

## 354 RHINOCEROS....RHODE-ISLAND.

Lapland and Greenland could not possibly subsist without the rein deer.....*Goldsmith*.

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**RHINOCEROS**, a native of the deserts of Asia and Africa, and is usually found in those extensive forests that are frequented by the lion and the elephant. It is equal to the elephant in bulk ; and if it appears much smaller to the eye, the reason is, that its legs are much shorter. The skin, which is of a dirty brown colour, is so thick as to resist a musket ball. From its snout there grows a horn, which is sometimes found from three to four feet and an half long ; it is composed of the most solid substance, and pointed so as to inflict the most fatal wounds. This animal, defended as he is on every side, by a thick horny skin, which the claws of the lion or the tiger are unable to pierce, and armed before with a weapon which even the elephant does not choose to oppose, reigns absolute monarch of the forests. The natives of Caffraria, in South Africa, represented the rhinoceros to captain Stout, as driving a whole herd of lions before him like a flock of sheep ; and describes them as making every effort in their power to avoid an encounter with him.

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**RHODE-ISLAND**, one of the smallest of the United States ; its greatest length being forty-seven miles, and its greatest breadth thirty-seven. It is bounded north and east by the commonwealth of Massachusetts ; south by the Atlantic Ocean, and west by Connecticut. The principal towns are Newport and Providence.....*Morse*. The island upon which Newport stands, and from which the state takes its name, is thirteen miles in length, and its average breadth is about four miles. Its soil, climate and situation are so fine, that, in its former flourishing state, it was called by travellers the *Eden* of America. Providence is the oldest town in the state, and was first settled by Roger Williams and his followers, in 1636. It is situated on both sides Provi-

Early American Imprints, Series II: Shaw-Shoemaker  
Readex Digital Collections

Date of Publication: 1807

Early American Imprints, 2nd series, no. 13542 (filmed)

Title: The youth's companion, or, An historical dictionary [microform] consisting of articles selected chiefly from natural and civil history, geography, astronomy, zoology, botany and mineralogy arranged in alphabetical order by Ezra Sampson.

Author: Sampson, Ezra, 1749-1823.

Subjects:  
Encyclopedias and dictionaries.

Publication Information:  
Hudson [N.Y.] Balance-press, printed for the author, 1807.

Physical Description:  
456 p. 18 x 10 cm.

Place(s) of Publication:  
United States--New York--Hudson.

Language:  
English

References:  
Shaw & Shoemaker 13542

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Record Number: 10440508CA4C0838  
Record Number: w285652

Article Bookmark(OpenURL Compliant):[Early American Imprints, 2nd series, no. 13542 \(filmed\)](http://docs.newsbank.com/openurl?ctx_ver=z39.88-2004&rft_id=info:sid/w.newsbank.com:SHAW&rft_val_format=info:ofi/fmt:kev:mbx:ctx&rft_dat=104404CBBA394DD0&svc_dat=Evans:eaidoc&req_dat=0E82C294E3C464B7)  
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