

let alone safety. According to the porter's own evidence, he was not doing duty for any traveller, and, therefore, had not even the incentive of a prospective tip to tend to make him reckless; he was simply trying to kill two birds with one stone. He was carrying in one journey effects which should have been made the subject of two or more separate despatches. He had this dog to carry, which had been booked as a parcel from Athlone to Kilkenny; and he had also some mails to transfer to the branch line; and, thirdly, some parcels to deliver. He had no hand to spare to control the dog. Whether it was of his own free will that he elected to attempt to convey all these effects at one journey, or whether he was acting under orders in thus overloading himself, the negligence remains the same, and he was doing that which could not reasonably be done without risking the safety of the public on the platform. Even if this dog had been as meek as Moses, it was in any case dangerous to tow an animal of this sort by a chain attached to a trolley, whereby the animal was not under control, and might trip up any person whose eyesight was not keen enough to observe the connecting chain. It was bad enough for a passenger to incur a spill of this nature when least expected, but it was adding insult to injury that the dog should take the law into its own hands, and so promptly enjoy a vindictive bite at the expense of the unsuspecting and tottering passenger. In the end, the jury found in favour of the plaintiff, and awarded him £100 damages.

The company have only themselves to thank for the lesson which they have now had to learn. Whether their porters receive orders to work shorthanded, and to overload themselves; or whether, the staff being sufficient, the subordinates elect spontaneously to attempt more than ordinary human nature can control at one effort, is quite immaterial. The general lesson is that the normal porter must not assume that he is absolute dictator of the situation because he is intrusted with the conveyance of baggage, but, if the public do not get out of his way, it is his duty to get out of theirs. If the omission to observe this principle should lead to disaster, the company must pay for their servants' recklessness.

SHOOTING.

WHITE RHINOCEROS SHOOTING.

IN THE FIELD of Nov. 26 last, I notice a letter from Mr Selous concerning the white rhinoceros, in which he mentions that they have been seen and shot lately in Mashunaland. As it would probably be of interest to the majority of your readers, I propose to give a short account of the circumstances attending the death of these animals.

On our return from the Zambesi last year, towards the end of August, we were tramping along at the tail of the line of carriers, when one of the boys in front pointed out a small troop of zebra feeding quietly, a long way to our left, and quite unconscious of the unusual sight the long disjointed line of men must have afforded as it wound slowly along the open country and between the patches of bush. Mr Arthur Eyre, who was walking with me, turned off to the left, and presently disappeared in the scattered bush as he was trying to get a shot at the zebra. About half an hour afterwards one of the boys put down his load and pointed with his assegai across the veldt, and there I saw Eyre a long way off, standing in the lee of a

small blood stains which were left at intervals by the cow, for, having been wounded about the shoulder, the blood had trickled down her leg, leaving marks which could be plainly seen. We found that the bull and cow had met just beyond the place we had left their spoor the previous night, and, turning sharply to the right, had described almost a semicircle, and there had met the other three. After following the spoor of the bull for about half an hour, the boys lost it for a moment, and while casting to pick it up again came upon three more rhino in the thick bush, for since receiving the bullets they had never struck into the open. They consisted of a large cow, a half-grown calf, and a small calf. They started at a trot when Eyre was about 100 yards off, but he luckily cut them off a short distance further on, and as they were going off at a tangent he gave the cow a shot behind the ribs with a heavy 12-bore, carrying a conical bullet of 2oz., and driven by about 6dra. of powder—the identical gun, I believe, used by Mr Selous on several trips when elephant shooting. (Changing this gun, as it was untrustworthy (being liable to misfire) for his Martini, he followed the cow, and after five shots gave her a bullet close to the tail, which, passing through the pelvic bone, lodged in the spine between the shoulders, and she sank quietly down on to her belly. When she dropped the big calf turned off and disappeared in the bush, while the little one swung round, with ears cocked, and charged viciously at anybody coming within ten yards of the cow; after every charge returning to the mother, and whining for all the world like a fox terrier puppy, though rather louder. As the old cow took no notice of his movements, he put his nose under her, and, apparently with the greatest of ease, shook the enormous mass of flesh and bone as if it had been a framework covered with canvas.

