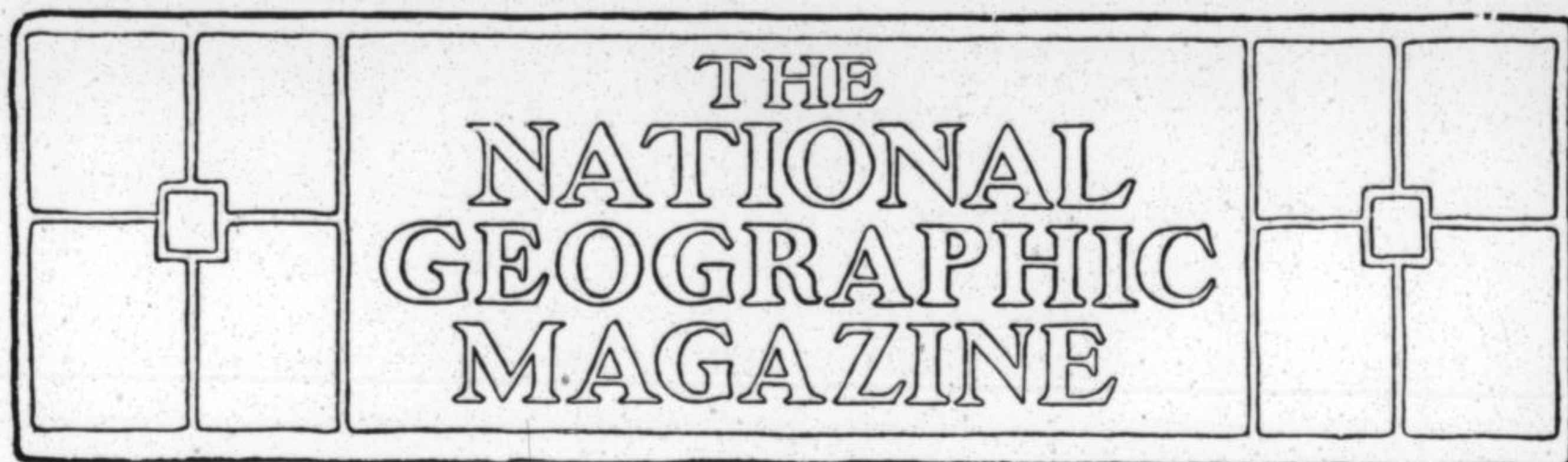




WHERE ROOSEVELT WILL HUNT*

BY SIR HARRY JOHNSTON, G. C. M. G., K. C. B., D. SC. COMBS
LATE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER IN UGANDA, ETC., ETC.

THE history of the exploration of East Central Africa is, of course, of great interest not only to Great Britain, but to the United States, because it was not only Britishers who revealed the features of the geography of this region, but Americans also have left their names among these records of exploration. Among such have been Col. Chaillé Long, Mr. Chandler, and Dr. Donaldson Smith. Col. Chaillé Long was the first resident in the kingdom of Uganda, and was sent there by General Gordon. He was chief of General Gordon's staff, and is living in Washington at the present time. The great Sir Henry Stanley might perhaps be equally claimed by Great Britain and America.

Joseph Thomson was the first to reach the Victoria Nyanza, coming direct from the east coast of Africa. Previously explorers had approached the Victoria Nyanza by a circuitous route from the south and west in order to avoid the Masai tribes. But Joseph Thomson, who was a man with a wonderful gift for getting on with the natives and winning their liking, managed to be the first of all white men to go right through the Masai belt and reach the Victoria Nyanza from

the east. And when he finished his wonderful journey he became the real founder of British East Africa. He died at the age of only thirty-seven, after carrying out some of the most remarkable journeys ever made in Africa—remarkable because he never fired a rifle at a native. I traveled immediately afterwards in some of Thomson's tracks and got on splendidly, because my name was so like his that I was taken for his brother, and I was careful not to deceive the people.

I imagine that President Roosevelt will make his starting point Mombasa, and that from Mombasa he will probably travel a certain distance on the Uganda Railroad, and then strike off toward the north and see what he can find there in the way of interesting big game.

