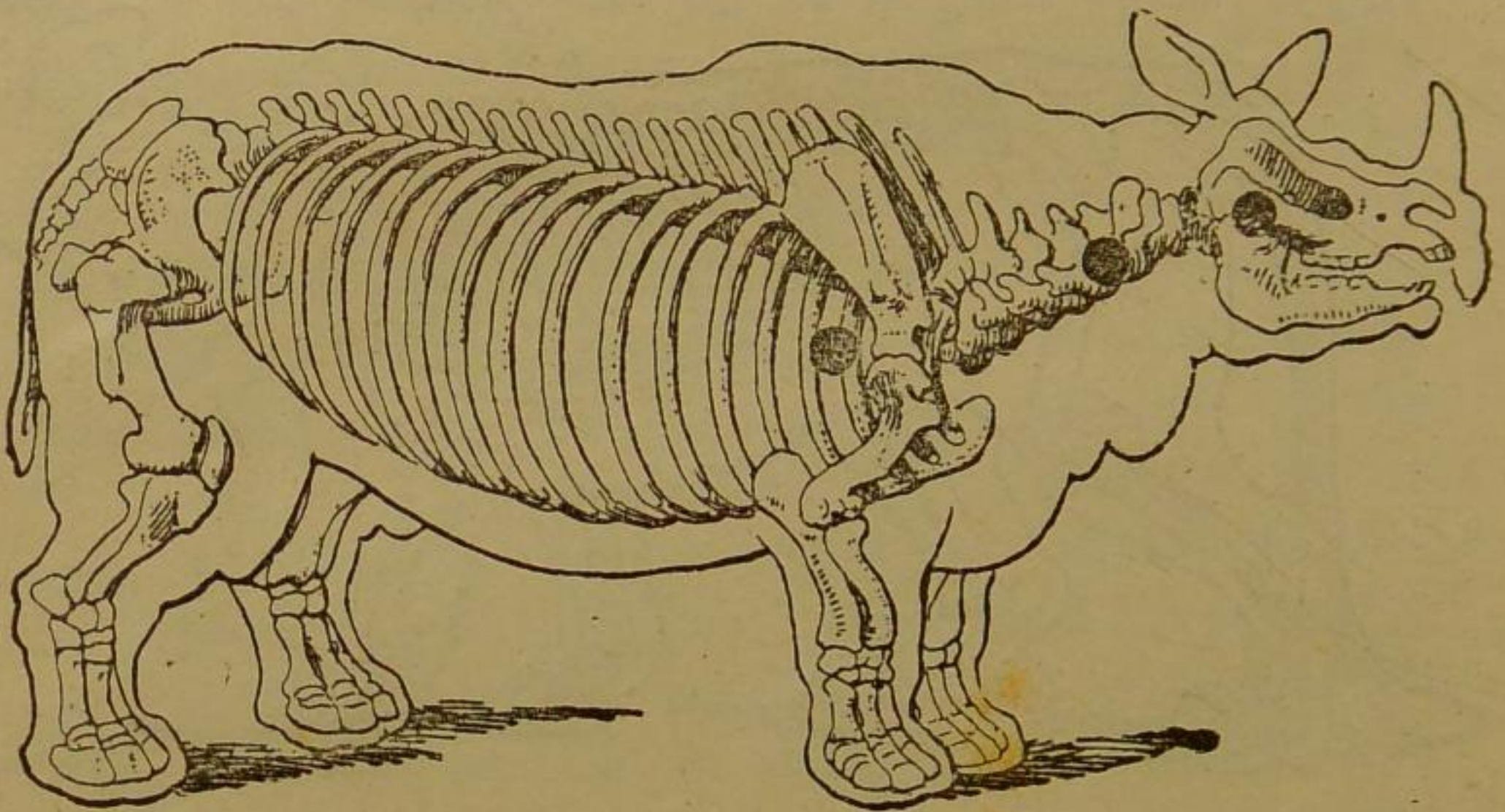
August, 1891.

