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THE RHINOCEROS

9 inches, with the knee a little bent; length of trunk, 6 feet 6 inches; circumference of trunk, 3 feet 11 inches; length of tusk, 4 feet 10 inches; and breadth between the eyes, 4 feet 3 inches.

RHINOCEROS OR BLACK RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros bicornis*; Somali, *Weel* or *Wiyil*).—As far as I know, there are no rhinoceros North of the Haud; they are scattered all over Ogaden, getting common West of the Tug Fafan and in Bourka. They do not carry the long horns sometimes seen in East Africa. The following is Loder's measurement of one he killed in Ogaden:—

Length of body from root of tail to base of second horn (the smaller)	9 feet 8 inches.
Height at shoulder	5 „ 8 „
Girth of neck	6 „ 10 „

In Somaliland the usual method of hunting them is to patiently take up the fresh track, taking great care to follow noiselessly and up wind. In the middle of the day they are usually sleeping in beds under thickets and such trees as khansa, and can often be shot at a near range, from thirty to eighty yards, before they are conscious of your presence. A rhinoceros often charges if he sees you, but, unless the jungle is very dense, his rush is easily avoided, as he charges blind. A rhinoceros appears a huge beast when standing in scrub and among dwarf trees, but is easily killed with an eight-bore, ten drams of powder, and hardened lead bullets. He will snort and grunt, and one I shot at Dahato turned and screamed before falling. The killing of many of these very harmless monsters cannot give much satisfaction to a sportsman.

practically makes shooting available to men of means only. For each sportsman a licence is necessary of 20%, and a high export duty is levied on all skins and trophies. For example:—

	SKINS.	ZARIBA FEE.	EXPORT DUTY.
Lion	Rs. 2	Rs. 20	
Cheetah	1	10	
Zebra	2	15	
Oryx	1	5	
Greater Kudu	2	10	
Lesser Kudu	1 8 ans.	7	
Per piece of Rhinoceros hide	0 4 ans.	1	
	HORNS.		
Oryx	1	5	
Greater Kudu	2	10	
Lesser Kudu	1 8 ans.	7	
Elephant ivory	0 8 ans. per lb.	—	

AN IMPORTANT MAIL

addition to my daily armament, to try and get rhinoceros. About 7 a.m. got fresh track of elephant; followed, and found it was a big cow, and of course left her. At 9 got a fresh track of rhinoceros; crawled through thick khansa bushes, and saw him asleep 40 yards off in dense khansa jungle. I gave him two before he knew we were there, both shots right through behind his shoulder (8-b., 10 drams); he got up, and I knocked him down as he stood turned our way; he was really dead, but I allowed Hassan to put a 10-bore bullet into his head as a quietus. A good bull, but poor horns. I heard from a camel-man who came to us while we were skinning him that our post had arrived. Little did I think that, while I had been



SKINNING A RHINOCEROS, GOHOWAINE.

wandering for six weeks in the jungle, I had been a candidate and returned to Parliament for Cleveland; but this turned out to be the case when I got to my tent and opened the telegrams and letters. I opened the telegrams first, and discovered I was an M.P. before I knew I had been a candidate. My joy over my first rhinoceros, as well as all peace of mind and domestic quiet, were all gone at a blow, and without my being able to defend myself from these uncoveted and undeserved

honours. For so great a compliment I must make a great sacrifice; my one pleasure in the thousand worries will be that I represent my own people and my own country.

Ferris sends me a telegram, and also warns us to keep clear of Ras Makunen (who is giving trouble apparently) and to give the Abyssinians a wide berth—and here we are all surrounded by them, and within four days of Harrar. I have received with Loder notices of a disturbing character from Berbera; this is especially disgusting—just, too, as we had found the place we have so long searched for. It appears that all officials and shikar parties have been recalled some weeks ago to the Coast, and we are urged to get in touch with Berbera immediately, and to avoid the usual routes across the Haud. We called Adan

