

# RECORDS OF BIG GAME

WITH

THEIR DISTRIBUTION, CHARACTERISTICS, DIMENSIONS,  
WEIGHTS, AND

HORN & TUSK MEASUREMENTS

FIFTH EDITION

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LONDON

ROWLAND WARD, LIMITED

"THE JUNGLE," 167 PICCADILLY, W.

1907

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Ronald Ward





Record Horn of Great Indian Rhinoceros. Shot by Lord Curzon of Kedleston.

**The GREAT INDIAN RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros unicornis*).**

In addition to being the giant among its Asiatic kindred and possessing but a single horn, this species is specially characterised by the form of the folds in its hide, and the large tubercles on the fore- and hind-quarters, which look as though the skin had been fastened to the body by means of rivets. Folds before and behind the shoulder mark off one large triangular shield on each side, while another fold before each thigh separates a large rump-shield; the saddle-shaped body-shield being defined by the fold behind the shoulder and the one in front of the thigh, both of which extend across the back. Very characteristic, too, are the great folds which form heavy rings of skin round the neck. Although the tubercles are largest on the fore- and hind-quarters, they also occur on other parts of the body. Height at shoulder from 5 feet 8 inches to over 6 feet; girth, 105 inches. The late Dr. T. C. Jerdon mentions 24 inches as the length of a fine horn.





Horn of Great Indian Rhinoceros.

## THE MAHARAJA OF COOCH BEHAR'S SPECIMENS

Height at shoulder . . . . .	6 ft. $4\frac{1}{4}$ ins.	6 ft. 1 in.	6 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
Total length . . . . .	14 ft. 1 in.	13 ft. 2 ins.	13 ft. 10 ins.
Body . . . . .	11 ft. 11 ins.	11 ft. 2 ins.	11 ft. 8 ins.
Girth behind shoulder . . . . .	119 ins.	112 ins.	
Maximum girth . . . . .	144 ins.	142 ins.	
Round neck nearest body . . . . .	90 ins.	84 ins.	
"                    head . . . . .	74 ins.	75 ins.	
Horn . . . . .	$16\frac{1}{4}$ ins.	$13\frac{7}{8}$ ins.	

*Distribution.*—Chiefly the Assam plain at the present day. At one time this animal was found over the greater part of the Indian peninsula, as attested by fossil remains, but it is now confined on the west side of the Bay of Bengal to Assam and Nepal, although there is some evidence of its occurrence in Upper Burma to Assam and Nepal.

Length on front curve.	Circumference.	Weight.	Locality.	Owner.
$-21\frac{1}{2}$	$24\frac{3}{4}$	...	Nepal . . . . .	Lord Curzon.
$19\frac{1}{8}$	$22\frac{3}{8}$	...	India . . . . .	British Museum.
♀ 18	16	...	Assam . . . . .	M. H. Logan.
$16\frac{3}{4}$	...	...	Belsire, Assam . . . . .	W. C. Sherwill.
♀ $16\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	Cooch Behar . . . . .	H.H. the Maharaja of Cooch Behar.

— Owner's measurements.



Length on front curve.	Circumference.	Weight.	Locality.	Owner.
♀ 16	...	3½ lbs.	Nowgong, Assam	L. Fabre Tonnerre.
14½	21	...	Assam	Dr. W. P. Y. Bainbrigge.
♀ 14	22¾	4½ lbs.	Nowgong	L. Fabre Tonnerre.
-13¾	...	...	Cooch Behar	Maharaja of Cooch Behar.
<sup>1</sup> 13	...	...	Do.	Do.
13	20½	...	Assam	G. A. Dolby.
13	20¾	...	Do.	W. A. Doxat.
12¾	23	...	Do.	H. B. Firman.
12½	21½	...	Do.	H. C. Holland.
-12½	15½	...	Cooch Behar	James J. Harrison.
12½	21	...	?	J. W. Grieve.
12	21½	...	Cooch Behar	A. Ezra.

