

THE  
ANIMAL CREATION :  
A Popular Introduction to Zoology.

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PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF GENERAL LITERATURE  
AND EDUCATION, APPOINTED BY THE SOCIETY FOR  
PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

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LONDON :  
SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE ;  
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, CHARING CROSS, W.C. ;  
43, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C. ;  
26, ST. GEORGE'S PLACE, HYDE PARK CORNER, S.W.  
BRIGHTON : 135, NORTH STREET.  
NEW YORK : E. & J. B. YOUNG & CO.  
1886.

regions of the Atlantic Ocean, near the mouths of rivers, which they sometimes ascend to a considerable distance. They live in flocks, often land, and are readily approached. They display the greatest attachment to their companions. The Manati are sometimes fifteen or even twenty feet in length; their flesh is eaten, and esteemed a luxury.

The **Dugongs** (*Halicore* \*) differ from the Manati by having their tail fin-shaped like a crescent, and pointed tusks that protrude from the upper jaw. They inhabit the shores of the Indian Ocean.

### ORDER PACHYDERMATA.†

The relationship between the Whales and the Elephant is not very remote; the bulky head, the giant size, the thick and naked skin, the prolonged



FIG. 417.—WART-HOG, INDIAN RHINOCEROS, AND RIVER-HORSE.

tusks, and the straggling irregularity of the teeth, are alike indicative of the aquatic Cetaceans and of

\* ἄλς, hals, *the sea*; κόρη, core, *a maiden*.

† παχύς, pachys, *thick*; δέρμα, derma, *the skin--thick-skinned*.

the marsh-loving Pachyderms, that next offer themselves to our notice.

These animals are remarkable for the thickness of their skin, and for having their toes enclosed in hoofs. They have a single stomach, and do not chew the cud. This order includes the largest terrestrial mammalia at present in existence. Except the horse, they are all clumsy in their shape, and have a heavy, indolent gait. They generally live together in herds, and frequent marshy situations, where they find vegetation and roots suited to their wants, and where they can wallow in the mud. Although they resemble each other in the general features of their economy, they are distinguishable by important particulars, which has rendered it necessary to divide them into the following groups: **Proboscidian Pachyderms, Ordinary Pachyderms, and Solipedes.**

#### SECTION OF PROBOSCIDIAN PACHYDERMS.

The **Proboscidian Pachyderms** are furnished with a proboscis: they have five toes on all the feet, but so