At this point one of the boys, summoning up a little courage, made a jump on to the top of the old cow's back, and commenced to sing and jeer at the pugnacious youngster beneath, being perfectly safe out of his reach. The calf took this very funnily, retreating a few steps backwards, then charging at the boy, bringing up with a jerk when his little horn was within about a foot of the cow. We next proceeded to catch the youngster, and this gave us grand a bit of sport as one could wish to see. The boys cut down a thin pole about 16ft. long, and fastened several reins or thongs of raw hide on to the end in the shape of a loop, then, creeping up quietly, passed the loop over his head, and then gave a shout and a pull. As soon as he felt the tension he charged off, jumping and snorting like a small locomotive, at one end of the pole, while about thirty chattering natives clung on to the other end like wax. Presently "Sloper," as we called this nice little pet, spun round and faced the boys, at the same time letting off a tremendous snort, and stamping angrily with his fore feet, whereupon the boys dropped the pole and scattered in all directions, stumbling over stumps and rocks in their fright. "Sloper" soon disengaged himself and returned to his duty of guarding his mother.

The second time this was tried the same thing happened, but Sloper followed up his victory, and some of the boys did not feel happy till they were safely out of his reach up trees. The third time we made a noose instead of a loop, and passed it over his head from the shelter of the cow, and this time he was caught, for the natives clung on to the pole like grim death, while several of the more venturesome, catching him by the legs, promptly upset him, upon which I strapped his front legs together with a stirrup leather, and did the same with his hind legs, then drew the two together and knotted them securely; this was a tough job, as the little brute possessed very great strength and struggled hard. The boys then proceeded to build a kraal round him as he lay, planting the poles about two feet in the ground, and almost touching one another, then lashing on securely several ribs parallel to the ground and running right round the kraal. When this was done one of the boys climbed over the fence and undid the straps very quietly, and then was over the fence and away with wonderful celerity. I may here remark a curious fact, for as he lay on the ground struggling hard he began to sweat very freely, the moisture dripping off him as though a bucket of water had been thrown over him.

We did everything we could for the youngster, giving him plenty of water and piles of grass of all sorts, and leaving him as quiet as

The camel track for the first few miles lay along a level sandy plain, which was dotted about with cactus bushes, but the ground gradually became more broken and cut up by nullahs as we approached the hills, and we consequently did not travel at a very fast pace. We saw several sand grouse, but did not stop to shoot them, as we were anxious to push on, and we intended to have a day at small game on our way back. We halted about a mile and a half from a pass leading through the hills, and, as it was now nearly eight o'clock, we had some dinner, and after a smoke prepared to go to sleep, as we wanted to be off again early the next morning.

Nothing can be more comfortable than dry soft sand for a bed, and, a pleasant cool breeze having sprung up, we were soon sound asleep, and being some distance away from the river we were not disturbed by mosquitos.

The next morning we were up at the first streak of dawn, and after a light breakfast of bully beef and cocoa, we started off again about 5 a.m. H. had insisted on bringing out a tin of sardines with him, and wanted to make his breakfast off them, but I strongly advised him not to do so, as I once made a breakfast off a tin of sardines and some chupatties and water, and then rode a dak of sixty miles, I had indigestion and the taste of sardines in my mouth the whole day, and loathed them for many months afterwards. Having crossed the pass, we followed along at the foot of the hills on our right, and arrived at a small village of tents about 8 a.m. We halted here a few minutes, and then continued in a northerly direction towards some mountains, the biggest of which was called Wareen, and on our right were the Pabb Range, which run from here down to Cape Monze, which is west of Karachi. On reaching the foot of the Wareen Hills, we came to a little brackish water, we dismounted here, and had to walk for the next couple of miles, as the ground was so stony and broken that the camels had some difficulty in getting along. About 1.30 we reached a village of about half a dozen tents, and as we were getting hungry, and the hot wind made travelling very unpleasant, we agreed to stop here till sunset, and we soon arranged with one of the villagers for the use of his tent for a few hours. These tents are only made with coarse goat's hair cloth, and a few poles, but any protection from the sun and glare, however slight, was a great comfort, and, wonderful to relate, we were not troubled by fleas, which, as a rule, infest a native dwelling. After tiffin we went to sleep till 3.30, when Aloo woke us, and said that the local shikaris had sent in word to say that they had marked down a buck and two doe orial on the Wareen Hill; but as we were both fairly tired after our long morning ride in the sun, and it being doubtful whether we could get a shot at them before sunset, we agreed not to go after them till the next day, and sent out two men to remain on the hill and watch their movements.

