

THE
CABINET;
OR A
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
QUADRUPEDS, BIRDS, FISHES
AND INSECTS.

ILLUSTRATED
WITH COPPERPLATES.

EXHIBITING
FIGURES OF ABOVE SEVEN HUNDRED ANIMALS.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

EDINBURGH:

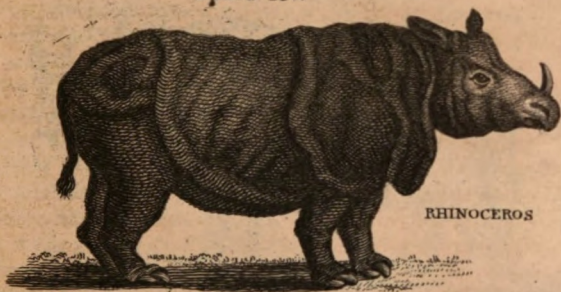
PRINTED BY ALEX. CHAPMAN & Co.

For JOHN BEUGO, Engraver.

W. J. & J. RICHARDSON, Royal Exchange;
And VERNOR & HOOD, Poultry, London.

1801.

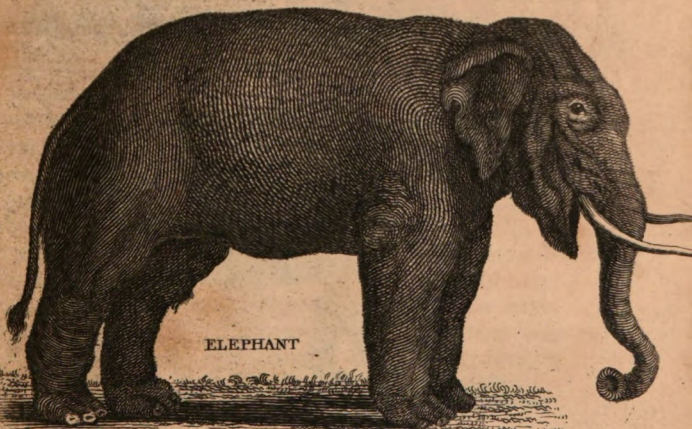
Plate XV.