- Owner's measurements.

<sup>1</sup> Height at shoulder, 6 ft. 6 ins.

### The JAVAN RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*).

A less gigantic and smaller-headed species than the last, with the skin marked by a kind of mosaic pattern, and the fold in front of the shoulder continued right across the body like the two hinder folds. The neck also lacks the large ring-like masses of folded skin. Horn never very large, and generally almost or completely wanting in the female. A female has been measured which stood 5½ feet at the shoulder, and it is probable that the male is not much inferior in height to the Indian species, although of lighter build.

*Distribution.*—The Sanderbans and other parts of Eastern Bengal, to the Terai, Sikkim, Assam, and thence through Burma and the Malay Peninsula to Sumatra, Java, and Borneo.

Length on front curve.	Circumference.	Locality.	Owner.
10½	19½	Java	British Museum.
10½	19½	Do.	H. Van Son.
8½	20	Do.	A. S. Campbell.





Horn of Sumatran Rhinoceros. Shot by G. F. W. Curtis.

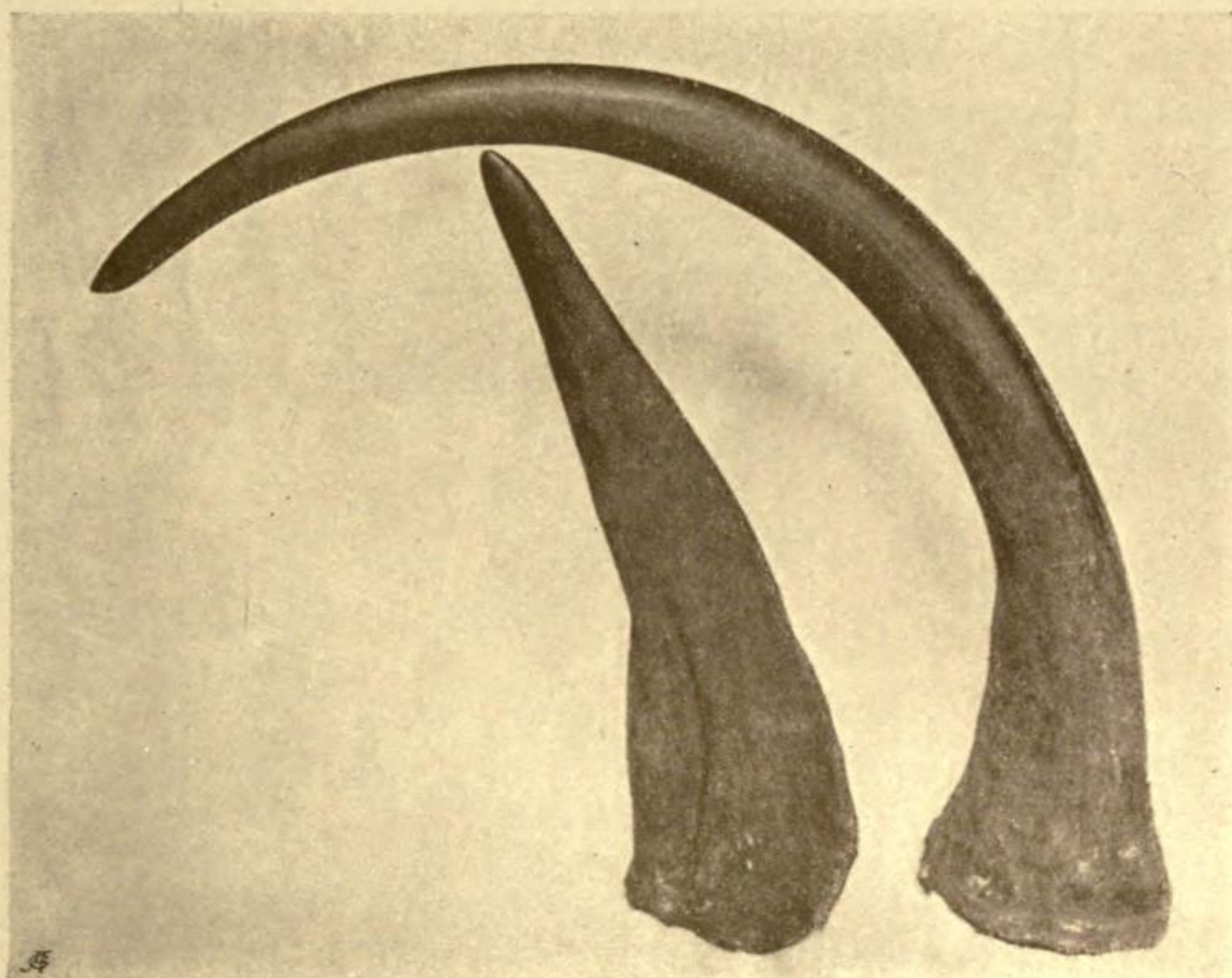
**The SUMATRAN RHINOCEROS** (*Rhinoceros* [*Ceratorhinus*]<sup>1</sup> *sumatrensis*).