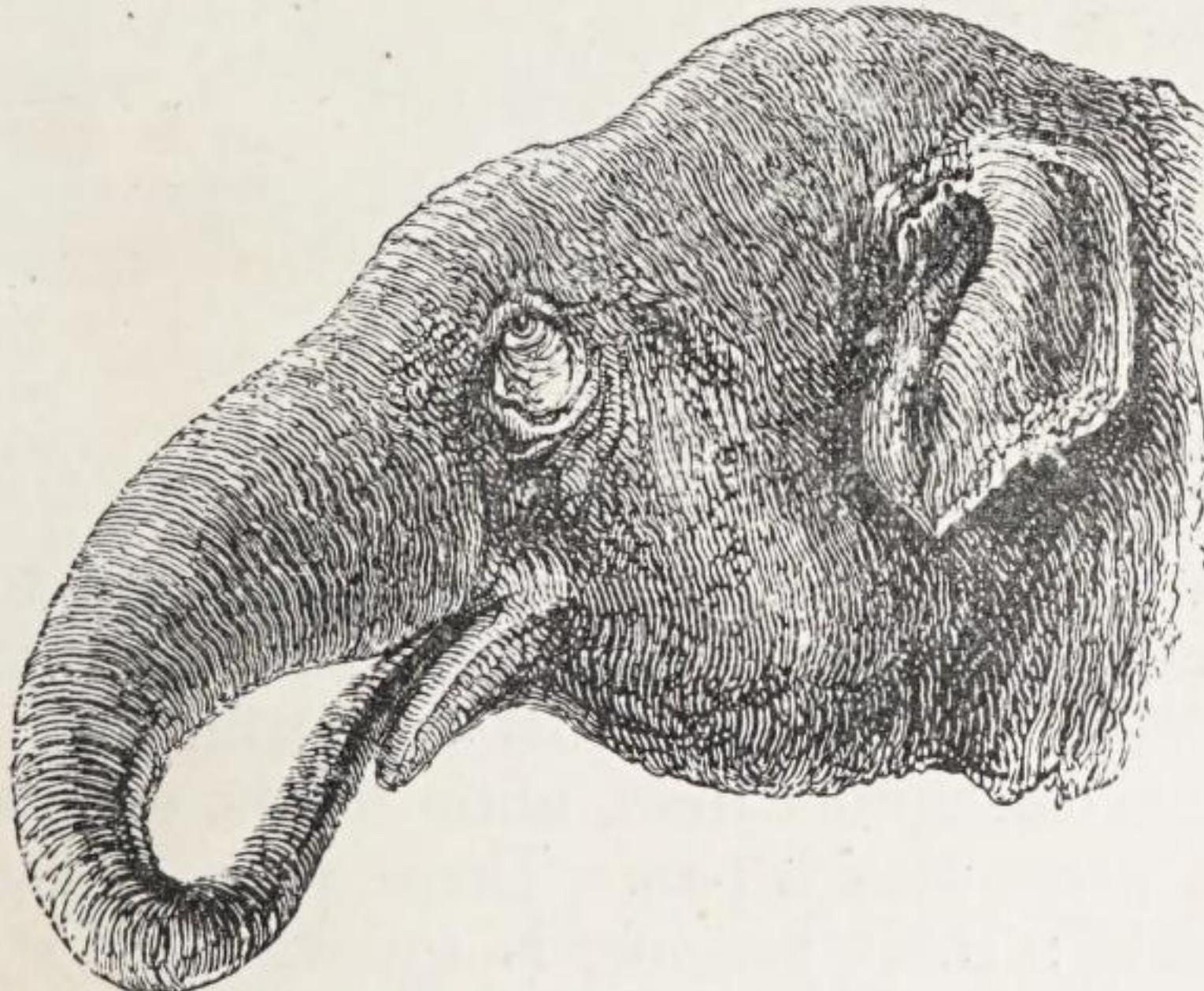


FIG. 418.—HEAD OF INDIAN ELEPHANT.

enclosed in a hoof of callous skin, that their nails only are visible. This family includes but one living genus, namely,

## SECTION OF ORDINARY PACHYDERMS.

The Ordinary Pachyderms are distinguished by having no prehensile proboscis, and feet provided with three or four distinct toes. They are divided into several genera, as in the following Table:—

## CLASSIFICATION OF ORDINARY PACHYDERMS.

Number of their toes .	Equal, and the foot having the appearance of being forked .	Four equal toes .		HIPPOPOTAMUS
		Two large middle toes armed with strong hoofs while the late- ral toes are too short to rest on the ground .		HOG.
	Having on all the feet . . .	Three toes on all the feet . . .		RHINOCEROS.
	Unequal, and the foot not forked . . .	Four toes before and three be- hind . . .		TAPIR.

The **River Horse** (*Hippopotamus*\*) is found in most of the rivers of Africa, but in greatest numbers south of the equator. These are unwieldy-looking animals, having their legs so short that the belly almost touches the ground. The feet are curiously constructed, so as to facilitate walking among the mud and reeds of the river bottoms, and enable them to swim with ease. The hoof is divided into four short, apparently clumsy, and unconnected toes, and they are able, through this spread of foot, to walk rapidly through the marsh. These animals consort together in flocks of from three to thirty. They choose shallow parts of the river, where the depth of the water allows them to keep their footing, and yet have their whole body submerged. Here they remain all day, swimming off into the deeps, and diving for their grassy food. They prefer localities where the current is not very swift, and are therefore to be found in all the lakes of the interior.

The **Hogs** (*Sus*) have on all their feet two middle toes, which are of large size, and armed with strong hoofs, and two exterior toes,

\* *ἵππος*, *hippos*, *a horse*; *ποταμός*, *potamos*, *a river*.



FIG. 420.—WILD BOAR.

which are much shorter, and scarcely touch the ground in walking. Their canine teeth bend upwards, so as to form projecting tusks, and their snout is flattened, and adapted for rooting in the earth.

