## WILD ANIMALS FROM AFRICA. A letter from the Cape of Good Hope, has re-

cently been received by a gentleman in this city, from which the following extract, published in the Columbian Centinel, is taken. We are pleased with every prospect of an addition to our knowledge of natural history. The advantages of an undertaking like that mentioned in the letter, is not confined to the gratification of the curiosity of children and youth. It makes us better acquainted with the world, and prepares the way for the fulfilment of the command to subdue it. We hope soon to see measures taken more thoroughly to explore our own

continent for similar purposes.

'The dull monotony of the settlement has recently been enlivened by the sudden, and almost unhoped for, arrival of Mr. Clayton; who, after an absence of two years in the interior, most unexpectedly burst upon us—and, contrary to universal opinion, his determined exertions have been crowned with the most brilliant success.

'Mr. C. was originally employed in 1833, by two gentlemen of Boston-Messrs. Macomber (at present of the Elm street Hotel,) and Handy-who, with a spirit of enterprise worthy the support of an enlightened public, and commanding the gratitude of every student of natural history, undertook the novel experiment of journeying to this remote quarter, for the purpose of ensnaring the ferocious natives of the desert. Domestic circumstances rendered it absolutely necessary the original adventurers should return to America; they did so, after many severe privations endured in the pursuit of their hazardous calling. Mr. Clayton was left by them to conduct the hunting expeditions; certainly he deserves much credit for the unceasing exertion, and untiring industry, displayed in the dangerous experiment, the perils of which can only be known by trial. 'To elucidate the hitherto uncertain and unknown

effect of reducing these foes of the human race, at once from a state of pristine and savage vigor to absolute subjection, was his object,—and nobly has he accomplished it. Others have succeeded in taming these monsters, it is true,—but how? The question is easily answered—they have captured them when young, and reared them in a manner calculated to subvert their original nature—he has done more. Exposed to the hostility of the starved and savage tribes of negroes with which the uncultivated interior abounds, and experiencing privations, in detail almost incredible—he has, nevertheless, pursued the even tenor of his way, and on his arrival here presents to our residents a spectacle, commanding at once the wonder, and I may almost add, the adulation of our fellow men. His entry into town was attended by thousands; with acclamation they hailed the appearance, amongst others, of the majestic, the beautiful giraffe, eighteen feet in height; five others follow in his train, the largest of which measures fifteen, the smallest ten feet. Two specimens of the double horned white rhinoceros, certainly the first ever seen here; and, that judgment may be made of the whole animal creation, we have before us three of the antelope species, only to be found in the remote sections of this vast continent; the Coedoe, the Kemps buck and the Harty buck. The plumage of the black ostrich is beautifully developed in the sample we have before us.

While gazing on this sublime spectacle and the vast multitude assembled to witness the exhibition, I could not refrain from giving utterance to a sentiment of pride, awakened by the reflection, that with all their advantages on this coast, no European nation ever yet accomplished or attempted an enterprise that could vie with this. The natives born and indigenous to the soil, shrink with terror from these lords of the wilderness and desert in the wild state, yet, reduced to subjection, they flock in thousands to gaze with wonder and admiration upon the abject state, to which, not only the savage prowlers of the forest, but even themselves, appear to be reduced by the undying energies of my countrymen.

'Hitherto I have wondered, how the vast expense incurred could by possibility be liquidated. This morning a private conversation with Mr. Clayton,

me, a vast and general Institute has been formed in the United States, by which the expenses on this continent are met, and that the great assemblage of the brute creation will shortly be shipped for Boston, where, I am certain, the liberality of our citizens, and citizens generally of the Union, will amply compensate for the almost unbounded outlay of the original furnishers of the outfit. My inclinations point to home—I may say with truth, 'I yearn for my country and my father's fireside,' still we are comfortable here—the colony is in a quiet and flourishing condition—the Caffres are at last subdued and peaceable-the influx of strangers is unprecedented—the arrivals from Europe within the last thirty days amount to five thousand, principally bound to Australia, which, if common report may be credited, is the most fertile spot on the habitable globe. There is an old maxim, 'common report is a common liar'-in this respect I believe in old sayings; after travelling over the greatest portion of the world, I must say America is my home—the wide waters—the cheerful cities—the pathless woods-the fertile vallies and majestic hills of my native land are greater in my estimation and

dearer to my heart than any thing yet encountered

abroad.'

threw a new light upon the subject. He informs