At five o'clock the next morning (Thursday), after a light breakfast, we started off on our camels, in a north-west direction; having gone about three miles, we halted in a sandy nullah at the foot of the Wareen Hill, and waited for the shikaris to bring in news of the animals they had marked down the previous day. About 8.30 one man arrived to say that they had moved off the hill during the night, but his companion had followed up their tracks across a nullah, and would bring in word as soon as he saw them again. We mounted again, went in a south-west direction, and after a short while halted by a pool of brackish water in a nullah, and were told to wait here, as this was to be the rendezvous for all the shikaris. About ten o'clock two men arrived, one had marked down the same animals they had seen the day before, on a hill about five miles north-east, and the other had seen a buck and a doe about three miles south-west of our halting place. We drew lots, and H. went east, in charge of a local shikari, to whom I gave orders what to do, and where to meet us again, as the sahib in his charge could talk nothing but English, of which language he could not understand a syllable. I then went west with Aloo and the shikari who had marked down the animals. After two hours' stiff climb in the hot sun I reached the top of the hill and sat down to rest, while Aloo went on ahead to reconnoitre. He returned in a short while, and led me round the side of the hill, but as the hillside was steep and covered with loose stones and prickly bushes, our progress was very slow; eventually, after half an hour's crawl on my hands and knees, Aloo brought me up behind

that beyond, and, not dreaming for a moment of the famous white rhinoceros, we skirted the bush, and there, about half a mile away, their backs just showing above the grass, and beyond a slight rise, they could be seen moving slowly down the open, which at this point was about a mile and a half broad by about five miles long, while immediately opposite us the bush thinned out, showing another open glade beyond. There was hardly any cover and very little wind; what there was of the latter came in fitful little gusts from any direction, so that at about 150 yards we stopped, hesitating about to creep nearer. We then saw that there was a baby rhino dodging about in front of the cow. While watching them the old bull must have got our scent, for, though they are very short-sighted, their power of scent and hearing is wonderfully acute, and, lifting his enormous head, he moved slowly up to the cow, working his great ears with quick jerks and twisting his short tail, evidently started at something, and not quite certain what to do. We crept a few yards nearer, and Eyra covered the bull, while I took the usual shot behind the shoulder at the cow, and then fired together.

This practice, by the way, of firing together is a very bad one, and cannot be too severely condemned, for it baulks both the shooters. One waits almost unconsciously for the other to shoot, probably shifting the sight off the mark by waiting, while if you are "dead on" when his shot goes off you probably pull off with a jerk and shoot wide. The rhino turned short round, the cow staggering slightly, and set off at a lumbering gallop across the hollow in the direction of the glade on the other side. The bull soon settled down into a long, heavy trot, but going along at a good pace, while the calf had no difficulty in keeping ahead of the cow, who, when about half way across, also broke into a trot.

Mr Selous, in his book "A Hunter's Wanderings in Africa," says "A small calf always runs in front of its mother, and she appears to guide it by holding the point of her horn upon the little animal's rump; and it is perfectly wonderful to note how, in all sudden changes of pace, from a trot to a gallop, or vice versa, the same position is always exactly maintained." And that was apparently the case in this instance.

We gave them another shot as they turned to run, and then followed them as hard as we could across the open. As they entered the belt of thin bush the cow and calf separated, and it was here that, as they were passing in and out amongst the trees, I very much regret to say one of us must have mistaken the calf for one of the old ones, for when we emerged from the bush, thoroughly blown, the youngster had sunk down on to his belly about 300 yards away in the open, evidently very badly hit. We found afterwards that a bullet had taken him behind the ribs on the left side, and, travelling forward to the heart, given him a mortal wound. The bull turned off into the bush on the right, while the cow stopped short and began wheeling round the calf, stamping and sniffing the ground, and peering round in every direction, evidently very angry, and anxious to get at somebody or something.

