NARRATIVE

OF AN

EXPEDITION

INTO

SOUTHERN AFRICA,

DURING THE YEARS 1836, AND 1837,

FROM

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THROUGH

THE TERRITORIES OF THE CHIEF

MOSELEKATSE,

TO

THE TROPIC OF CAPRICORN,

WITH A SKETCH OF THE RECENT EMIGRATION OF THE BORDER COLONISTS,

AND A ZOOLOGICAL APPENDIX.

ST

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Order. PACHYDERMATA.

Genus. ELEPRAS.

7. Elephas Africanus. The African Elephant. Oliphant of the Dutch Colonists. Maclou of the Matabili.

Male attains the height of twelve feet at the shoulder; droops behind. Extreme length between eighteen and nineteen feet. Skin, black, rough, and nearly destitute of hair. Tail short, tusted at the end. Head rounder, forehead more convex, and ears much larger than in the Asiatic Elephant. The latter extremely flat, reaching to the legs, and overlapping each other on the top of the neck. Five tocs on all the feet. Tusks arched; between eight and nine feet in length, and weighing one hundred pounds. Female upwards of eight feet; usually provided with tusks about four feet in length. Mammas two, placed between the fore legs.

Solitary or gregarious in large troops. Common in the extensive plains and forests of the interior.

Genus. HIPPOPOTAMUS.

8. Hippopotamus Amphibius. The Hippopotamus. Sea Cow or Zeekoe of the Cape Colonists. Imfooboo of the Matabili and Kafirs.

Between four and five feet high at the shoulder, and from ten to eleven feet long. Body ponderous and shapeless; legs very short, terminating with four toes. Head thick and square, muzzle broad; eye very small, placed in a prominence; ears small, round, and approximated. The upper incisors and canine teeth greatly developed; the latter forming tusks. Skin rough, hard, and very thick: entirely destitute of hairs, a few scattered bristles on the lips, ears, and tail, excepted. General color pinkish brown, with freckles on the flanks and belly. Tail twelve inches.

Female smaller. Mamniæ two.

Amphibious. Inhabits the rivers and lakes of the interior.

Genus. Sus.

9. Sus Larvatus. The Wild Hog. Bosch Vark of the Cape Colonists.

Height at the shoulder about two feet four or five inches. Extreme length between five and six feet. Four toes on all the feet, the two middle ones only touching the ground. Nose elongated, and cartilaginous. Canine teeth very strong; those of the upper jaw projecting nonizontally, those of the lower, upwards. A tuberculous excrescene covered with coarse hair, upon the chaffron. Color dirty brown. Bristles very long, especially on the neck and back. Tail slightly tufted, and upwards of a foot in length. Mammæ twelve.

Gregarious. Inhabits the plains and forests.

Genus. Phascochenus.

10. Phascocherus Africanus. The African Boar. Vlacke Vark of the Cape Colonists. Ingooloob of the Matabili.

Height at the shoulder about two feet six inches. Extreme length, six feet two inches. Color reddish brown, The top of the head, upper part of the neck, shoulders, and back, covered with long rigid bristles; those on the top of the head diverging like the radii of a circle. Canine teeth very large and long, and directed upwards. Head extremely large, and muzzle very broad. A large fleshy wen behind each eye, and a prominent warty excrescence on each side of the muzzle, between the eye and tusks. Eyes small and sinister. Tail tufted with bristles; twenty inches in length, straight and thin.

Gregarious. Inhabits the plains and forests.

Genus. RHINOCERCS.

11. Rhinoceros Africanus. The African Rhinoceros. Rhinaster of the Cape Colonists. Chukuroo of the Matabili.

Upwards of six feet high at the shoulder, and above thirteen feet in extreme length. Body very robust and clumsy. Legs short and small, each with three toes. Head long and large. Eyes small and lateral. Snout hooked, and resembling that of a tortoise: armed with two horns on the muzzle, placed one behind the other; the anterior usually from one to two feet long; the posterior generally small, but capricious—in some specimens attaining the same, or nearly the same length. Ears pointed and approximated, placed on the neck. Skin naked; very thick, rugous, and knotty, but without plaits or folds. Colour brownish black. Tail about two feet long, laterally compressed at the end, and furnished with a few bristles.

Female similar but smaller. Mammæ two. Very common in the interior.

12. Rhinoceros Sinusus. The White Rhinoceros Witte Rhinaster of the Cape Colonists. Chicore of the Matabili and Bechuana.