The **Rhinoceros** (*Rhinoceros* \*). These are large animals, and each foot divided into three toes. The bones of the nose are very thick,

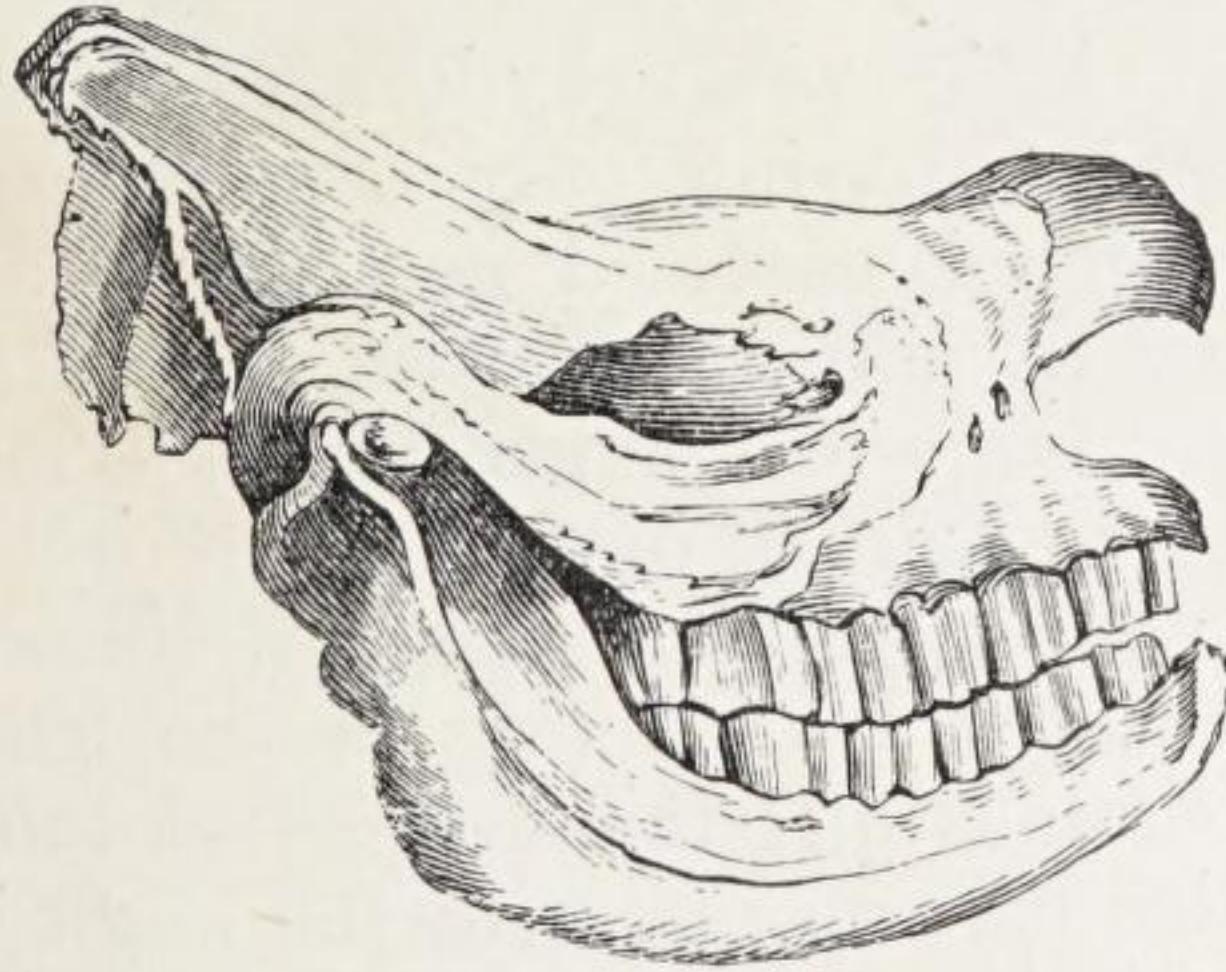


FIG. 421.—SKULL OF RHINOCEROS.

and united into a sort of vault, upon which is supported a solid horn, composed of agglutinated hairs. They frequent marshy places, and live on herbs and the branches of trees.