The smallest of the Asiatic rhinoceroses, and the only one with two horns ; differing, however, from the African members of the genus by the presence of folds in the skin and of teeth in the front of the jaws. Only the fold behind the shoulders is continued across the back, and the brown or black skin is rough, granular, and more or less hairy. Height at shoulder from about 4 feet to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet ; weight about 2000 lbs. *Distribution*.—From Assam (where the species is very rare) to Siam, the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, and Borneo. The Assam animal is a distinct local race (*R. sumatrensis lasiotis*).

Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality.	Owner.
Front.	Rear.	Front.	Rear.		
$32\frac{1}{8}$	...	$17\frac{3}{8}$	...	?	British Museum.
$27\frac{1}{8}$	...	$17\frac{7}{8}$	...	?	Do.
15	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{1}{2}$	17	Malay Peninsula	C. B. Smales.
11	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$15\frac{1}{4}$	$11\frac{1}{4}$	?	Sir T. S. Tancred, Bart.
$6\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{3}{4}$	$12\frac{1}{2}$	Burma	The late C. W. A. Bruce.

<sup>1</sup> An earlier name is *Dicerorhinus*, but this is too like *Diceros*, the subgeneric (or generic) name of the African rhinoceroses, to be employed.





Mr. S. L. Hinde's Horns of Black Rhinoceros.

**BLACK or COMMON RHINOCEROS** (*Rhinoceros* [*Diceros*] *bicornis*).

*Aurarisse* of the Abyssinians.

*Abu Gesn-Khartyl* of the Sudanese.

*Chipamberi* of the Lower Zambesi natives.

*Chipémbere* of the Chilalas.

*Fava* of the Swahilis.

*Gurhu* of the Danakil tribes.

*Muin* of the Masais.

*Mege* of the M'Kua.

*Sipejana* of the Swazis and Matonga.

*Upejana* of the Matabili and Zulus.

*Upelepe* of the Basutos.

*Wärtses* of the Gallas.

*Weel* of the Somalis.

*Zwart Rhinaster* of the Boers.