Mr A. M. Graham, who had joined us a little time before, and I walked on towards the cow, being so exhausted that we were neither able to run nor to hold the rifles steady enough to get a decent shot.

I would have given anything then for her to have caught sight of us, for she would certainly have charged, and offered us a splendid chest shot; however, while still some distance away, she went off at a halting trot, going very lame on one of her front legs. We followed the spoor till it disappeared in a piece of stony ground, and could not find it again; so we took different directions, and searched for two or three miles round in the hope of finding it, but, being unsuccessful, we marked the place with a small branch, and returned to where we had left the boys. Luckily, there was no difficulty in finding the camp, guided by the sound of the boys' songs as they chopped down the bush for the usual "scherm." It was a pretty sight—the blazing fires throwing their figures into strong relief as they passed to and fro from the darkness into the bright light, their voices sounding faintly in the distance as they shifted the loads and hurried about the work incidental to the forming of a camp permanent for two or three days at any rate. Eyra meanwhile had returned and got two boys, taken up the spoor of the bull, and followed it till dark, then, marking the place, he had left it, and returned to camp.

Next morning at daylight we were on the spoor with boys. It is wonderful how faint a track a rhino will leave during the dry season, his great spongy feet coming softly down, and on certain grounds, such as very old "brant," or burnt veldt, or stony ground, leaving hardly any track at all except to the eyes of an especially good spoorer; though on veldt freshly burnt one could almost gallop along along his trail. In this instance my boys were greatly helped by the

good deal of grass during his imprisonment; the milk was much thinner than an ordinary cow's milk, though slightly sweeter, and was a decided improvement to black tea and coffee.

The skinning of the cow was no light job, as one can imagine; we cut it down the shoulder on each side, and along under the neck to the chin, thus getting the skin of the head and neck in one piece, and then along the back and belly, and getting the remainder of the skin in two pieces. With great trouble the youngster was moved to within ten miles of a large kraal, where he died; but, owing to the refusal of the boys to move a step, the skin had to be abandoned, though his skull was subsequently brought into camp.

One of the bullets fired at the cow caught her in the lip, and we found in skinning her that it had not penetrated 3 in. into the india-rubber like substance, the bullet retaining the marks of the rifling, and being very slightly flattened at the point. I may remark on the number of hippopotami to be found in the Zambosi; extraordinary as it may seem, they can be seen basking on the sandbanks, or playing in the shallows, from the verandah of any of the houses in Zumbo. We shot two there just to show the natives how it is done.

The skin and skeleton complete of the rhinoceros cow formed good loads for twelve boys, for as the bones are solid they are exceedingly heavy.

R. T. CORYDON.

Salisbury, Jan. 23.

TEN DAYS' SHOOTING IN S.E. BALUCHISTAN.

H., who had lately arrived at Karachi from England, was very anxious to try a new rifle that he had brought out with him, and as he knew nothing about the language or country he asked me to accompany him, and to make all the necessary arrangements, and find out from my shikari what chance we had of getting any oorial. The oorial, or gad, as it is called in some parts of India, is the *Ovis cycloceros*, a kind of wild mountain sheep; it is a brown colour, with a white belly and short hair like a deer. The horns of the male are curved like those of a ram. I sent my shikari, Aloo by name, out in the district near Lus Beyla, and meanwhile we made all the necessary preparations, and obtained ten days' leave. As it was the month of August, and there was no prospect of any rain, we agreed not to take any tents, as we wished to go with as little baggage as possible, and expected to be travelling or shooting during the day, and nothing could be pleasanter than sleeping out at night at this time of the year. Aloo returned after a fortnight, and informed us that there were a good many oorial in the hills this side of Lus Beyla, and that we ought to have good sport, as no one had been after them for over a year. He had also arranged with the local shikaris that they were to obtain what information they could about the animals, prior to our arrival.

