

AUNT BESSIE'S PICTURE BOOK.

WITH NINETY-THREE PAGES OF PICTURES

BY

JOHN GILBERT, J. D. WATSON, OSCAR PLETSCH, F. W. LAWSON, HARRISON
WEIR, PAUL GRAY, R. BARNES, F. W. KEYL, J. WOLF, AND OTHERS.

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THE RHINOCEROS.

THE Rhinoceros is something like a great ugly pig, only he has a horn on his nose. You do not notice this horn at first, or think that it is only a coarse hump or knob on the snout; but it is in reality a horn, and when the animal was young it was long and pointed, but as he is always rubbing it against everything he meets with, it gets at last worn down nearly level with the rest of his face. The Rhinoceros loves to lie in cool muddy water, wallowing in the dirt. This is why they have provided the one in the Zoological Gardens with a bath. He rolls in the mud until he has a thick covering of dirt all over him, so that you cannot see the real colour of his skin, which is dark purple. He is a very savage animal when provoked, and his keeper has to be extremely careful not to irritate him. He does not eat flesh, but likes rice, and clover, and sugar, and will drink several bottles of wine.

