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**T H E**  
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*Excell. Ser.*

THE RHINOCEROS.

leave, since every one begs your favours as well as myself, to say every man, poor or rich, is a Beggar, and will include them under the following heads :

*The Proud Beggar,*  
*The Mean Beggar,*  
*The Gentleman Beggar,* and the  
*Resolute Beggar.*

The *Proud Beggar* is he, who, under the mask of selfish presumption, begs heartily for some good place in office, wherein he may signalize his own personal accomplishments, and puff off the self-opiniated consequence he has of his own merit ; begs favours in a modest manner, but conceals his pride under the cloak of mock-honesty and down-right integrity ; boasts of an extensive pedigree of family-virtues, but would not be known to ask a gratuity, lest his high pride should be hurt by a refusal. And thus he acts the *Proud Beggar*.

The *Mean Beggar* is he who begs pitifully for a few pence, not ashamed to ask in the open-streets, covered with rags and all besmear'd with dirt ; he asks a gift from every one indiscriminately, and if he can but get a daily subsistence, thinks more on the present than the future tense ; one who will lie and swear to gain a groat, nor grudge to insult an Alderman, if accused of dishonesty : rolled up in filth, like a congealed snow-ball, he will melt into any dirty action, provided he is but paid for it ; a scurvy knave and dung-hill bred in every low-lived action that may bring him gain. Thus he *meanly* acts the Beggar.

The *Gentleman Beggar* is a man of some distinction, who for an election vote will crouch to every ill-bred

cobler or mechanic, bribe his wife, or weedle any way so that he does but secure the point in question ; a courtier too, who begs pensions and places under Government, and will not hesitate to beg some thousands a-year. The Divine is also of this denomination, earnestly soliciting a good living ; the soldier, a commission ; the tradesman, a patent ; and each one something for himself ; so that whether a man begs in a fine coat or tattered garment, a black gown or a red one, it is, notwithstanding, Beggary. The Mifcreant who begs the donation of a single farthing, or the Proud Sturdy Beggar, who begs for hundreds, is no way different as a Beggar, any farther than that the one does it mechanically, the other artificially—an equal Beggar in his method.

The *Resolute Beggar* is he who seems to insist upon being served, bullies you into a fear of his resentment if not assisted, and regards not a personal insult, either given or received. He speaks flat what he thinks, and makes a merit of his insolence ; one who pays no kind of deference to any character, but boldly asserts he must and will be noticed. Thus he acts the Beggar supported by his impudence.

The comparison of one character with another will, I think, stand nearly upon an equal balance ; and, as such, I think it will be no bad simile to compare the state of *Beggary* to a *Ladder*, where, by an accession of convenient methods, as so many steps to the top of it, every man strives to climb to his own interest and preferment.

Your's most respectfully,  
 YORK. A BEGGAR.

NATURAL HISTORY. N<sup>o</sup>. VII.

[EMBELLISHED WITH AN ENGRAVING OF THE RHINOCEROS.]

THE RHINOCEROS  
**H**AS a body pretty near as large as an elephant, but he has legs much shorter, and he has a horn on his snout or nose which sufficiently

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distinguishes him from all other animals. The head is of a long make, having a hollow between the forehead and the horn ; and the snout seems designed to turn up the earth, in order

der to find out the roots of plants. It is very pliable, and ends in a point, which it can turn upwards, downwards, or sideways. The nostrils are placed on each side of it, and the lower lip is almost square, and flattish forwards, with the corners appearing on the sides of a lively flesh colour. The eyes are small, and placed pretty forward on each side of the head, and it has large ears in proportion, which stand erect on the top of the head. The whole animal is covered with a thick rough chapped skin of an ash colour, with plaits and folds in all such parts as are necessary to allow the creature motion, falling one over another backwards. But these plaits may be better seen in the figure than described by words. It has no knobs all over its body, as expressed in some figures, except on the hinder quarters, which receive its weight when the animal first lies down, and there the knobs on the skin are very large.

The tail has a few black hairs at its end, and there are also a few scattered hairs on the ears; but on the other parts there is none. The back is hollow, and the belly sinks down pretty much. The feet are round behind, and the hoofs are forward, which are divided into three parts on each foot; but they have two little hoofs on the hinder part of the foot, as we see in cows, deer, and sheep.

A Rhinoceros was seen in London, whose horns were very short, and in every thing else agreed with the above description; however some authors of credit affirm, that these horns sometimes grow to the length of three feet. It is uncertain whether the Rhinoceros is a ruminating animal or not; but the negative is most probable.