RHINOCEROS

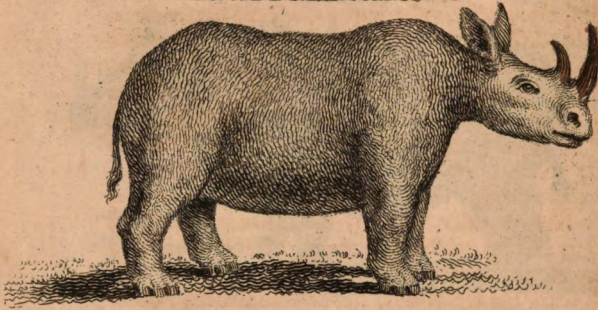


HIPPOPOTAMUS

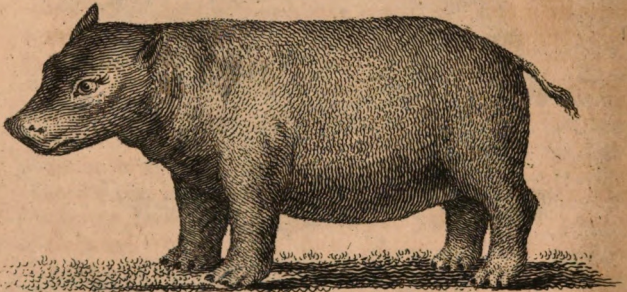


ELEPHANT

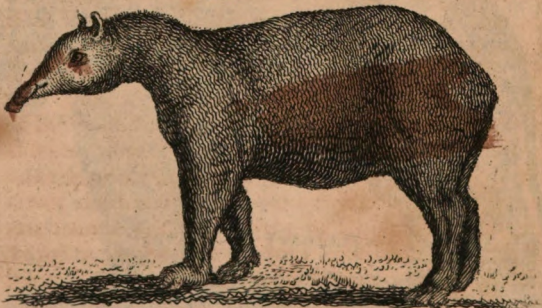
Plate XVI.
BICORN'D RHINOCEROS



CALF of the SEA-COW



TAPIR



ness. Dr Sparrman, however, describes the two-horned Rhinoceros of the Cape, as wholly covered with skin thick and warty, but not wrinkled; which was not only penetrable, but liable to be cut with missile and blunt weapons. On the other hand, Mr Bruce, speaking of the same animal in Abyssinia, recurs to the ancient description; and, with much asperity, treats the Doctor's account as fabulous. The animals may, however, if not a different species, have been varieties occasioned by climate, or by age. In the body, the Rhinoceros is generally as large as the Elephant; but his legs are short. His motion is a trot; and, though his form is unwieldy, he moves with much swiftness, quickening his pace by degrees. The horns upon his nose he can move at pleasure; and, while one is allowed to hang loose, he can dig roots with the other. He lives in forests, and feeds on plants, shrubs, branches, and also the trunks of trees, which he splits into splinters with his horns. His upper lip is flexible, and nearly answers the purposes of a proboscis. He is fond of rolling in mire. This he is said to do to get rid of flies, though it occasions a greater quantity of vermin, which perforates his skin, and exhibits a profusion of pustules over his whole body. The Rhinoceros was known to the ancients, and appeared in the Roman Circus, where he was opposed to the Elephant. It does not appear that he was ever trained to any domestic purpose. He is said to be stubborn and stupid; but, except when provoked, he is not offensive. He is said, however, to have an antipathy at the Elephant; and, in a state of nature, it is, perhaps, expedient that so powerful an animal should have a formidable antagonist. The Rhinoceros has, in modern times, only appeared in Africa; and there the species is uniformly two-horned. The one-horned kind, which is a native of Asia, is seldom met with: It is even doubtful, whether there be such; and whether an accidental loss may not have given name to such a variety.

HIPPOTAMUS.—*Genus 12.* **T**HIS animal is the Behemoth of Job; and the sublime description given by the sacred writer shows an accurate knowledge of its manners. Its

are numerous in all the islands of the South Sea, and, being fed with bread-fruit, yams, and eddoes, their flesh is said to be rich and delicious in the highest degree. In England, pork is a principal article among naval stores. But, along with this general demand for pork, there are individuals every where who hold it in detestation. This aversion must, in a great measure, be occasioned by the manners of the animal; and it is, no doubt, the operation of this prejudice which has occasioned the Jews and Mahometans solemnly to forbid the use of it. The eyes of the hog are remarkably small. He has a dull and drowsy look, and his ears, in a domestic state, are pendant. The female goes between four and five months with young, and brings forth frequently, at a litter, twenty pigs.

CAPE VERD HOG. This animal is about five feet long, and two and a half high. The tusks in the upper jaw are large; the eyes are small, situated very high in the forehead; a lobe, or wattle, which, hangs beneath them, prevents the animal from seeing objects which are immediately below. He burrows in the ground, which he is enabled to do, by the form and texture of his snout, almost as readily as the mole. He is a fierce and lively animal, and inhabits the hot parts of Africa.

The **BABYROUSSA** is of a large square form, being nearly the size of the stag. Each jaw is furnished with two remarkable tusks: Those in the under jaw are about eight inches long; those in the upper jaw are twelve. Their sockets are in the outside, and they rise like horns bending to the forehead. It is said, that the animal rests his head by hooking his upper tusks on the branch of a tree. He is found in Java, Celebes, and Bornea.

RHINOCEROS.—*Genus 11.* **A** LONG with his great size, and the curious circumstance of carrying on his nose a horn, or horns, (Pl. 15. & 16.) this animal has been always described as being covered with a skin, without hair, impenetrable even to musket balls, and plaited over his body in large folds, as it were arming him all over with har-