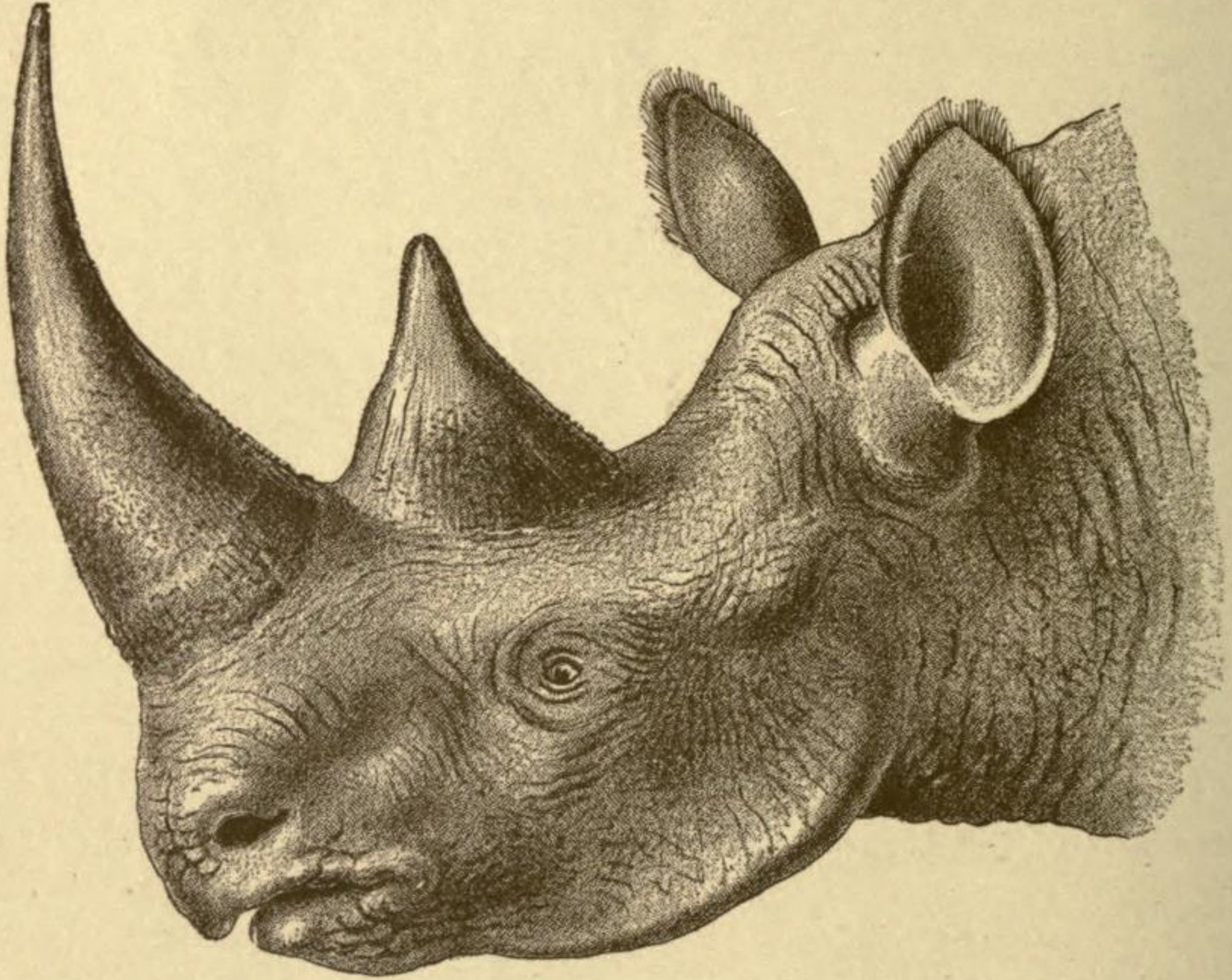
The African rhinoceroses are two-horned animals, readily distinguished from their Asiatic relatives by the absence of the folds of skin on the body which form such a characteristic feature of the latter and also by the lack of front teeth in both the upper and lower jaws. The hide, too, is almost completely naked, although there are some bristly hairs on the margins of the ears and the tip of the tail.

