

A RHINOCEROS STORY.

"Once on a time my father took his sons out to hunt; he only had a gun, and we had assegae and knives. At first we were very unsuccessful; we found nothing till the second day; we were very hungry, when we came on a rhinoceros—The old man soon wounded it in the leg, and he then told us to throw stones at it, to make the wound worse. You know how Namaquas can throw stones; so we crept upon the rhinoceros, followed it, and threw stones with such effect, ~~ed with a knife, then a spear, and a hand-axe,~~ and commenced to hamstring it, while my elder brother, who is now dead, Cobus, remarkable for two strange rings round his eyes, tried to climb over the back of the rhinoceros to thrust his lance into his shoulder (it would have been very dangerous to have gone up to its shoulder or foot); he had just begun to climb, when the rhinoceros rose suddenly with a terrible blast or snort, and we all ran off as fast as we could to a tree, and there held a consultation about our further proceedings.

"We had not been long at the tree, when the rhinoceros observing where we were, rushed toward us with his horns at first in the air, and then as he came near, he tore up the ground with them. We scattered ourselves before him, when Cobus getting in a passion, stopped short in his flight, called the rhinoceros an ugly name, and turned and faced it. The rhinoceros, astonished at this unexpected manoeuvre, also stopped and stared at Cobus, who then commenced calling out loudly and abusing the monster; it now seemed to be seized with fear, for it sidled off, when Cobus, who had a heart like a lion's, and was as active as an ape, immediately pursued the rhinoceros, seized the tail, sprung with its assistance on its back, rode it well, and plunging his assegae deep into its shoulder, it fell, and was despatched by the rest of us. Hungry men can do extraordinary things—and this is a true story."