My own impression at the time was that the sport in that district was very poor, and that, on account of the difficulty in getting at this place, few cared to try their luck, and preferred going further afield, where they were certain of better sport. We eventually started one Tuesday about noon, H. on a camel with Aloo, myself on another with a Baluchi, who came from the Lus Beyla district, while my servant, Mahomed Bux, brought up the rear on a third camel, on which was carried our provisions and cooking pots. The little bedding we required was strapped on our riding camels, and we were purchased on top of this. H. brought with him a Winchester repeating rifle, and I had a '360 D.B. express by Westley Richards, and we each had a D.B. 12-bore shot gun. I had been advised to take my '450 express, and was told that '360 was too small for oorial; however, from the experience I had had when out shooting chinkara (raving deer), I felt pretty confident that the '360 was quite good enough for the largest oorial that we were likely to see, besides being a much lighter and handier weapon for the stiff climbing that I anticipated. Previous to starting I went to see the political agent for S.E. Baluchistan, who said I should find the inhabitants very friendly, and gave me the name of a man at Lus Beyla to whom I could go if I wanted any help; but as we had such short leave we did not have time to go to Lus Beyla, although I should have liked to have seen the place.

After leaving Karachi we passed to the left of Nugga Pir, and about 4 p.m. reached the Habb River, about a mile below Murad Khan's Bund. Although we had only gone a few miles the climate was now quite different, the damp sea breeze having given way to a dry hot wind. We halted for a short while for refreshments, then having crossed the river, which at this time of the year is little more than a succession of deep pools, we proceeded in a northerly direction.

quietly for some minutes, I then took a careful aim just behind the shoulder and fired, and was delighted to see the animal kicking on the ground. Aloo rushed forward with his knife, and soon put an end to his struggles by cutting his throat. He was a young buck, and the horns were not very large, but I value them more than better ones which I have obtained since, on account of its being the first oorial I had ever shot. My bullet had hit him in the spine just below the neck, and travelling up the neck came out by his throat.

Aloo having disembowled him, and sent some men to carry him to our camp, took me to a small cave where I could get a little shelter from the sun, and told me to wait here while he went off to get further news.

He returned about three o'clock, and said two had been seen close by, but as they were on the move it was doubtful whether I should get a shot at them or not. I was beginning to feel rather tired, but after having had such good luck in the morning, I determined to go after them, so we started off again, and one hour's stiff climb brought us to the brow of the hill, and through my field glasses I saw two oorials slowly moving over the brow of the opposite hill about two miles distance. In my excitement I forgot all my fatigue, and directly they had disappeared over the brow we followed after them, and my only anxiety was whether I should be able to get a shot at them before dark. We crossed the intervening valley, and had another good climb up the opposite hill. When near the top I sat down to recover my breath, and Aloo went ahead to look round, he returned in a few minutes and told me that a buck and a doe were lying in a thicket about one hundred yards down the slope of the hill. I crawled along on my belly, and looking down the side of the hill, which was very steep, could just see the head and neck of the buck, who was lying in a thicket, while the doe was standing by his side. As the bushes round them were very thick, Aloo wanted to go round the far side and drive them towards me, I preferred, however, to risk a shot at his head; but he that hesitates is lost, and during the few seconds we had been discussing the matter they had got scent of us, and before I had time to put up my rifle there was a crash, and they were off through the bushes. I had a running shot at about 150 yards as he came out of the thicket, but missed him, and was very much disgusted at not having fired directly I saw him, as he had the finest pair of horns for an oorial that I have ever seen.

After this we started homewards, and I was very glad to meet the camel with a mussock of cool water, as I had only had my water-bottle and a few biscuits with me, and was dead tired. Aloo said Mahomed Bux had gone to a small village about two miles away, and I was looking forward to my dinner, and wondering whether H. had had any sport, when we saw him on his camel a short way ahead. We soon caught him up, and H. started complaining about his bad luck, saying that the game was not worth the candle. He had climbed to the top of the Wzreen Hill, and through his glasses saw some oorial lying about 100 yards below the brow of the hill, about three miles distant, and separated from where he was by a deep valley.

