

THE
COMPLETE
OBJECT LESSON BOOK.

BY
DAVID CLARK,
HEADMASTER OF THE BOARD SCHOOL, PENSNETT, DUDLEY;

AUTHOR OF THE
"Comprehensive Examiner," "Elementary Mechanics,"
&c.



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TO

W. P. TURNBULL, Esq., M.A.,

H.M. Inspector of Schools,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

Both for carriage and draught, it is the most useful of all animals. It carries us on its back, it draws us in carriages, it draws our ploughs in peace and our cannons in war, and in battle it completes the victory by enabling its rider to follow the retiring foe, and so complete his destruction.

Illustrations, &c.—Pictures of the horse, ass, mule, zebra, and quagga, and of operations in peace and war in which the horse is engaged. A picture of wild horses in South America, and specimens of leather, cloth, spoons, and glue, manufactured from parts of the horse.

Lesson 24.—THE RHINOCEROS.

(*For general description see Lesson on "Mammalia."*)

Description.—This huge animal is second in size to the elephant among land animals, and slightly larger than the hippopotamus. It belongs to the *Pachyderm* or thick-skinned order of mammals. There are two principal species of the animal, the Indian, having one horn on the nose, and the African with two horns. The head is large and elongated, the eyes are small, the ears long and erect, and the legs short and thick. The feet are divided into three toes, some species having four in the front feet. The skin is very thick, and in nearly all the species lies in folds on the neck, shoulders and thighs. It is proof against the talons of the lion and tiger, and also leaden bullets. Its teeth are four incisors, no canine, and twenty-eight molars, or thirty-two in all. The incisors are sometimes wanting in the adult. The horns are formed of fibrous matter, secreted by the skin.

Habitat.—The rhinoceros is confined to the warmer regions of the Old World, and is unknown in America. He prevails in South Asia, and the Malayan Archipelago. In Africa his range is from the Nubian deserts to Cape Colony. He is a rare occupant of zoological gardens, and he is represented in America by the tapir. The Indian rhinoceros is believed to be the original unicorn of the ancients.

Habits, Food, &c.—His favourite resorts are the damp and moist districts of woods and thickets, where he can find abundant water. He is usually of an inoffensive character, and will avoid man where possible. When pursued he turns and attacks his pursuers with great ferocity. He is a bold and fearless foe, and is sometimes more than a match even for the elephant. He is capable of strong attachment to his keeper,

but requires very careful treatment in captivity. He is about as tractable as an ordinary pig. His senses of sight and touch are defective, but those of hearing and smell are acute. His voice resembles the bleating of a calf, and is chiefly heard when in want of food.

His food consists of grass and of tender shrubs and plants. In captivity he is fed on beans, hay, carrots and grain. He will devour in a day as much as the elephant, or about 200 lbs. of food, and drink a dozen buckets of water. He produces one young at a birth, and at long intervals.

How caught.—The chief instrument of his destruction is the gun. When hunted by natives he is often taken in the rear, because of his stiff and unwieldy body, which renders him incapable of turning round quickly. The hunter then cuts the tendon of the heel with a sword, and thus renders the animal helpless.

Uses.—The rhinoceros is of no economic value to man, but he is an object of great interest and instruction to the student of science.

Illustrations, &c.—A picture of the rhinoceros, tapir and pig, and of any tropical district where the rhinoceros lives.

Lesson 25.—THE WHALE.

(*For general description see Lesson on "Mammalia."*)

Description.—The whale is the largest of all known animals. It belongs to that order of mammals called *Cetacea*, or whales. Most animals of this order of mammals live wholly in water. The whale is nearly allied to the narwhals, dolphins and porpoises. There are many species of the whale, both in extreme north and south latitudes. The largest species is the Greenland whale, which sometimes attains a length of from forty to sixty feet, and a girth of thirty or forty feet. The fin whale, which is comparatively worthless in commerce, sometimes attains a length of one hundred feet. The whale resembles a fish in form, the limbs being converted into paddles or "flippers." The head is very small and attached to the body, and the eyes are also small. It has no external ear. The mouth is wide, but the throat is small, and can only swallow the smaller fish. The nostril or nostrils are on the top of the head. The young whale has sometimes teeth, which disappear in the adult animal. The mouth is supplied with a number of plates of whalebone or "baleen," which act as

ERRATA.

Page	4, line	5 from top,	Classification should be	ILLUSTRATION.
" 27,	" 8	" "	<i>Camelopard</i>	CAMELOPARD.
" 29,	" 10	" "	<i>Habitat</i>	HABITAT.
" 99,	" 2	" "	<i>Uncrystallised</i>	UNCRYSTALLISED.
" 176,	" 3	" bottom,	<i>Ball</i>	BELL
" 189,	" 10	" top,	110°	50°
" 189,	" 12	" "	40°	50°
" 232,	" 7	" bottom,	<i>Cousin</i>	NEPHEW.
" 233,	" 12	" "	<i>Abram</i>	ABRAHAM.
" 249,	" 11	" top,	<i>Mircurie</i>	MEROURIE.