special investigation as to the course of your bullet in regard to its effect on the vital parts. In order to make clear what is the position of these points, some diagrams of animals representative of species are given, and on them the points are indicated. It may be said generally that the brain and the heart are the real organs to injure with vital effect; but to these must be added the spinal column. Now with different species of animals, in various cir-



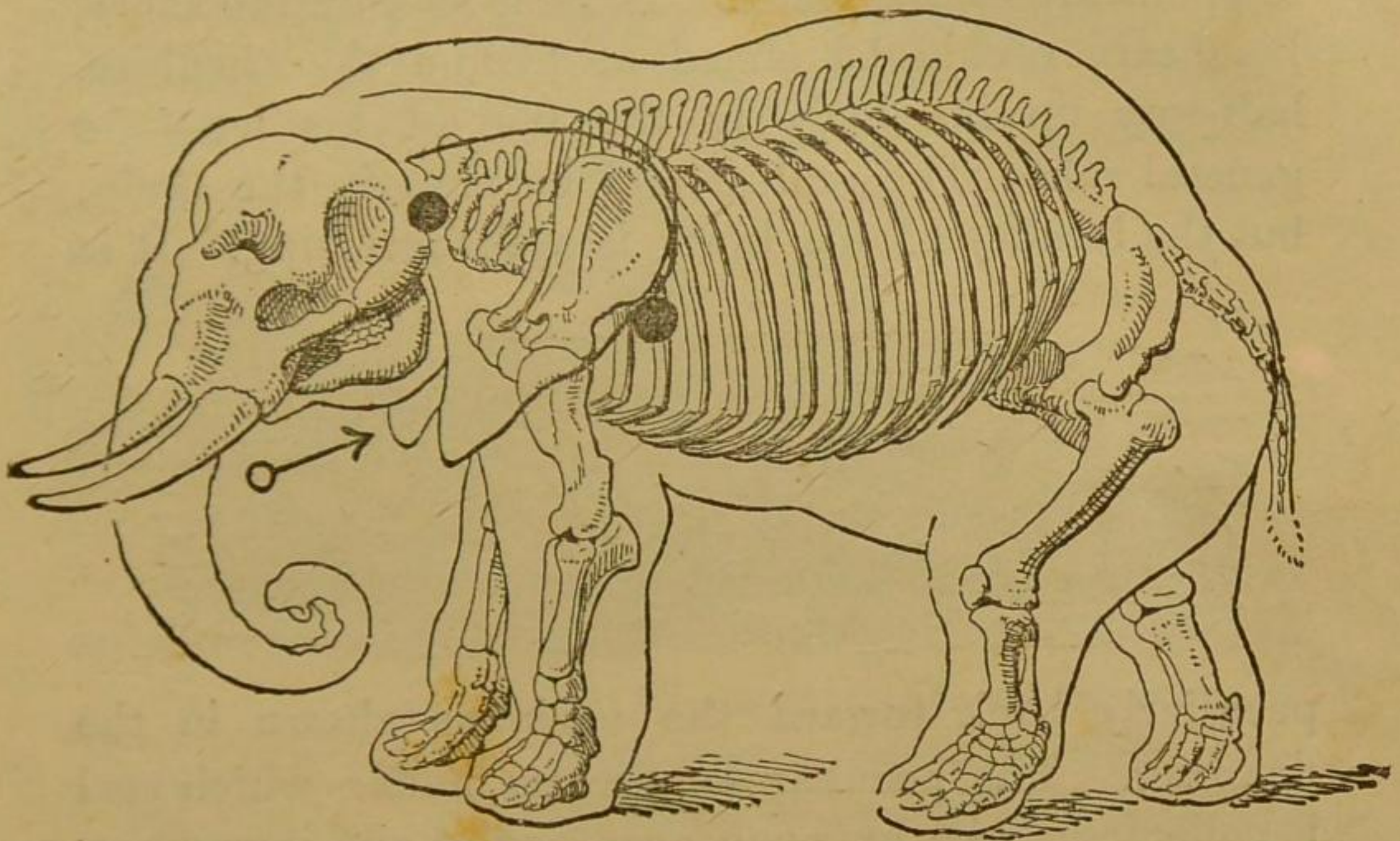
cumstances, the conditions under which these parts can be reached vary considerably. We may consider the animals in two classes: (a) those that are dangerous, (b) those that are not seriously dangerous. These may again be divided into (c) animals that are in natural condition unsuspecting, or quiescent; (d) animals infuriate, aggressive, charging. To speak first of the *Felidæ*. The place to hit a lion, if you are quite sure of your aim, as you may be if he is quiescent, is undoubtedly the brain. Now with tiger as well as lion, the brain is about the size of an apple, and small