He descended the same path that he had come up by, and by making a large detour over very bad ground he reached the far side of the hill, and just as he had got to the top, after a steep climb, he saw a herd of four oorial, about half-a-mile distant, making their way down the intervening valley; they had got scent of him or had been disturbed, as they were moving off at a rapid pace. He had had a lot of stiff climbing in a hot sun without getting a shot, and on arriving at the village was so much done up that he wanted to go to sleep at once without waiting for any dinner; however, I got my mackintosh sheet, placed it in a hole in the sand, and thus extemporising a bath, I persuaded him to have a wash; he felt much refreshed after this, and his spirits revived after dinner, but we were both very glad to turn in for sleep about eight o'clock.

The next day (Friday) we had a lot of climbing without seeing anything, and as none of the shikaris brought any satisfactory news, we returned to camp about three o'clock; in the evening we went out with our guns and shot a few grey partridges and a hare; these were a welcome addition to our larder, as neither of us had cared to venture on eating the oorial I had shot the previous day, although the shikaris soon finished up the whole animal.

H., who was very disappointed at not having had a shot, wanted to start back for Karachi the next day, but in the evening Aloo came to say that two oorial had been seen on a hill about seven miles away, so we settled on remaining another day.

The next morning (Saturday) the shikaris started out before daylight, while we remained in camp waiting for them to bring in further news. One of them returned about nine o'clock, and said that two oorial had been seen grazing on a hill, and the other shikaris were

Coryndon, R.T., 1893. White rhinoceros shooting. *The Field*, 20 May 1893, p. 712.

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Mr A. M. Graham, who had joined us a little time before, and I walked on towards the cow, being so exhausted that we were neither able to run nor to hold the rifles steady enough to get a decent shot.

I would have given anything then for her to have caught sight of us, for she would certainly have charged, and offered us a splendid chest shot; however, while still some distance away, she went off at a halting trot, going very lame on one of her front legs. We followed the spoor till it disappeared in a piece of stony ground, and could not find it again; so we took different directions, and searched for two or three miles round in the hope of finding it, but, being unsuccessful, we marked the place with a small branch, and returned to where we had left the boys. Luckily, there was no difficulty in finding the camp, guided by the sound of the boys' songs as they chopped down the bush for the usual 'schirm.' It was a pretty sight - the blazing fires throwing their figures into strong relief as they passed to and fro from the darkness into the bright light, their voices sounding faintly in the distance as they shifted the loads and hurried about the work incidental to the forming of a camp permanent for two or three days at any rate. Eyre meanwhile had returned and got two boys, taken up the spoor of the bull, and followed it till dark, then, marking the place, he had left it, and returned to camp.

Next morning at daylight we were on the spoor with boys. It is wonderful how faint a track a rhino will leave during the dry season, his great spongy feet coming softly down, and on certain grounds, such as very old 'brant,' or burnt veldt, or stony ground leaving hardly any track at all except to the eyes of an especially good spoorer; though on veldt freshly burnt one could almost gallop along his trail. In this instance my boys were greatly helped by the small blood stains which were left at intervals by the cow, for, having been wounded about the shoulder, the blood had trickled down her leg, leaving marks which could be plainly seen. We found that the bull and cow had met just beyond the place we had left their spoor the previous night, and, turning sharply to the right, had described almost a semicircle, and there had met the other three. After following the spoor of the bull for about half an hour, the boys lost it for a moment, and while casting to pick it up, again came upon three more rhino in the thick bush, for since receiving the bullets they had never struck into the open. They consisted of a large cow, a half-grown calf, and a small calf. They started at a trot when Eyre was about 100 yards off, but he luckily cut them off a short distance further on, and as they were going off at a tangent he gave the cow a shot behind the ribs with a heavy 12-bore, carrying a conical bullet of 2oz., and driven by about 6drs. of powder - the identical gun, I believe, used by Mr Selous on several trips when elephant shooting. Changing this gun, as it was untrustworthy (being liable to miss-fire) for his Martini, he followed the cow, and after five shots gave her a bullet close to the tail, which, passing through the pelvis bone, lodged in the spine between the shoulders, and she sank quietly down on to her belly. When she dropped the big calf turned off and disappeared in the bush, while the little one swung round, with ears cocked, and charged viciously at anybody coming within ten yards of the cow; after

every charge returning to the mother, and whining for all the world like a fox terrier puppy, though rather louder. As the old cow took no notice of his movements, he put his nose under her, and, apparently with the greatest of ease, shook the enormous mass of flesh and bone as if it had been a framework covered with canvas.

