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It arises from the almost impossibility there is of properly protecting horses from drafts of wind, all our stables in this country being so open; and from the carelessness of syces in not drying horses after they have been washed. They only wash horses to save themselves trouble, whereas, if properly done, it is more trouble than ordinary grooming; for, after washing, safety requires that the horse should first be thoroughly dried, then clothed and trotted till he sweats a little, then dried again, be clothed lightly and walked about till the natural temperature of his skin is restored.

Cleaning the feet, an essential part of grooming.—The feet must be picked out twice at least daily, and always be kept clean and dry; otherwise, especially where the horse cannot be regularly shod, disease is certain to supervene.

Shoeing.—Many horses, particularly Arabs, have such strong and sound feet that they do not require to be shod at all, especially when there is no travelling, and their exercising ground is not stony; in such cases, shoeing is best dispensed with. Most English horses, however, and all horses with weak or flat feet, must be shod, and in that case it should be done as regularly as possible once a month, and care should be taken to employ the best workman within reach; and those in charge should see that the shoes put on are large enough, and that no rasping of the outer crust is allowed, nor any paring of the sole and frog.

(To be continued.)

AN EASY METHOD FOR SPORTSMEN TO DISTINGUISH THE COMMON INDIA RHINOCEROS, (*R. Indicus*), FROM THE SOONDURBUN RHINOCEROS (*R. Sondaicus*).

WELL KNOWN Zoologists, such as Blyth and Gray, have emphatically asserted that the above two species of the one-horned Indian Rhinoceros cannot be distinguished by sportsmen when apart, and the difference between them is, *Apud* Blyth, that "the fold of the skin at the neck crosses the "neck above in *R. Sondaicus*, but in *R. Indicus* it curves backward across "the shoulder to join the great shoulder plait, which is alike in both species. I indicated the above mode of finding out the two species from one another in my brief article on "The Rhinoceros of the Soonderbuns" which appeared in the *O. S. Magazine* for July 1872, for although familiar enough with that species, both in its wild state and in captivity, yet I had then only once, and that many years previous, seen a living specimen of the common kind. It must be acknowledged that sportsmen, despite the instructions above given, will be apt to blunder occasionally as to the difference between the two species, so having now, fortunately, learned to readily distinguish one from the other, I hasten to inform brother sportsmen how they can easily do so. I shall very briefly relate how I became aware of the striking difference between the two species.

When in town a few days ago, I found the skin of a large female Soonderbun Rhinoceros* undergoing the process of curing preparatory to being stuffed and set up, under the skillful direction of Mr. Fraser of the Indian Museum. He asked me if I had ever seen Rhinos with tubercles, and I replied, "Of course I know of none without them appertaining to the one-horned species." As my recollection of the only *R. Indicus* I had ever seen was evidently altogether at fault, Mr. Fraser then told me that the skin of the common Indian Rhino was devoid of these projecting and conspicuous scales, and

* See *wa*. far gone with young and the *fœtus* had been steeped in spirit.

in proof of it pointed out to me a large stuffed specimen of that species from Purneah, presented by that well-known sportsman, Mr. J. Shillingford, and expressed his surprise that neither Blyth nor Gray had been able to mark this most palpable difference between them.

From what I have heard and seen, but do not consider myself at present warranted in making public, I think we shall have to add one, if not two more species of the one-horned Rhinoceros to the two already known, and here remarked on.

I may add that I have ransacked the whole of my library of Indian sporting periodicals, a rather full one, without being able to discover that the difference described above between the two species—*R. I.*, et *R. S.* had ever been noticed by any sportsman, save and except the writer of a paper entitled “Records of Sport in British Burmah,” without name or *nom de plume*, rules in detailing the various species to be found in that country. thus curtly remarks:—“The third species is rare, and is the same as the Javanese Rhinoceros, and *its skin is covered with tubercles.*”*

YOUNG NIMROD.

KHULNA, JESSORE,
April 23rd, 1874.

[We saw two of the tubercled Rhinoceroses, —as we suppose— at Mr. Routledge’s to the east of the Circular Road, Calcutta, not long ago.—ED.]

* The italics are not the writer’s:—I am responsible for them.—Y.N.