Six feet six or eight inches high at the shoulder, and above fourteen in extreme length. Head, four feet long. Muzzle truncated, upwards of eighteen inches in breadth; furnished with two horns placed one behind the other as in the last species; the anterior robust at the base, tapering, and about three feet in length; the posterior a mere excrescence, five or six inches long. Ears pointed and approximated, placed on the neck. A square hump immediately behind them. Eyes very diminutive and late





^{*} The horns of no two specimens of this animal that came under my observation, were exactly the same. Disease or accident not unfrequently renders the anterior horn the shorter of the two.

ral. Legs short and straight, terminating in three toes. Tail about two feet long, compressed and bristled at the extremity. Hide very rough and knotty, extremely thick, with folds and plaits about the neck. Color varying; usually dirty brownish white.

Female similar but smaller. Mammæ two. Very com-

mon in the interior after passing Kurrichane.

Genus. Equus.

13. Equus Zebra. The Zebra. Wilde Paard of the Cape Colonists.

About four feet high at the shoulder, and eight feet two inches in extreme length. Shape light and symmetrical. Legs very slender. Feet small, terminating in a solid hoof. Head light and bony. Ears and tail asinine; the latter blackish, about sixteen inches long, and tufted at the extremity. Ground color of the hair white. The whole of the body, neck, head, and legs, covered with narrow black bands, placed wider or closer together; the upper ones connected with the dorsal line, but not extending over the belly, or inside of thighs. Mane erect and bushy, alternately banded white and black. Two transverse black bands on the ears. Brown stripes on the face terminating in a bay nose. A bare spot a little above the knee on all four of the legs.

Female with two inguinal mamme.

Gregarious. Found within the Cape Colony. Inhabits mountainous regions only.

14. Equus Burchellii. Burchell's Zebra. Bonti Quagga of the Cape Colonists. Peechey of the Bechuana and Matabili.

Four feet six inches high at the shoulder, and eight feet six inches in extreme length. Body round. Legs robust. Crest arched and surmounted by a standing mane, five inches high, banded, black and white. Ears

and tail equine; the latter thirty five inches long flowing and white. Muzzle black. General ground color of the head, neck, and body, sienna, capriciously banded with black and deep brown transverse stripes forming various figures, and unconnected with the dorsal line, which widens towards the croup. Belly and legs pure white. Bare spots above the knees on the inside.

Female an udder with four mammæ.

Inhabits the plains of the interior beyond the Gareep in immense herds.

15. Equus Quagga. The Quagga. Quagga of the Cape Colonists.

About the height of Burchell's Zebra, but of a more robust form. Ears and tail equine as in the preceding; the former marked with two irregular black bands. Crest very high, surmounted by a standing mane banded alternately brown and white. Color of the head, neck, and upper parts of the body, reddish brown, irregularly banded and marked with dark brown stripes, stronger on the head and neck, and gradually becoming fainter until lost behind the shoulder. Dorsal line broad, belly, legs, and tail, white.

Still found within the Cape Colony. Inhabits the open plains South of the Vaal river in immense herds.

Order. RUMINANTIA.

Genus. CAMBLOPARDALIS.

16. Camelopardalis Giraffa. The Giraffe. Kameel of the Cape Colonists. Intootla of the Matabili.

In stature the tallest of mammiferous animals. Adult male, twelve feet high at the shoulder and eighteen at the crown of the head. Legs slender, seven feet in length. Feet terminating in a divided hoof. No succentorial hoofs. Body short. Withers elevated, a scanty

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upright, rufous mane extending along the whole neck. Back oblique. Tail thirty four inches long, terminating in a tuft of bristly black hair about the same length, which reaches to the hocks. Head light and tapering, thirtyfour inches long; provided with osseous penduncles, (common to both sexes) covered with a hairy skin and terminating in in a tuft of black hair. A tuberculum on the chaf-No muzzle. Upper lip entire. Eyes large and No lachrymary sinus. Ears pure white, and melting. ample. Callosity on the breast. Tongue very long, pointed, and flexible. General color, deep sienna, with large angular ferruginous spots, variously disposed over the whole; each spot darker in the centre. Belly and cheeks white, with dark blotches.

Female sixteen or seventeen feet in height at the erown, of a dirty white color with pale ferruginous spots as in the male. Mammæ four.

· Gregarious in small troops. Inhabits the great plains of the interior.

Genus. Bos.

17. Bubulus Caffer. The Cape Buffalo. Buffel of the Cape Colonists. 'Neaat of the Matabili, Bokolokolo of the Bechuana.

Adult male about five feet six inches high at the shoulder, and upwards of twelve in extreme length. Structure very powerful. Body ponderous. Neck short. Breast and shoulder deep, and slightly dewlaped. Back straight and hunchless. Limbs short and solid, terminating in a divided hoof, which is nearly circular. Succentorial hoofs very long. Tail three feet long, terminating in a tuft of coarse black hair, which reaches below the hocks. Head short, and small in proportion to the animal's bulk. Eyes small and sinister, overshadowed by rough and penderous dark colored horns, nearly in contact at

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