Before we go up in imagination with him along the routes he may follow, it might be well to realize how this country came to be known by Europeans, and what vestiges remain there of the original pioneers.

ARABS AND PERSIANS CAME THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO

Lamu is an important place some distance to the north of Mombasa. To

*An address to the National Geographic Society, supplemented by extracts from "The Uganda Protectorate," by Sir Harry Johnston.



Photo from David Fairchild

A GIRL OF MOMBASA

Lamu there came undoubtedly natives from Arabia long before the days of Islam—perhaps three thousand years ago—and in time there followed a large immigration from Persia. A number of Persians left Shiras and Bashis, and found their way to East Africa, in consequence of some internal troubles in Persia at a period in history difficult to fix at this time. Men and women of Lamu show signs in their physiognomy of an intermixture between Persian and negro. When I first visited Lamu in 1884 there were beautiful specimens of ancient pottery to be obtained there, either from the houses of the natives or from old tombs. There were old tombs all around the city, in the masonry or

cement of which exquisite Persian plates were fixed. I did not avail myself of the opportunity to get any of these specimens, but people came later who were less scrupulous, and the tombs of Lamu have since been rifled of their pottery and other beautiful examples of ancient art. An examination of the tombs threw very interesting light on the history of East Africa, because they contained a good many examples of Chinese pottery, and even Chinese coins.

Following the Arabs and Persians came the Portuguese. When Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope he traveled rapidly with the aid of the north monsoon, reached the Swahili coast, and built the commemorative column of Malindi, which exists to this day some distance to the north of Mombasa. The Portuguese held for a time Lamu, and for something like two centuries the port of Mombasa, the fortifications of which remain to this day as a signal example of the wonderful energy of the Portuguese at that period.

The Portuguese were expelled from this country by an Arab uprising in the middle of the eighteenth century. Some of the women whom President Roosevelt will see at Mombasa are rather extensively clothed, compared to the people of the far interior. They also wear nose rings and other ornaments probably borrowed from the Hindus, for there are a great many East Indian settlers at Mombasa and the other Swahili ports.

The people who inhabit the country in the vicinity of Tana River, north of Mombasa, and thence north through the lands of the Boran Gala, are a very interesting type, obviously not negro, but perhaps more Caucasian; only darkened by some old intermixture with the negro races. They often have European features. Their language is very interesting, because it, together with Lamato and other Hamitic tongues, is related to the language of the ancient Egyptians.

Now we will imagine we have landed at Mombasa and have taken the railroad. The President will have noticed that the coast belt has a very dense vege-

a great emporium of trade on the Victoria Nyanza.

So far from leading to the extermination of the game, the railway has actually come to the fore as a means of game preservation. It is really amazing how all the wild animals, except perhaps the lion, have taken to the railway. The big and small game soon realized the fact that they were shot at less from the railway line, and finally not at all, while on the other hand the lions, and perhaps leopards, were perturbed by the noise of the train, and began to shun the line, for,

as regards shooting, exceptions were naturally made in their favor. However strict have been the game regulations in force for the protection of game along the line, naturally no restriction has been placed on the shooting of lions, leopards, and hyenas. Whether or not these deductions are fanciful, the plain fact remains to be testified to by any one who now takes a journey on the Uganda Railway that from the window of his carriage he can see as the train crosses certain tracts positive zoological gardens let loose.

AMID THE SNOW PEAKS OF THE EQUATOR*

A Naturalist's Explorations Around Ruwenzori, with an Excursion to the Congo State, and an Account of the Terrible Scourge of Sleeping Sickness

By A. F. R. WOLLASTON

AFRICA is a land of surprises at every turn, so one is not in the least astonished to find lying alongside of the quay at Port Florence, the end of the Uganda Railway, a perfect little ocean steamship. The white paint and the glistening brass-work, the electric light, and the Indian cook made me think that this was a P. and O. liner eastward-bound rather than a little steamer on a remote lake which fifty years ago no white man had even seen. After the grime of the *Deutsch Ost Afrika* and the discomfort of the Uganda Railway, this was luxury indeed.