At this point one of the boys, summoning up a little courage, made a jump on to the top of the old cow's back, and commenced to sing and jeer at the pugnacious youngster beneath, being perfectly safe out of his reach. The calf took this very funnily, retreating a few steps backwards, then charging at the boy, bringing up with a jerk when his little horn was within about a foot of the cow. We next proceeded to catch the youngster, and this gave as grand a bit of sport as one could wish to see. The boys cut down a thin pole about 16ft. long, and fastened several reims or thongs of raw hide on to the end in the shape of a loop, then, creeping up quietly, passed the loop over his head, and then gave a about and a pull. As soon as he felt the tension he charged off, jumping and snorting like a small locomotive, at one end of the pole, while about thirty chattering natives clung on to the other end like wax. Presently 'Sloper', as we called this nice little pet, spun round and faced the boys, at the same time letting off a tremendous snort, and stamping angrily with his fore feet, whereupon the boys dropped the pole and scattered in all directions, stumbling over stumps and rocks to their fright. 'Sloper' soon disengaged himself and returned to his duty of guarding his mother.

The second time this was tried the same thing happened, but Sloper followed up his victory, and some of the boys did not feel happy till they were safely out of his reach up trees. The third time we made a noose instead of a loop, and passed it over his head from the shelter of the cow, and this time he was caught, for the natives clung on to the pole like grim death, while several of the more venturesome, catching him by the legs, promptly upset him, upon which I strapped his front legs together with a stirrup leather, and did the same with his hind legs, then drew the two together and knotted them securely; this was a tough job, as the little brute possessed very great strength and struggled hard. The boys then proceeded to build a kraal round him as he lay, planting the poles about two feet in the ground, and almost touching one another, then lashing on securely several ribs parallel to the ground and running right round the kraal. When this was done one of the boys climbed over the fence and undid the straps very quietly, and then was over the fence and away with wonderful celerity. I may here remark a curious fact, for as he lay on the ground struggling hard he began to sweat very freely, the moisture dripping off him as though a bucket of water had been thrown over him.

We did everything we could for the youngster, giving him plenty of water and piles of grass of all sorts, and leaving him as quiet as possible; however, on the eighth day he died, apparently of a broken heart. We were exceedingly sorry at his death, for he would have been no inconsiderable addition to the Zoological Gardens at home.

The cow was still in milk, to our surprise, as the calf had eaten a good deal of grass during his imprisonment; the milk was much thinner than an ordinary cow's milk, though slightly sweeter, and was a decided improvement to black tea and coffee.

The skinning of the cow was no light job, as one can imagine; we cut it down the shoulder on each side, and along under the neck to the chin, thus getting the skin of the head and neck in one piece; and then along the back and belly, and getting the remainder of the skin in two pieces. With great trouble the youngster was moved to within ten miles of a large kraal, where he died; but, owing to the refusal of the boys to move a step, the skin had to be abandoned, though his skull was subsequently brought into camp.

One of the bullets fired at the cow caught her in the lip, and we found in skinning her that it had not penetrated 3 inch into the india-rubber like substance, the bullet retaining the marks

of the rifling, and being very slightly flattened at the point. I may remark on the number of hippopotami to be found in the Zambesi; extraordinary as it may seem, they can be seen basking on the sandbanks, or playing in the shallows, from the verandah of any of the houses in Zumbo. We shot two there just to show the natives how it is done.

The skin and skeleton complete of the rhinoceros cow formed good loads for twelve boys, for as the bones are solid they are exceedingly heavy.

R. T. CORYNDON.

Salisbury, Jan. 23.