in comparison to the bony structure; the brain-pan is located about three or four inches to the rear of the eye (*vide* diagram). The heart is also indicated, and when the animal is broadside on, it can be pierced by a shot behind the shoulder. When he is charging direct towards you, the best shot to deliver is a little to the right or left of the head, straight through the shoulder; by this you may perhaps pierce his heart, or possibly fracture the spinal cord; the bullet may traverse the body lengthwise with paralysing effect,



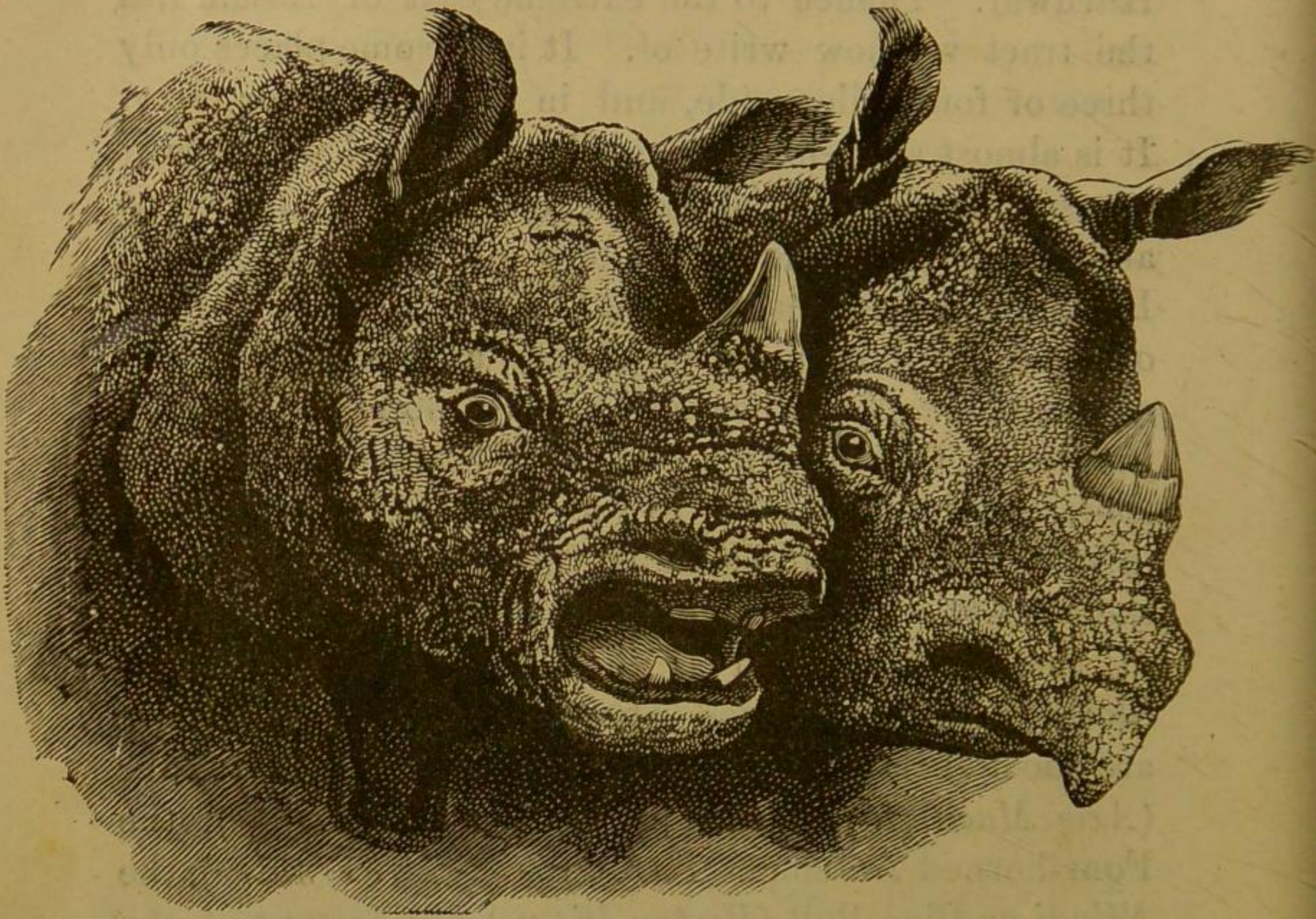
or it will—which is most important—shatter the shoulder-bone and prevent his deadly spring. The rhinoceros is best killed by piercing the brain, or by fracture of the spinal cord. The brain is surely found in the region below the ear. The sportsman's position in regard to the animal will determine the possibility of his reaching the spinal cord. The hide of the Indian rhinoceros is harder than that of the African species, but on the living beast is easily permeable by hardened bullets; still, where there is room for choice, it is best to shoot between the folds.