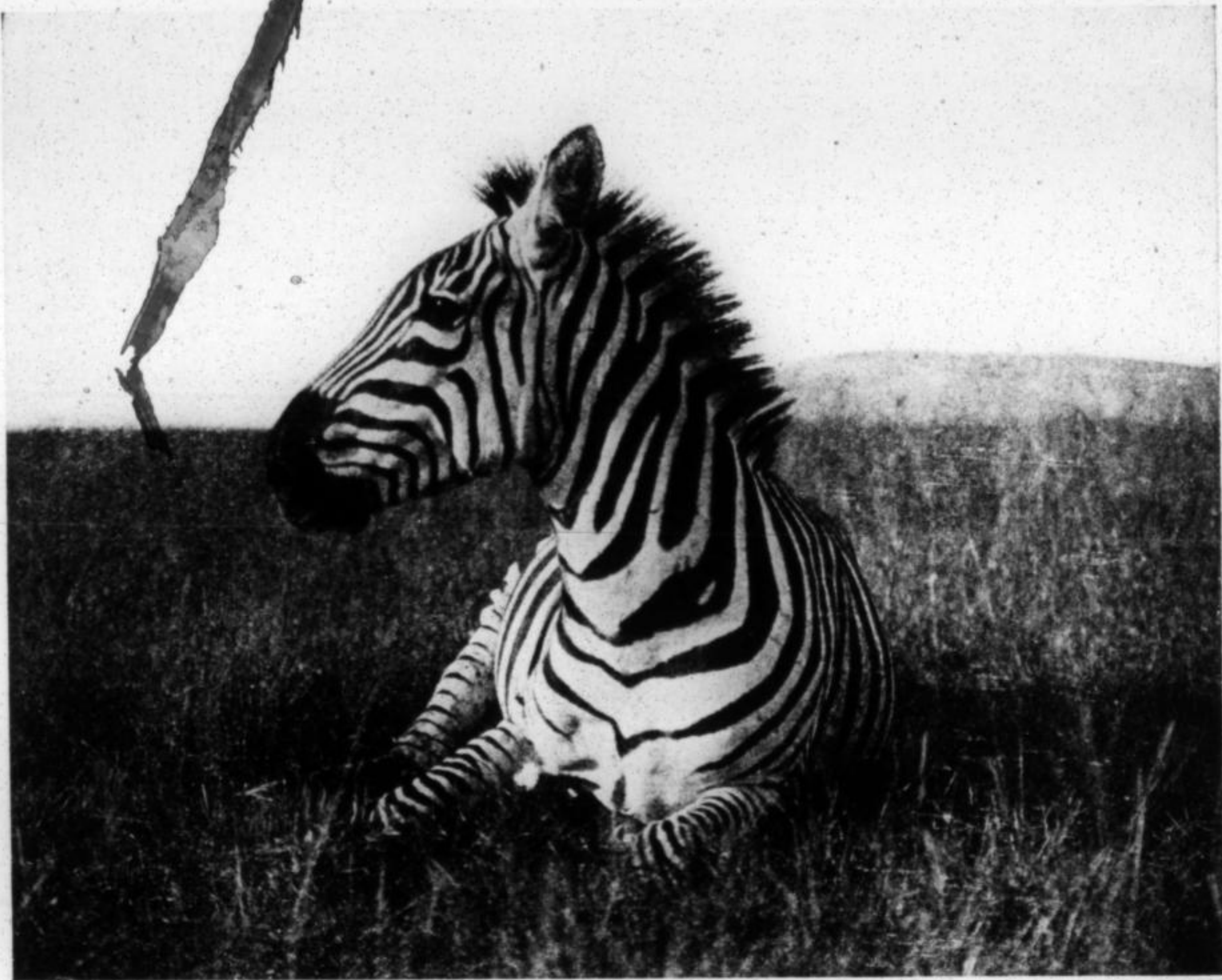
The voyage across the lake to Entebbe is not in any way interesting. For a short time the ship is out of sight of land, but generally the north shore is in

sight, or some of the innumerable islands that lie along the coast. A few seagulls and cormorants, the only birds that I saw, made it hard to believe that this was not the sea.

