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FROM THE NIGER TO THE NILE

BY

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RIFLE BRIGADE

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOLUME II

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAPS



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and crane forward their necks to sniff the approaching danger. The next moment they would turn about and open out in a long extended line as they sped away across the wide plain.

Rhino are also plentiful along the Shari. Gosling thus describes an experience he had with one of these animals: "Sali, my gun-boy, who was out a short distance from camp, came running in saying, 'Elephant!' I was sitting learning Arabic from Mustapha. Before I could put my rifles together there was a commotion among the donkeys thirty yards away, and some angry snorts. A rhino then appeared about twenty yards off and gazed at us for a moment and then departed. A good many of the 'boys' were instantly up trees. I quickly pursued and shot him as he was crossing a backwater which was about 3 ft. deep. Sticking in his rump I found the barb of an arrow that had been received from above, with a weight attached. The natives place them above elephant paths. This must have been in for a good many days and had failed to kill him. Under the circumstances he might easily have charged the camp, rhino having bad reputations for temper. . . . Two Banda hunters came in with a 'dash' of honey and to partake of the feast of flesh. By the afternoon, when the King of Odio arrived with a supply of 'geri,' there was absolutely nothing left. The scene now at night with four camp-fires burning is quite nice. The cry of leopard or baboon is occasionally to be heard. This morning some one fired the bush close by, and as the fire passed near us the noise resembled the rattle of musketry. Great chaff is still going on as to who ran away this morning."

Owing to its pugnacious nature, the horns of this bushbuck are often very broken.

26. BONGO (*Boocercus euryceros*).

A pair of horns and native skin examined near Banzyville, River Ubangui.

27. LAKE CHAD BUFFALO (*Bos caffer brachyceros*). Hausa, Bona.

Well distributed in the Lake Chad and Shari regions, and found on the islands in the Ubangui. *Male*.—Length on front curve, 23 in. ; circumference, 18 in. ; tip to tip, $13\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; shoulder, 5 ft. 1 in. (Rivers Ba-Ligna and Shari. G. B. G.) *Female*.—Length on front curve, $21\frac{1}{8}$ in. ; circumference, $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; tip to tip, $13\frac{1}{8}$ in. ; shoulder, 4 ft. 5 in. (River Shari. G. B. G.)

On one of the islands in the Ubangui Gosling obtained a bull and two cows, probably referable to this species. *Male*.—Head and body, 7 ft. 3 in. ; hind foot, 1 ft. $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; tail, 2 ft. $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; ear, $9\frac{1}{8}$ in. ; shoulder, 4 ft. $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; curve outside, $25\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; inside, 18 in. ; tip to tip, $11\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; palm, $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. Colour almost the same as in the smaller cow. *Female* (large).—Head and body, 7 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; hind foot, 1 ft. $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; tail, 2 ft. 3 in. ; ear, $10\frac{3}{8}$ in. ; shoulder, 4 ft. 4 in. ; curve outside, 17 in. ; tip to tip, 8 in. ; palm, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Colour of cows. Black muzzles. Black from knees to hock down. Black tip to tail and long black hairs as fringe to ears. The bigger of the two with red forehead and mane, the smaller black ditto. The larger with skin of rich tawny colour, the other less bright.

28. HIPPOPOTAMUS (*Hippopotamus amphibius*). Hausa, Dorina.

Plentiful in the Yo river and in Lake Chad, when the Yo empties itself ; also River Shari and River Bamingi. Scarce in River Welle and again plentiful in River Yei. *Male*.—Length, $29\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; circumference, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. (tusks).

29. WEST AFRICAN BUSH-PIG (*Potamochoerus porcus*).

Obtained along the Ubangui and Welle.

30. WART HOG (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*). Kanuri, Guddu.

On the Welle and Kibali.

31. RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros bicornis*).

Plentiful along the Shari river. *Male*.—curve outside, $21\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; curve inside, $9\frac{1}{8}$ in. ; tip to tip, $19\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; palm, $16\frac{3}{8}$ in. (Shari river.

G. B. G.) *Female*.—curve outside, 16 in. ; curve inside, 7 in. ; tip to tip, $18\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; palm, $17\frac{3}{4}$ in. (M'Bassu river. River Shari. G. B. G.)

32. ELEPHANT (*Elephas africanus*). Hausa, Giwa ; Kanuri, Kamagunn.

(a) Height at shoulder, 10 ft. ; total length, 22 ft. 1 in. ; girth of fore-foot, 4 ft. $11\frac{3}{4}$ in. Tusks, 5 ft. $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. \times $17\frac{1}{4}$ in. ; 4 ft. 10 in. \times $17\frac{1}{4}$ in. (Lake Chad. G. B. G.) (b) Height at shoulder, 9 ft. 2 in. ; total length, 23 ft. $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; girth of fore-foot, 3 ft. 11 in. Tusks, 6 ft. 8 in. \times $17\frac{3}{8}$ in. ; 6 ft. 5 in. \times $17\frac{1}{4}$ in. (River Tomi. G. B. G.) (c) Tusks, 5 ft. $8\frac{3}{4}$ in. \times $17\frac{3}{4}$ in. ; 5 ft. $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. \times $17\frac{1}{4}$ in. (River Bamingi. G. B. G.)

33. LION (*Felis leo*). Hausa, Zaki ; Kanuri, Bundi.

Male (no mane).—Head and body, 217 mm. ; tail, 96·8 mm. ear, 13 mm. ; hind foot, 32·8 mm. (Tapkin Dorina, near Ibi. Boyd Alexander.)