\* *δίν, πίνος, rhin, rhinos, a nose; κέρας, keras, a horn.*

The **Tapirs** (*Tapir*) have their nose prolonged into a short pro-

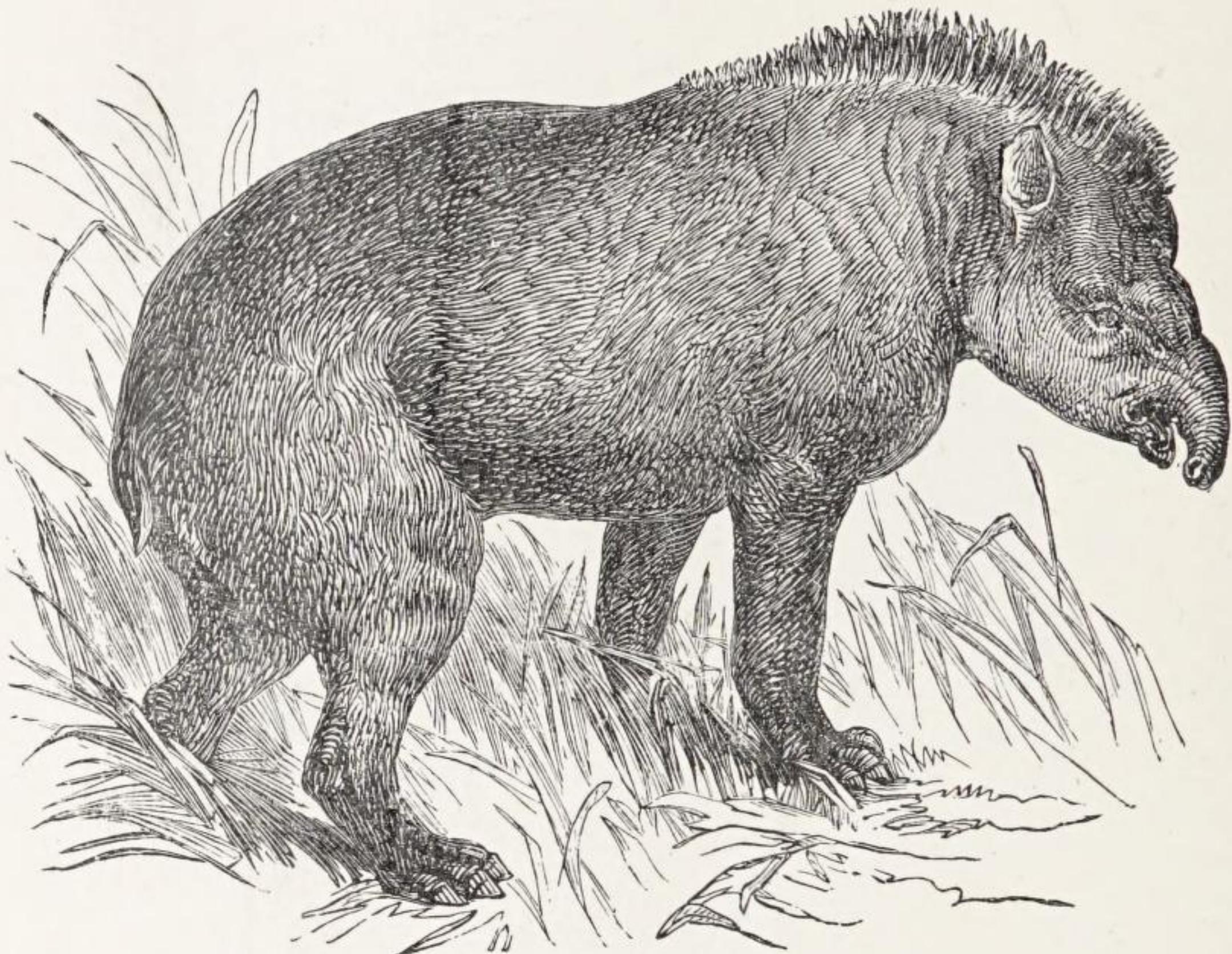


FIG. 422.—AMERICAN TAPIR.

boscis, which, although very moveable, is not prehensile, like that of the Elephant. There are several species known.

#### SECTION OF THE SOLIPEDES.

The third section of Pachyderms comprehend The **Solipedes**, having only one apparent toe on each foot, which is enclosed in a single hoof. They have, however, under the skin, the rudiments of lateral toes. Only one genus is known, namely,

The **Horses** (*Equus*), distinguished by having six incisors in each jaw; small canines likewise exist in the males, which are wanting in the females. Between the canines and the first cheek-tooth there is a space which corresponds with the angle of the lips, where the bit is placed, an arrangement by which alone man has been able to subjugate this vigorous quadruped.

The **Horse** (*Equus Caballus*), the noble companion of man in the battle and the chase, in the labours of agriculture and of commerce,