RAVAGES OF SLEEPING SICKNESS

One of the most interesting things to be seen in Entebbe at that time was the laboratory of the Royal Commission on Sleeping Sickness, under the charge of Lieutenants Gray and Tulloch, R. A. M. C., where the disease was being studied with a view to discovering its nature and, if possible, some means of treatment. Close at hand was the native hospital, filled with miserable wretches in various stages of the disease. It is sad to have to record that, though a great

*Abstracted from "From Ruwenzori to the Congo," by A. F. R. Wollaston. John Murray, London, 1909.



BURCHELLS ZEBRA ON THE ATHI PLAINS Photos by C. E. Akeley
Zebras may be seen in thousands on the Athi plains and in the neighborhood of
Lake Naivasha

A RHINOCEROS (SEE PAGES 233 AND 253)

it had escaped into the almost impenetrable forest."

Now this giant pig was actually discovered first of all in Stanley's Ituri forest by N. E. Copeland. Afterward a different species was brought to light in East Africa jointly and simultaneously by a civilian, Mr. Hobley, and an army officer, Captain Meinertzhager. Then it was rediscovered again by Baron Maurice de Rothschild in the Nandi forests. Finally a third species was found by Mr. George L. Bates in the Kameruns.

I believe President Roosevelt is anxious to secure for science an undoubted specimen of the white or square-lipped rhinoceros, which has been reported to exist in the northwestern parts of British East Africa. The white rhinoceros for a long time was thought to be confined in its distribution to Africa south of the Zambesi, but where, owing to the somewhat reckless slaughter of wild game in the years before we appreciated the value of them, had become nearly if not quite extinct. A few, however, still linger in Zululand, perhaps in the vicinity of the upper Zambesi. It is interesting now to know that this creature has been found in western Uganda and on the White Nile. There is an intimate connection between the fauna of extreme south Africa and that of the regions of the Nile Valley. And of course there is a still more interesting connection between the fauna of today in eastern Africa and the pliocene and early pleistocene fauna of Europe as far north as southern England, in days when man was already man and hunted these creatures such as you would see them being hunted today by negro hunters. Among the species of rhinoceros inhabiting Europe in the pleistocene were probably representatives of the pointed-lipped form and of the square-lipped species.

PICTURESQUE NATIVES AROUND LAKE VICTORIA

The people inhabiting the settlements around Victoria Nyanza will be probably for a year or so still a source of amusement to the excursionists whom the

Uganda railway will bring from the east coast of Africa to the Victoria Nyanza; for they will see before them coal-black, handsomely formed negroes and negroesses without a shred of clothing, though with many adornments in the way of hippopotamus teeth, bead necklaces, earrings, and leglets of brass. They are very picturesque as they strut about the streets in their innocent nudity, decked with barbaric ornaments.

The men wear not one earring, but fifteen! Holes are pierced all round the outer edge of the ear, and in these are inserted brass fillets, like melon seeds in shape, to which are attached coarse blue beads of large size and dull appearance. These beads the knowing tourist should collect while they can be purchased, as they are of mysterious origin and great interest. They are not, as he might imagine at first sight, of European manufacture, but have apparently reached this part of the world from Nubia in some very ancient trading intercourse between Egypt and these countries of the upper Nile. As the figures thus exhibited are usually models for a sculptor, this nudity is blameless and not to be discouraged; moreover, it characterizes the most moral people in the Uganda protectorate.

This ebon statuary lives in pretty little villages, which are clusters of straw huts (glistening gold in the sun's rays), encircled with fences of aloes, which have red, green, and white mottled leaves, and beautiful columns and clusters of coral-red stalks and flowers. There are a few shady trees that from their appearance might very well be elms but are not, and some extraordinary euphorbias, which grow upright with the trunk of a respectable tree and burst into uncounted sickly green spidery branches. Herds of parti-colored goats and sheep, and cattle that are black and white and fawn color, diversify these surroundings with their abrupt patches of light and color.

