

University of Cambridge, Museum of Zoology

Volume of historical documents

History, III

III 138

H.E. Caldecott to S.F. Harmer, Cambridge
Office of the Public Prosecutor, Salisbury, 17 July 1893

Your letter of the 1st of June addressed to Mr. R.T. Coryndon was opened by me in his absence. Mr. Coryndon received a commission some little time ago to procure an adult skeleton of the white rhinoceros for Lord Rothschild, and he left Salisbury for that purpose about six weeks ago. He is going in the direction of the junction of the Umniati and Zambesi Rivers, and expects to be away about six months. [is out of reach] His expedition will endeavour to obtain several specimens of *R. simus*, as well as of different kinds of smaller animals, birds, insects, &c. for sale.

. . . I do not fancy he would sell a white rhinoceros skeleton with skin &c. complete (if he got more than one) for less than £250 or perhaps £200.

P.S. Mr Coryndon is a relative of mine.

III 139

W. Rothschild to Prof. Newton
New Court, Oct. 17, 1893

P.S. It may interest you to hear that a friend of mine has just killed & preserved for me two old bulls with their skeletons of the White Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros simus*), the first entire specimens ever preserved.

III 140

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton
Tring Park, Tring, Oct. 20, 1893

As to the 2nd Rhinoceros Simus, I should be delighted to hand it over to you, but till my friend Mr. Coryndon comes home, I cannot dispose either of the two skeletons or the stuffed specimens. I certainly shall only keep a stuffed specimen, but I paid half expenses (£250) & know that as Coryndon is a poor man, he will want to make up £250 (the other half) out of the 2nd *R. simus*. There are only 5 others left in the herd & that is the only remains of a gigantic mammal of which in 1875 one could still have killed 30 to 40 in a day.

III 141

Newton to Rothschild, 21 Oct 1893
[hard to read, drafts only]

III 142

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton, 2 Nov 1893
[Coryndon will want £250 for skin & skeleton of 2nd specimen.]

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III 143

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton
New Court, Dec. 8, 1893

The two *Rhinoceros simus* have arrived. The British Museum take a skin & skeleton, & I have a skin so that I am a position I hope to offer you say in 8 weeks time (when macerated) a skeleton for £150. [few bones missing, otherwise price would be £250.]

III 144

Newton to Rothschild, Magdalene College
Cambridge, 12 December 1893

I am much obliged . . . I accept the offer of the skeleton of *Rhinoceros simus* for £150 provided that it has no other defects than those you mentioned. . . . but I should prefer having it macerated by our own people . . .

III 145

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton
New Court, Dec. 13, 1893

[cannot give skeleton unmacerated.] F.C. Selous & Coryndon are the two scouts of the Company and as you know went to the front as soon as war was declared. The consequence was that a man named Maclaurin brought the 2 *Rh. simus* home & packed all the bones indiscriminately in one case & the two skulls in a 2nd. As the British Museum insist on mounting their own & I could only pick out the correct number of bones to each skeleton & not fit them till macerated, they have put them in soak & I, till they are fitted, have nothing more to say.

III 146

Newton to Rothschild, 14 Dec 1893

III 147

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton, 15 Dec 1893
[skeleton not at Tring]

III 148

Newton to Rothschild, 16 Dec 1893

III 149

Walter Rothschild to Prof. Newton, 18 Dec 1893
[Skeletons are being macerated by Alfred Brazenon, 39 Lewes Road, Brighton.]

III 150

Newton to Rothschild, 19 Dec 1893

III 151

Printed page to elicit subscription - photocopied

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III 152

Pall Mall Gazette, 12 April 1894
photocopied

III 153

The Daily Graphic, 13 April 1894

III 154

E. Hartert, Tring, to Newton ?
5 June 1894

[Maceration of skeletons will still take weeks, if not months.]

III 155

Receipt by Walter Rothschild
Received of Mr. S.F. Harmer, the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds in payment of a
Rhinoceros skeleton.

III 156

Invoice
Alex. MacIntosh & Sons, in Market Place, Cambridge
Furnishing and Builder's Ironmongers

For ironing up Rhinoceros as per price given	7 - 10
Altering above to order	1 - 12 - 6
Total £ 9 - 2 - 6	

III 157

Invoice
William Lindall, Builder & Contractor
August 27, 1894
Preparing stand for the rhinoceros, £ 2 - 5 - 0

III 158

Invoice
University Press [Cambridge], 3 December 1894
Printing of 100 Ex. List of subscribers
Rhinoceros skeleton, 14 shillings

III 159

List of subscribers
printed, 1 page
[photocopy]

III 160

E. Gerrard, 61 College Place, Camden Town
Oct. 25, 1894 to Cambridge Museum
[working on the skeleton]

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III 161

E. Hartert, Tring, to Cambridge
30 October 1894

The bones of the two skeletons were separated in bags by Mr Coryndon but it seems that while they were laying at Fort Salisbury, during the time Mr. Coryndon was away in the war, some of the bone swere mixed, through somebody having opened some of the bags.
[sorry for mix up]

III 162

A. Günther, British Museum (Natural History), London to Cambridge
6 Nov 1894
[Bones were mixed up
will help if there is doubt]

III 163

Gerrard, 11 March (?) 1895
[has cast of bones]

III 164

Gerrard, 18 April 1895
[has mounted the skeleton]

III 165

Gerrard, June 18, 1895
[problems with tail bones]

III 166

Leiden, 17.5.95
Dear Sir, Indeed, me possess no skeleton of Rhinoceros simus. Very truly yours,
F.A. Jentink

III 167

E. Hartert, Tring to Harmer

Mr. Rothschild has given me your letter of Oct. 18, 1894 and wishes me to write & to tell you that the horn sof Rhinoceros simus are of a male shot some twenty years ago in the Cape Colony or so.