The horn is different from all other animals we are acquainted with, and is not hollow on the inside but solid. He rolls himself in the dirt like a hog, and the old ones are so strong they will toss up a large bull, as was seen in the amphitheatre at Rome.

The above species of Rhinoceroses

are chiefly to be met with in the East Indies; but there is another kind with two horns, which are natives of Africa, and may be seen in plenty at the Cape of Good Hope. The colour of the skin of these is of a dark brown, approaching nearly to black, and is without hair. The skin is all covered with scars and scratches like those of an elephant, and it is so tough and thick that it is hard to be pierced even with a pointed knife. The snout resembles that of a hog, but is more pointed at the end. The horn on the nose is of a greyish brown, and is a little crooked, and turns up towards the head. It is shaped like a ploughshare, and is of different sizes according to the age of the animal; but never exceeds two feet. He has another on his forehead in a right line with that on the nose, which is of a yellowish colour, and a palm in length when the Rhinoceros is young, and never exceeds six inches when he is old. This second horn hinders the animal from doing all the mischief he otherwise might, because it serves in some measure to break the stroke of the other.

The legs are much shorter in proportion to that of the elephant, and the eyes are so small that he can see nothing but what is directly before him, for this reason when he pursues his prey he always runs in a right line, overturning whatever lies in his way, for scarce any thing will stop his progress, or make him turn aside. With the horn on his nose he roots up trees, and lifts up the stones which oppose its passage, casting them at a great distance behind him. When he is in a rage he makes furrows in the ground, and throws a great deal of earth over his head. He grunts like a hog, and may be heard at a great distance when he is in pursuit of his prey.

He very rarely attacks mankind, unless he is provoked, or meets with a person with a red garment. When he attacks a man he lays hold of the middle

middle of his body, and throws him over his head with such force that he is almost killed with the fall; this done he comes and licks him, and his tongue is so rough and hard that it brings off the flesh from the bones. He likewise serves other animals in the same manner after he has killed them. When he is seen running along it is pretty easy to avoid him, because he cannot turn about very readily, so that when he is about eight or ten feet distant, a man needs only go one side, and then he will be out of his sight. This Mr. Kolben affirms from his own experience, and adds that he has escaped in this manner several times.

This animal does not feed upon grass, but upon shrubs, thistles, and roots; however those that are tame will feed upon hay, fruits, pulse, and almost every thing else that is given them, except flesh and fish. One of their keepers has affirmed, that they will eat sixty pounds of hay in a day, and twenty of bread, and that they will drink fourteen buckets of water. They are very fond of the smoke of tobacco, and take a great pleasure in having it blown into their nostrils. In those countries where they breed they will devour the boughs of trees though they are never so full of thorns; and sometimes indeed they will draw blood, but that does not cause them to leave off. In Abyssinia they not only eat the flesh of these animals, but they use them to work in the same manner as elephants do in other countries. They are there fond of marshes, and rank grass, which they will eat like oxen. Some say they are very fond of the water, and will dive like ducks, and others that they will travel one hundred and fifty miles in a day, which does not seem very probable.

The horn of a female Rhinoceros that was at Paris was nine inches long, and the space between the horn and the ears measured fourteen inches; and from the horn to the end of the

muzzle was nine inches. The horn was of a whitish colour below, but towards the end was of a blackish brown, or of the same colour with the skin. It was not exactly round, but very thick, hard, and crooked, turning towards the back. That of the male Rhinoceros is more long and thick than that of the female, being sometimes two feet long from the root, and about a foot in diameter. It is as hard as iron, and sharper than that of the female. However the horns are not always of the same colour, for they are sometimes black, sometimes ash-coloured, and sometimes white; and likewise their size differs according to their age. Middleton relates, that when he was at Bombay he saw several of these horns that were longer than those he had seen elsewhere. One of these was composed of three little horns which proceeded from the same root, the longest of which was eighteen inches, the second twelve, and the third eight, but these were brought from other countries.

The flesh of this animal is eaten by the Dutch at the Cape of Good Hope, and is in high esteem. It has been usually said, that the horn of a Rhinoceros will fall in pieces when poison is poured therein. At the Cape they have cups made of the horn, which are mounted in gold or silver. When wine is poured therein it will rise, ferment, and seem to boil, but when mixed with poison it cleaves in two; which experiment has been seen by thousands of people. The inhabitants of these parts will not believe those who affirm that a Rhinoceros has but one horn; likewise there are many people in other parts that cannot be persuaded there is a race of these animals with two.

There is little said by authors of the medicinal virtues of the parts of a Rhinoceros; only that the horn is a great antidote against poison, but this opinion seems to be settled on a solid foundation.