They belong to the better class of Bantu negroes, of that immense group of African peoples which has dominated the whole southern third of Africa from the regions of the White Nile and Victoria

be remembered that most male African elephants in captivity have shown themselves to be hopelessly savage), then at least for its magnificent ivory the creature is worth preserving as an asset to the state. If the Indian elephant shows himself to be more docile than the African elephant, it must be remembered, on the other hand, that he is of very little value for his ivory.

THE MOST DREADED OF AFRICAN BEASTS

I am afraid that blustering creature, the rhinoceros, can be turned to no useful purpose in the future of Africa, but he is such a grotesque survival from the great mammalian epoch that he should be steadily preserved from extinction. The rhinoceros, however, is a handful, to use a colloquialism. All along the route of the Uganda Railway game is being carefully protected, with the agreeable result that antelopes, zebras, and ostriches graze close to the line, as fearless of man as if they were in an English park. Much the same condition may be observed in parts of the Protectorate off the beaten track, where British sportsmen have not had an opportunity to harry and destroy.

But in all these countries the rhinoceros is not tamed by this tolerance, but is apt to become a dangerous nuisance by charging at all and everything at a moment's notice when it is playful or out of temper. Thus among a people like the Masai it is much dreaded. The Masai do not eat, and therefore do not kill, game. They fear no wild beast but the rhinoceros, because all other creatures, if they are let alone, seem to experience, as a rule, no desire to attack human beings.

The rhinoceros, however, makes absolutely unprovoked charges and occasionally gores a man before he has time to get out of the way. Fortunately these huge beasts are very stupid and very blind. They probably can see little or nothing with any clearness that is ten yards away from them. They are guided entirely by their sense of smell, which, however, is extraordinarily keen.

The rhinoceros of which a picture is here given (page 229) is the ordinary pointed-lipped, black rhinoceros of Africa, which ranges, or used to range, from Cape Colony to Abyssinia and Nubia, and thence, perhaps, across Africa westward to Lake Chad and Eastern Nigeria. So far as I am aware, the rhinoceros has not been found to exist in Africa west of the Central Niger, if, indeed, it gets much farther west than Lake Chad.* This is curious, if true, because the other big beasts of the African fauna, though, like the rhinoceros, they mostly avoid the Congo and West African forests, stretch in their distribution right across Africa, from Abyssinia to Senegal. The two exceptions, however, to this rule seem to be the zebra and the rhinoceros. Not infrequently the East Africa rhinoceroses produce horns of extraordinary length. The record, I believe, is forty-seven inches for the front horn.

THAT PART OF AFRICA WHERE ROOSEVELT WILL HUNT IS PROBABLY THE MOST INTERESTING REGION GEOGRAPHICALLY IN THE WORLD

That portion of the British sphere in East Africa where Roosevelt will hunt contains, within an area of some 150,000 square miles, nearly all the wonders, most of the extremes, the most signal beauties, and some of the horrors of the Dark Continent. Portions of the surface are endowed with the healthiest climate to be found anywhere in tropical Africa, yet there are also some districts of extreme insalubrity.

It offers to the naturalist the most remarkable known forms among the African mammals, birds, fish, butterflies, and earth-worms, one of which is as large as a snake and is colored a brilliant verditer-blue. In this Protectorate there are forests of a tropical luxuriance only to be matched in parts of the Congo Free

*Rhinoceroses swarmed in the countries to the north of Lake Chad in the days of the Romans. This fact was reported by the exploring Roman expedition under Septimus Flaccus, sent south of Fezzan toward Lake Chad at about A. D. 10.

State and in the Kameruns. Probably in no part of Africa are there such vast woods of conifers. There are other districts as hideously desert and void of any form of vegetation as the worst part of the Sahara.

There is the largest continuous area of marsh to be met with in any part of Africa, and perhaps also the most considerable area of tableland and mountains rising continuously above 6,000 feet. Here is reached the highest point on the whole of the African continent; here is the largest lake in Africa, which gives birth to the main branch of the longest river in that continent. There may be seen here perhaps the biggest extinct volcano in the world—Elgon.

Though lying on either side of the Equator, it contains over a hundred square miles of perpetual snow and ice; it also contains a few spots in the relatively low-lying valley of the Nile, where the average daily heat is perhaps higher than in any other part of Africa.