Perhaps the most distinctive external feature of the black rhinoceros, as the present species is commonly called, is to be found in the prehensile tip to the upper lip, which is rounded and not very wide in front. Other points of distinction are, however, shown by the form of



the horns and ears and the position of the eyes ; while in bodily size this animal is also considerably inferior to the next. The black rhinoceros is likewise well characterised by the comparative shortness of its skull, and the form and structure of the cheek teeth, which are adapted for a diet of twigs and leaves. Average height at shoulder, 5 feet. Weight (Capt. R. Meinertzhagen), 1 ton 1 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs. as he fell.

Black rhinoceroses sometimes have more than the usual two horns. Gordon Cumming, for instance, records having killed a three-horned



Head of Black Rhinoceros.

specimen ; and Lieut.-Col. E. G. Harrison, writing in the *Field* of December 25, 1897, gives the following measurements of a five-horned rhinoceros shot by himself in East Africa :—

*First Horn.*—Counting from snout, measurement  $14\frac{3}{4}$  ins. ; is a normal front horn curving backwards.

*Second Horn.*— $15\frac{1}{4}$  ins., curving forwards instead of backwards or being straight, as is usual, and leaning considerably over to the off-side.

*Third Horn.*— $11\frac{1}{4}$  ins. long and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ins. wide half-way between base and apex ; is flat and perpendicular, and, though a distinct horn, grows out of the off-side of the base of No. 2.

*Fourth Horn.*—Is a stumpy, abortive horn, 9 ins. long, growing



partly from the base of No. 3, but quite separate and inclining slightly backwards.

*Fifth Horn.*—A distinct horn,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  ins. long, with its own base separated about 3 ins. from No. 4.

*Distribution.*—From Abyssinia and Somaliland through East and Central Africa, in suitable localities, to the Cape. Now rare to the south of the Zambesi, but probably more abundant in the districts between the interior of Somaliland and Lake Rudolf than anywhere else. Although more alert and active than the white rhinoceros, and thus a more dangerous animal, this species is by no means difficult to kill with modern weapons; and in the old days hunters frequently shot half-a-dozen in a single evening as they came to drink at a pool. In spite of its wide distribution, it has not been found possible to split up the species into local races; although this may perhaps be due to the want of sufficient specimens for comparison. The so-called *Rhinoceros holmwoodi* is a variety of this species.

Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality.	Owner.
Front Horn.	Rear Horn.	Front Horn.	Rear Horn.		
53½	...	18½	...	East Africa . . .	Dr. C. H. Orman.
47	22½	22	20	Do. . . .	S. L. Hinde.
44½	...	...	...	?	Imperial Museum, Vienna.
44	...	...	...	?	The late F. Holmwood.
43	...	21½	...	?	The late A. Beit.
41½	10	20½	16½	Zululand . . .	Lieut.-Col Hon. W. Coke.
41½	...	22½	...	Orange River Colony .	Major - Gen. Sir William Crossman.
41	...	...	...	?	Carl Hagenbeck.
41	...	...	...	East Africa . . .	The late F. Holmwood.
40	...	22	...	Do. . . .	Berlin Museum.
40	14¾	18½	20½	Mt. Kenia, East Central Africa	A. H. Neumann.
39½	...	21½	...	South Africa . . .	J. Lamont.
38¾	...	21	...	?	Hon. Walter Rothschild.
38½	...	19	...	Masailand . . .	Sir John Kirk.
38	11	24	21¾	South Africa . . .	Earl of Dartmouth.

— Owner's measurements.