In certain circumstances the charge of a Cape buffalo or a gaur is among the most dangerous experiences of the sportsman. The same general observations apply; but the neck and shoulder shot is to be preferred. In regard to the elephant, there is a great difference between the African and the Indian. The skull of the first is convex in frontal form, while that of the Asiatic variety is concave. The brain is wonderfully small in comparison to the bony matter by which



it is protected. The average weight of an elephant's brain is, say, nine pounds, which is but a fraction of the weight of the bone. The Asiatic elephant may be well shot dead while charging, if pierced in his forehead; but a similar shot would not be efficacious with the African. The brain of these creatures is protected by a mass of cellular bone, which cannot well be pierced by a bullet, unless it be directed through the orifice of the ear. If he be charging towards you, the best shot is in the chest. The

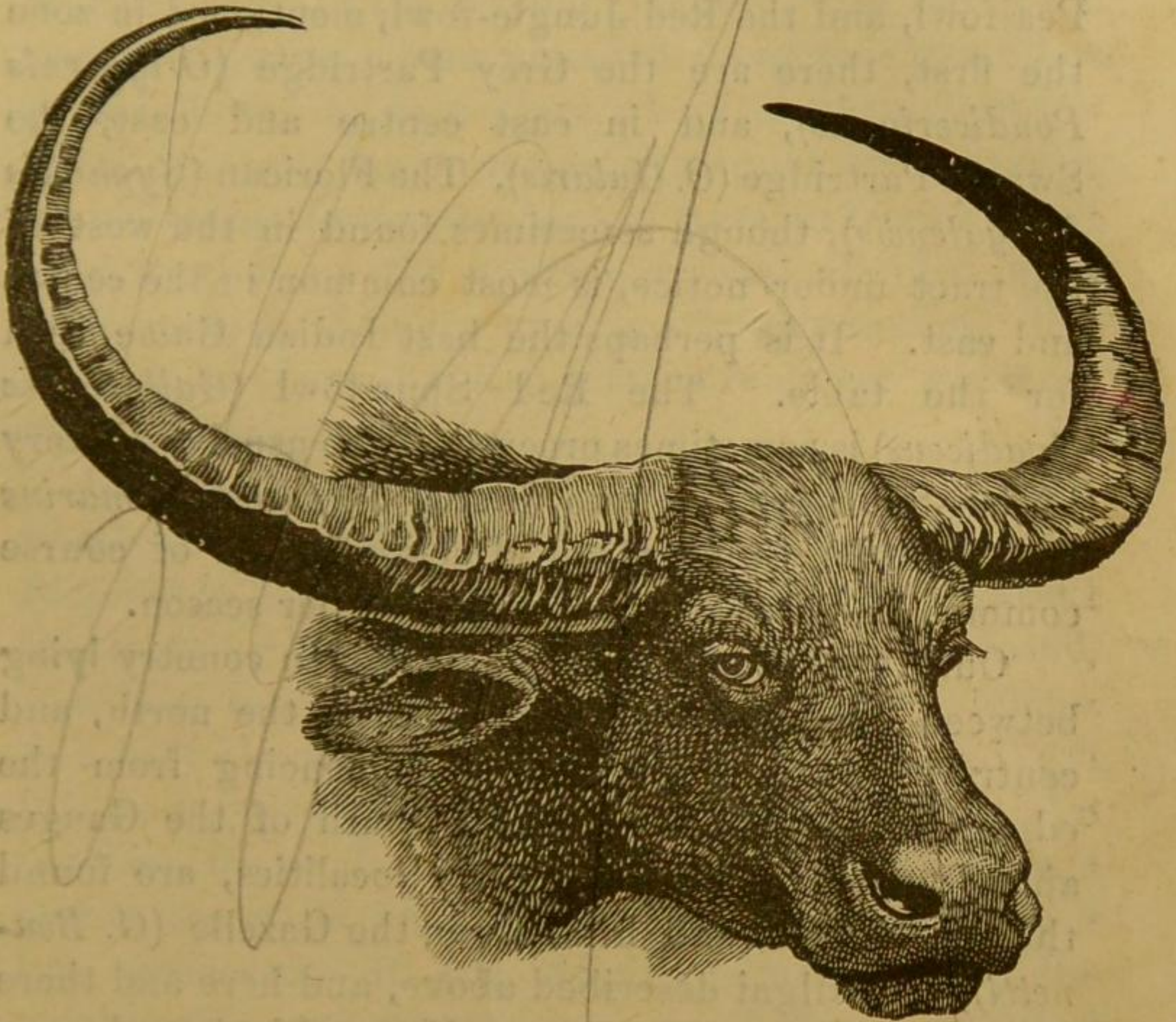
plains). This fine deer is sometimes erroneously called the *Bárasingha*. It seldom has so few as twelve points, and often bears sixteen and seventeen. The true *Bárasingha* is, as has been stated, the Kashmír Stag, which carries as a rule twelve points. The mistake arose from a name sometimes given to the Gond of *Bárrasingha* (*Burrasingha*) or big-horned.



FROM THE TROPHY OF COOCH BEHAR. ROWLAND WARD, F.Z.S., *fecit.*

In the centre and eastwards of this zone the Indian Rhinoceros (*R. Indicus*) and Wild Buffalo (*Bubalus Arnee*) are found, being most numerous towards the east. In the western portion of the above habitat the Rhinoceros is seldom found south of the Nipál border; but, with suasion from the proper quarters, permission

to shoot a few can be procured, only with difficulty. In the extreme east of the zone of which we are writing, in Assam and adjacent parts, are found the *Gaur*, or Indian Bison (*Gavæus Gaurus*), and the *Gayal* or *Mitham* (*G. Frontalis*); the former rare, the latter fairly common.



ARNEE. TROPHY OF COOCH BEHAR. BOWLAND WARD, F.Z.S., fecit.

On the southern fringe of the west portion of this zone the Indian Antelope (*A. Bezoartica*) is sometimes found in herds. The male of this Antelope is well known as the Black Buck.

In the Sundarban (Sunderbunds), being the low salt marshes and swampy forest-clad delta of the Ganges (Hooghly and Megna), the Tiger, Rhinoceros,