Within the limits of this region are to be found specimens of nearly all the most marked types of African man—Congo pygmies and the low, ape-like types of the Elgon and Semliki forests, the handsome Bahima, who are negroids as much related to the ancient Egyptians as to the average negro, the gigantic Turkana, the wiry, stunted Andorobo, the Appollo-like Masai, the naked Nile tribes, and the scrupulously clothed people of Uganda.

These last again are enthusiastic, casuistic Christians, while other tribes of the Nile province are fanatical Muhammadans. The Bahima are, or were, ardent believers in witchcraft; the Basoga polytheists are burdened with a multiplicity of minor deities, while the Masai and kindred races have practically no religion at all.

Cannibalism lingers in the western corners of the Protectorate, while the natives of other parts are importing tinned apricots or are printing and publishing in their own language summaries of their past history. This is the country of the okapi, the whale-headed stork, the chimpanzee, and the five-horned giraffe, the

rhinoceroses with the longest horns, and the elephants with the biggest tusks.

A GREAT BOOM IN EAST AFRICA

Great changes are taking place day by day in British East Africa, owing to the completion of the Uganda railway, which will prove to be, I think, one of the mightiest factors yet introduced into Central Africa for the transformation of a land of complete barbarism to one at any rate attaining to the civilization of settled India. I have had the privilege of seeing this country just in time—just before the advent of the railway changed the Rift Valley, the Nandi Plateau, the Masai countries, from the condition at which they were at the time of Joseph Thomson (1882) to one which day by day becomes increasingly different.

On grassy wastes, where no human being but a slinking Andorobo or a few Masai warriors met the eye; where grazed Grant's gazelle, with his magnificent horns, and the smaller but more gaily colored *Gazella thomsoni*; where hartebeests moved in thousands, zebras in hundreds, ostriches in dozens, and rhinoceroses in couples; where, in fact, everything lay under the condition of Britain some 200,000 years ago; not only do trains puff to and fro (the zebras and antelopes are still there, accepting the locomotives like a friend, since it drives away the lions and ensures the respect of the game laws), but alongside the railways are springing up uncounted hideous habitations of corrugated iron and towns of tents and straw huts.

The solitude of the Rift Valley has gone. Thousands of bearded Indians, hundreds of Europeans and Eurasians, negroes of every African type (from the handsome Somali to the ugly Mudigo), Arabs, and Persians trudge to and fro on foot, ride donkeys, mules, and horses, pack the carriages like herrings, set up booths, and diverge far and wide a hundred miles in each direction from the railway line, trafficking with shy and astonished natives, who had scarcely realized the existence of a world outside their own jungle, for the beef, mutton, fowls, eggs, and vegetable foodstuffs



Photo from Bishop Hartzell

TOWER FROM WHICH THE NATIVES WATCH FOR LIONS:
BRITISH EAST AFRICA: NOTE THE "BAIT"

which are to assist in feeding this invasion.

Far away on Baringo natives are extending their irrigation schemes and planting twice as much as they planted before, knowing that there is a market where their spare food can be exchanged for rupees. Farther north still, in the Suk countries, Englishmen, Scotchmen, Goanese, Arabs, Swahilis, and Baluchis are pushing into deserts to buy donkeys, and are trading for ivory which the railway will carry to the coast at a rate less than the cheapest porter caravan.

THE RAILWAY PROTECTS THE GAME

The Nyando Valley, for years without human inhabitants other than the shift-

less Andorobo, is filling up with Masai, Swahili, and Nandi immigrants; while for 20 miles at a stretch on the beautiful heights and happy valleys of Mau you are in the presence of an unintentioned European colony, some of which no doubt will melt away with the completion of the railway, but much of which must be the nucleus of the great white colony one may hope to see established on the only land really fitted for its development in equatorial Africa. The Kavirondo, alas! are wearing trousers and "sweaters;" the sacred ibises have left Kisumu, for its swamps are drained. Piers and wharves, hotels and residences in corrugated iron, are springing up at Port Florence, destined, no doubt, to be