## RECORDS OF BIG GAME

Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality.	Owner.
Front Horn.	Rear Horn.	Front Horn.	Rear Horn.		
-36	...	...	...	East Africa	Sir Bartle Frere, Bart.
-35½	...	18	...	?	H. Murray.
33¾	16	20	19½	East Africa	T. P. Kempson.
♀ 33½	...	17½	...	Matabililand	W. Van Ness.
33	22	19½	20½	East Africa	A. J. A. Douglas.
-32½	21	19	15½	Portuguese Northern Zambesia	F. Vaughan Kirby.
32½	16	22	19	Athi Plains, East Africa	Capt. R. Meinertzhagen.
-32	11¾	19¾	19½	Do.	Count Scheibler.
31	...	18	...	East Africa	R. P. Carroll.
31	19½	16	16½	Do.	H. C. V. Hunter.
-30½	8¾	18½	16½	German East Africa	O. Neumann.
<sup>1</sup> 30	21½	22½	23½	East Africa	Capt. the Hon. A. Greville.
29½	...	18¾	...	Somaliland	Julius Jeppe.
29½	14½	...	...	Do.	A. H. Straker.
28½	...	18	...	South Africa	C. D. Rudd.
28	23¼	...	...	East Africa	F. Baden-Powell.
28¼	8¾	18½	...	South Africa	F. C. Selous.
27½	17¾	21	18	East Africa	H. Hyde Baker.
27¼	10	21	17	Masailand	Rear-Admiral R. A. J. Mont- gomerie, R.N.
27	12½	24¾	20	East Africa	Abel Chapman.
27	...	20½	...	Do.	E. Gedge.
27	13¼	24½	22½	Do.	Abel Chapman.
27	16½	17¾	17½	Do.	Sir Robert Harvey, Bart.
27	12	...	...	Do.	Sir John Willoughby, Bart.
26¾	13¼	22	...	?	Sir Edmund G. Loder, Bart.
26½	10½	19½	15	East Africa	Henry Charrington.
26	13	20¼	23½	Do.	C. Craig.
26	9	18	17	Do.	Major M. Tighe.
26	10	20½	19	Do.	F. W. Belt.

- Owner's measurements.

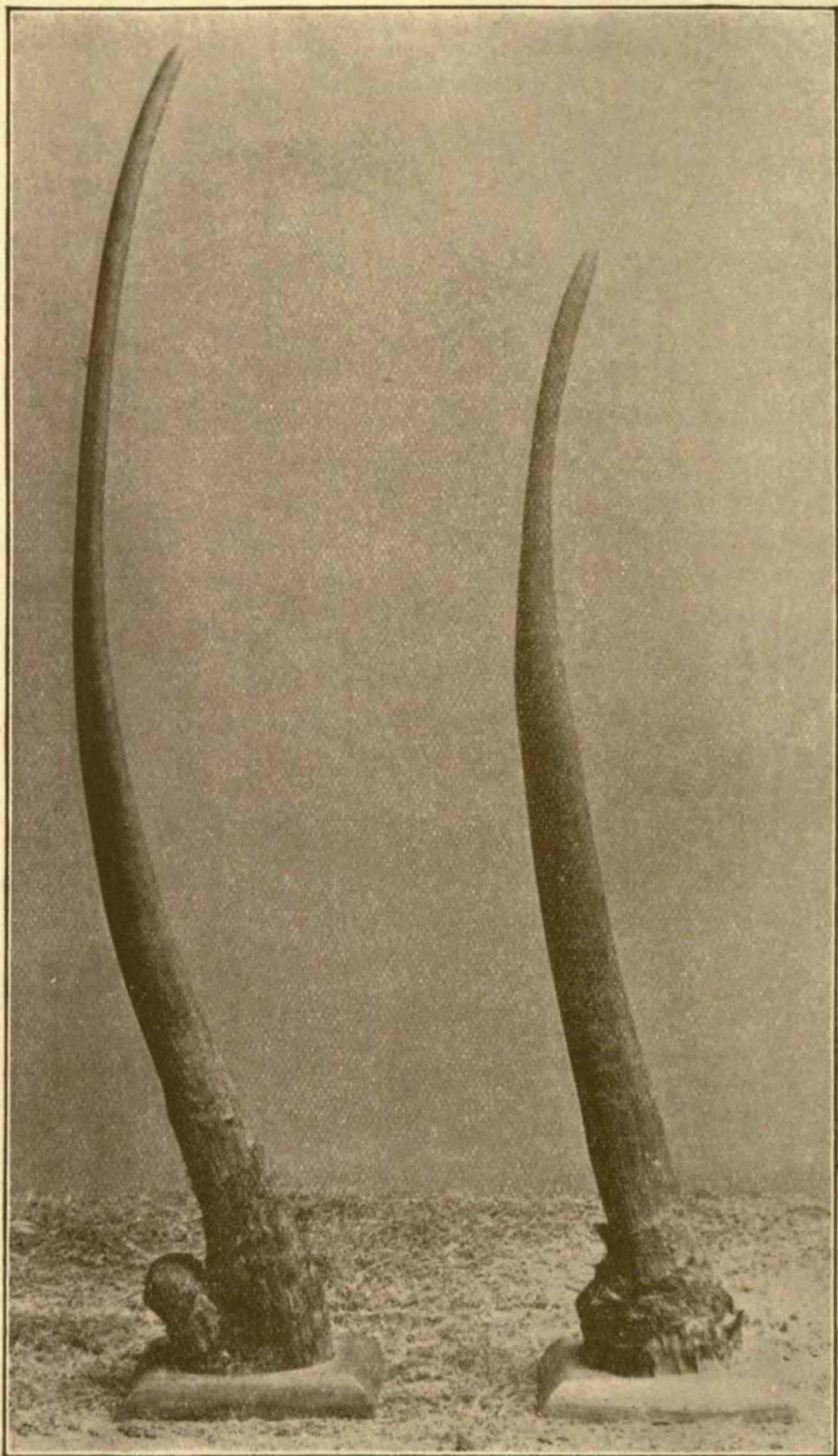
<sup>1</sup> Weight front horn, 13¾ lbs. Weight rear horn, 15 lbs.



Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality	Owner.
Front Horn.	Rear Horn.	Front Horn.	Rear Horn.		
♀ 25 $\frac{3}{4}$	17	16	15	East shore of Lake Rudolf	A. H. Neumann.
22 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Somaliland . . .	Julius Jeppe.
22 $\frac{1}{4}$	10	22 $\frac{3}{4}$	19	Do. . . .	Sir H. D. Tichborne, Bart.
22	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	16	Do. . . .	Col. H. D. Olivier.
21 $\frac{3}{4}$	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	19	19	Do. . . .	J. Kenneth Foster.
21 $\frac{3}{8}$	17	14	16	Abyssinia . . .	British Museum.
-21	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	Somaliland . . .	F. Gillett.
-20 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	21 $\frac{3}{4}$	19 $\frac{7}{8}$	Do. . . .	Count E. Hoyos.
20 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	Lake Tchad . . .	G. W. Moran.
20	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	18	Somaliland . . .	J. Byng Paget.
20	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	Do. . . .	Lieut.-Col. H. G. C. Swayne.
-20	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{7}{8}$	Do. . . .	Count E. Hoyos.
14 $\frac{3}{4}$	9	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	14	Benue, Nigeria . . .	E. J. Wolseley.
13	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Abyssinia . . .	O. Neumann.

- Owner's measurements.





Front Horns of White Rhinoceros.

From specimens in the collection of the late Roualeyn Gordon Cumming, in the possession of Col. W. Gordon Cumming.



**WHITE or BURCHELL'S RHINOCEROS** (*Rhinoceros* [*Diceros*] *simus*).*Khartyt* of the Sudanese.*Vit Rhenaster* of the Dutch.

Next to the Indian elephant this is the largest mammal that has trodden the earth in modern times. Its huge bulk, the bluntly truncate muzzle, which has no prehensile tip, the great length of the skull, and the enormous front horn, with its expanded base, form the most striking external characteristics of this species. The cheek-teeth are of a different type of structure from those of the preceding species, being, in fact, adapted for chewing grass. In walking, the animal carried its head low, so that in examples in which the front horn bends forward, its tip became worn by being pushed along the ground. It is somewhat difficult to surmise the reason for the application of the name white rhinoceros to this species.

