

have expected it to be frightened by the enclosed space offering a difficult escape if it wanted to make off. I took care in shepherding it out of the house and it flew off without any panic, but re-entered a few minutes later.

"Although their demands for food are quite irregular and they are sometimes not seen near the house for days at a time—preferring to cadge from the gardener's elevenses—our relationship has remained most friendly. It was, therefore, with great sadness that, a few days ago, I saw one of them lying on the ground with its wings wide spread and its head thrown back. It looked like an aeroplane that has crash-landed. There was nothing just there that it could have collided with, and I supposed it had been struck by a hawk that had taken fright and flown off without its prey. But when I went out to gather it up, it picked itself up in a leisurely way, gave itself a shake, and looked at me expectantly. When it saw that I had nothing to offer, it made its way off down the rose-bed perfectly normally. I wondered whether this was a known habit of theirs; the grass had not been mown for a fortnight and I suppose it was resting, enjoying the springy feeling of the cool grass beneath it. I keep no cats, but neighbours do, and I can but hope that it does not expose itself thus too often."

Was it, in fact, just taking a sun bath?—Ed.

Great Beasts Ensnared.—We are averse to the publication of photographs of dead animals, but sometimes such photographs are apposite to the fulfilment of our task. The accompanying photographs of a dead rhinoceros and a dead buffalo were sent by Captain Salmon, late Acting Game Warden of Uganda, to Sir William Gowers, late Governor of Uganda and our Vice-Chairman. Both animals were encountered within 20 minutes walk of the same water-hole. No one can say how many weary miles they had dragged the great logs, clearly to be seen in the photographs, into ineluctable contact with which they had been ensnared by the ingenuity of native hunters. Since any attempt to relieve them of this incubus would have endangered human life, they were mercifully shot.

Those who have read Captain Keith Caldwell's Report of his Faunal Survey of Eastern and Central Africa—published as "Occasional Paper No. 8", price 1s. 6d.—will remember that he expresses the view that uncontrolled native hunting is the most serious obstacle to the conservation of the fauna of Africa. In these photographs we have evidence not only to support his view but also of the terrible cruelty of native hunting methods.

Since men are in general carnivores, it would not be reasonable



Above: THE ENSNARED RHINOCEROS.
Below: THE ENSNARED BUFFALO.

to deny to the native African rational exploitation of the native fauna. But this exploitation needs to be controlled quantitatively for the preservation of the capital stock, and qualitatively so as to preserve the rarer species and to prohibit unnecessary brutality.

To instil into the native African mind consideration for the agonies of animals doomed to provide them with food is no easy matter and, having regard to the brutalities of "civilized" men one to another it may seem an impertinence. Nevertheless, the task is one we ought not to shirk, and as we seek to teach humane killing to the "untutored savage", we may be led to compare with his thoughtless brutalities the calculated malignancy of civilized man to civilized man.

The Olympic Forests Reprieved.—We have received from Mrs. C. N. Edge, Chairman of the Emergency Conservation Committee, and from Dr. Willard G. Van Name, good news of the effect of the protest against the destruction of the Olympic Forests, in which they played a prominent part. The story is briefly told in Dr. Van Name's letter, as follows:—

"Threat to the Olympic Forests in the State of Washington, U.S.A.

"I am glad to report that the danger to this forest area (see p. 34 of the July, 1948, number of the *Journal*), which is part of the Olympic National Park, has been at least temporarily overcome.

"The Olympic National Park, one of the largest of the United States' National Parks, was established largely through the personal efforts of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Secretary Harold L. Ickes, who was the head of the Interior Department under Roosevelt's administration.

"But after Roosevelt's death and Ickes' retirement, political considerations led certain officers of the Interior Department (which is in charge of the National Parks) to join with the local lumber interests in a scheme quietly to slip legislation through Congress to cut down the area of the Olympic National Park by excluding and opening up to lumbering over 53,000 acres of the Park lands, just that part which, by what can hardly have been a mere coincidence, happened to contain nearly all of the wonderful rain forest of immense Douglas Firs, Sitka Spruces, Lowland White Firs, Western Hemlock, and other trees of great size which were the most important feature of the Park. The area is also of importance for winter range for the only large herd of the Roosevelt Elk still in existence.

"Splendid work was done by various conservation organiza-