



VITAL SHOTS ON THE ELEPHANT

Plate 1

THE DANGER SIGNAL, EARS PRICKED, TRUNK ALERT.  
THE TWO FRONTAL SHOTS HAVE BEEN ROUGHLY SHOWN BY RINGS DRAWN ON THE  
PHOTOGRAPH.

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BIG GAME SHOOTING IN AFRICA

By Major H. C. MAYDON (Editor), H.R.H. THE DUKE OF  
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With one hundred & fifty  
ILLUSTRATIONS



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H. G. C. Jwayne, Northern Somaliland

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The wilder Somali tribes south of the Juba River, which is beyond the Webbe Shabeyli, belong to the Northern Frontier of Kenya Colony.

Seasons in North Somaliland are: (1) *Jilal*.—January to April: dry, with great heat on coast. (2) *Gu*.—May, June: the heavier rains, light near the coast. (3) *Haga*.—July, August, September: very hot, with the Kharif wind, or south-west monsoon, blowing furiously; sandstorms in Guban, but cool in the high interior. (4) *Dair*.—October, November, December: the winter light rains, chiefly falling at the coast ranges.

For shooting I recommend May to September inclusive, the high interior being more often green.

Since the "Mad Mullah" was finally disposed of and died in 1919, Aden has mainly come under the Royal Air Force, and officers stationed there, who can now reach most parts of Northern Somaliland in a few hours, they or the officials at Berbera, would probably be the most reliable authorities on the shooting licences, reserved forests, and localities of the game.

Applications should be made to the Secretary to the Government, Berbera.

#### SPECIES OF GAME

**ELEPHANT**, Somali Name "MARODI."—Are practically extinct in British Somaliland, but might now be found at the headwaters of the Webbe Ganana (Juba); or the Webbe Shabeyli; or in the Eastern Ethiopian Hills; and their habitat would be most easily reached by using the Jibuti Railway to Harar, then starting from there with Ethiopian permission. Mounted natives are useful as scouts for locating any herds, but it is noteworthy that Somali Elephants do not generally carry fine tusks.

**BLACK RHINOCEROS** (*Bicornis*), Somali Name "WYIL."—Almost extinct. Formerly penetrated north to Toyo Plains in Ogo. Probably still found in Ogaden.

**GREATER KUDU** (*S. s. chora*), Somali Name "GODIR."—Somali Kudu horns do not generally run longer than 50 inches round the curve. Found in stony hills near bush and water. They are common on Wagar and on Gan Libah in the Golis, and in Libahleh Range, south of Zeyla, but not usually in Haud or Ogaden. Under the rim precipices of Hegebo Plateau, west of Berbera, there were large Kudu, with short horns, which may have been young specimens or perhaps akin to Mountain Nyala.

**LESSER KUDU** (*S. imberbis*), Somali Name "ARREH GODIR."—This beautiful Antelope likes bushy, flat, well-watered valley bottoms. The finest horns, about 28 inches straight, were obtainable near Mandere, under the northern face of Golis Range, but the jungle north of Hargeisa now seems to be better. On the Webbe flats, far inland, Lesser Kudu have smaller horns and long hoofs like these of ordinary Nyala. Yet the record head was shot high up the Webbe, beyond Harar, in Abyssinia.

**HARTEBEEST** (*B. swaynei*), Somali Name "SIG."—Formerly found in open "Ban" Plains of high Ogo in great herds, especially on the Marar Prairie, near the Ethiopian Border.

**ORYX** (*O. beisa*), Somali Name "BEI."—Very wary; found in open bush. Horns about 34 inches for bulls, 2 inches longer for cows. Plentiful in Ogo and Ogaden in small herds. Frequents Bulhar Plain and Jebel