*Distribution*.—South and South-East Africa, in suitable localities, as far north as the Zambesi; and again in Central Africa at Lado, on the equator. Exterminated early in the last century to the south of the Orange River; and now represented in South Africa at the most by a few survivors in North-East Mashonaland, and possibly by others in the reedy swamps at the junction of the Black and White Umvolosi rivers. Between the Zambesi and Orange rivers the species was abundant about half a century ago; Andersson alone having killed sixty in the course of a few months. Its existence in Central Equatorial Africa was first indicated by the late Sir Samuel Baker on the evidence of horns, and subsequently made certain in the neighbourhood of Lado by Major Gibbons. This northern form may prove to be a distinct race.

Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality.	Owner.
Front Horn.	Rear Horn.	Front Horn.	Rear Horn.		
-62½	...	22½	...	South Africa . .	Col. W. Gordon Cumming.
56½	...	23½ about	...	Do. . .	British Museum.
-52½	...	21½	...	Do. . .	Col. W. Gordon Cumming.
44	...	20	...	Do. . .	British Museum.
43¾	...	23¾	...	Do. . .	The late A. Beit.
42¾	...	25½	...	Limpopo . .	The late W. C. Oswell.
-41	...	...	...	South Africa . .	J. W. Fitzherbert.
40¾	...	29¾	...	Do. . .	Sir Edmund G. Loder, Bart.

— Owner's measurements.



Length on outside curve.		Circumference.		Locality.	Owner.
Front Horn.	Rear Horn.	Front Horn.	Rear Horn.		
40½	...	20¾	...	South Africa . .	Hon. Walter Rothschild.
-40½	...	22½	...	Do. . .	Sir Edmund G. Loder, Bart.
40¼	...	25	...	Bahr-el-Ghazal . .	Capt. F. G. Poole.
40	...	15¾	...	South Africa . .	British Museum.
39½	...	23	...	?	Lord Delamere.
♀ 38½	...	24½	...	?	The late W. C. Oswell.
38¼	...	22¼	...	?	J. B. Taylor.
37¾	17¾	27½	...	Mashonaland . .	F. C. Selous.
37¼	...	24	7½	South Africa . .	British Museum.
-36¾	...	20½	...	?	Berlin Museum.
36¼	...	19¾	...	Sudan . . .	Brig.-Gen. B. T. Mahon.
36	...	28½	...	Mashonaland . .	C. D. Rudd.
<sup>1</sup> 35½	7½	26	21	Mount Domo, Ma- shonaland	South African Museum (the late Cecil Rhodes).
-33½	...	23	...	?	Julius Jeppe.
33	13½	23¼	...	Mashonaland . .	F. C. Selous.
32½	12½	21½	19	Near Lado . . .	James J. Harrison.
32	13	27¼	25½	Do. . .	Capt. the Hon. M. P. Macnaghten.
31½	...	19½	...	?	Mr. Justice Hopley.
31	...	24	...	Zululand . . .	Lieut.-Col. Hon. W. Coke.
31	...	22	...	Mashonaland . .	J. G. Griffiths.
30¾	...	25¾	...	White Nile . . .	Major C. J. Hawker.
-30¾	...	25¼	...	South Africa . .	Col. H. B. H. Blundell.
<sup>1</sup> ♀ 29¾	5½	23	20½	Zululand . . .	Pretoria Museum (Julius Jeppe).
29	10	25	23	White Nile . . .	Major R. M. Sanders.
<sup>1</sup> 22½	7½	26¼	...	Mashonaland . .	Hon. Walter Rothschild.
<sup>1</sup> 20¾	7	28¾	...	Do. . . .	British Museum.
<sup>1</sup> 20	6	25½	18½	Zululand . . .	H.R.H. le Duc d'Orléans.

- Owner's measurements.

<sup>1</sup> Mounted specimens.