



DR. WILLIAM SOMERVILLE (1771-1866)
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WILLIAM SOMERVILLE'S
NARRATIVE OF
HIS JOURNEYS TO THE
EASTERN CAPE FRONTIER
AND TO LAT'TAKOE
1799-1802

With a Bibliographical Introduction and Map
and
a Historical Introduction and Notes
by
Edna and Frank Bradlow

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DR. WILLIAM SOMERVILLE (1771-1860)
From a pencil sketch by Sir Francis Chantrey
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Mrs. R. T. Brown of the South African Library had the arduous task of transcribing and typing the Somerville manuscript, while Mrs. A. M. Scholten of the Carnegie Library, University of Stellenbosch, transcribed and typed the Borchers letter at the request of Mr. Floy du Plessis, Carnegie Library, University of Stellenbosch. This letter was translated by Mrs. T. W. Stelling of the Department of Afrikaans, University of Cape Town with the advice of Prof. Roy Pfeiffer. This translation was typed by Mrs. E. McCrea who also did other portions of the final manuscript. Others who assisted in the typing were Mrs. E. Dick and Mrs. Caroline Kingdon.

The map of the daily route was drawn by Mr. Ken Behr of the Department of Geography, University of Cape Town, from the chart made by F. R. Bradlow. Mr. Richard Youngusband of Photo Prints very kindly photographed the Barrow map.

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EDNA AND FRANK BRADLOW

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION

by

FRANK R. BRADLOW

There are no less than five different contemporary accounts of the journey of the Truter-Somerville expedition to the country of the Thlaping in 1801-2. Three of these accounts have already been published, and two – until the publication of this volume – existed only in manuscript form. In addition there is a pictorial record of some aspects of the expedition, and of the Eastern Cape Province, where Dr. William Somerville spent some time, in Samuel Daniell's great folio album, *African Scenery and Animals*,¹ and in the smaller folio album, *Sketches representing the Native Tribes, Animals and Scenery of Southern Africa*.²

The editors first became acquainted with these accounts of the expedition when Frank Bradlow wrote an introduction and annotations for a facsimile edition of Daniell's folio album published in Cape Town in 1976.³ For this introduction the three published accounts were used but the original manuscript of the *Official Account* referred to below was not found, despite a search in the Cape Archives. Then the following entry was found in a book entitled *A Guide to Manuscripts and Documents in the British Isles relating to Africa*, edited by J. D. Pearson:⁴

“Major Fairfax – Lucy-Fairfax

Somerville MSS

Notes by Dr. William Somerville (1771-1860) of his journey in South Africa 1801-2 (See appendix to Sir John Barrow's *Voyage to Cochinchina*, London, 1806).”

There were two further entries in the same book; one under the Bodleian Library, Oxford, read as follows:

1. Samuel Daniell, *African Scenery and Animals*. (London, 1804/5) S. Daniell.

2. William Daniell, *Sketches representing the Native Tribes, Animals and Scenery of Southern Africa*, engraved by Samuel Daniell. (London, 1820) William Daniell and William Wood.

3. Samuel Daniell, *African Scenery and Animals*. Facsimile reprint. (Cape Town, 1976) Balkema and Co.

4. J. D. Pearson, (ed.), compiled by N. Matthews and M. D. Wainwright, *A Guide to Manuscripts and Documents in the British Isles Relating to Africa*. (London, 1971), Oxford University Press, p. 280.

Somerville Deposits

"Notes by Dr. William Somerville, husband of Mary Somerville on his South African trek, 1801."⁵

The other item was under the heading "Royal Society", in the "letters and papers", and was entitled:

"On the structure of Hottentot women by (William) Somerville. 26 pp. and 3 drawings."⁶

Through the Bodleian Library permission was obtained from Lady Fairfax - Lucy, the widow of Major Fairfax - Lucy-Fairfax to acquire photo-copies of Somerville's notes and to publish them as required.

When the copies arrived and the documents were inspected it was found that they consisted of a narrative journal written by Dr. William Somerville covering the two journeys to the Eastern Cape Frontier and to Lattakoe. These journeys, made between 8 April 1800 and 25 April 1802, form the subject of the present volume. The actual manuscript, which is described below, was inspected by the editors when they visited the Bodleian Library in September, 1977.

These Somerville manuscripts were obviously left in the possession of his famous wife, Mary Somerville, who survived him by twelve years, dying in November 1872 at the age of ninety-two.

Her biographer in the *Dictionary of National Biography* says that "as her son left no children, and her surviving daughters Martha and Mary Somerville, died unmarried, her correspondence and other memorials of her have passed into the hands of her nephew, Sir William Ramsay-Fairfax, bart." Among the "correspondence and other memorials" were, no doubt, the William Somerville manuscripts. This explains how they came to be in possession of Major Fairfax - Lucy-Fairfax, whose widow, Lady Fairfax-Lucy presented them to the Bodleian Library on her husband's death.

The Royal Society also gave permission to publish the letter, on the structure of Hottentot women, and this appears as appendix 3 in the current volume.

(1) *The Somerville Manuscripts*

This manuscript is divided into five main sections. The first section, covering the period Somerville spent on the Eastern Cape Frontier, consists of 97 not very closely written pages, each approximately 20 cms deep by 16 cms wide, containing an average of fourteen lines to the page.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 220.

6. *Ibid.*, p. 137.

The next three sections covering the journey to Lattakoe, consist of some 225 pages, each approximately 31 cms deep by 18 cms wide. The writing is closer and covers the whole width of the page. The number of lines to the page varies from twenty-four to twenty-eight with an average of twenty-six.

Each of these sections was designated a volume by Somerville himself. Volume 1, 131 pages, covers the period 1 October 1801 to 28 November 1801. Volume 2, 64 pages, continues the journey from 29 November to 31 December 1801, and volume 3, 30 pages, beginning on 1 January 1802 and ending on 7 April 1802, leaves the manuscript incomplete, as the journey lasted another eighteen days. These "volumes" have been ignored when dividing the narrative into chapters in this book.

The fifth and last section, consisting of 210 pages of the same size, 31 x 18 cms, is a repetition covering only the period 1 October 1801 to 30 November 1801 and does not include the Eastern Frontier period. Unlike the rest of the journey, it is not written across the page. Only the right-hand side of the paper is used, the left-hand margin covering half the page being left blank, except for the occasional note. This is obviously a neater and better written copy of what was originally written as a day-to-day diary and contains far fewer amendments. It is clear that this copy was being prepared for publication. It differs from the diary in details mostly of style and grammar; several of the descriptive passages, too, have been expanded. As related below, under the heading *John Barrow, A Voyage to Cochinchina?* Somerville abandoned his decision to publish his manuscript, which accounts for the fact that he did not complete the revision of the text.

The text used in this revised section consists only of the first four sections mentioned above. The revised text has on the whole been used solely to elucidate difficulties or illegibilities in these sections. On one occasion a list of Kora and Tswana words from this revised manuscript has been included in the original text, replacing an incomplete list which appeared in that text.

Consideration was given to the question whether this revised text should not be used in preference to the original manuscript. On examination, however, it was found to be not only unfinished but also incomplete in that certain pages were missing. It was also felt that this revised text lacked the immediacy and authenticity of the original manuscript, and that the

7. J. Barrow, *A Voyage to Cochinchina in the years 1792 and 1793, to which is annexed an Account of a Journey made in the years 1801 and 1802 to the Residence of the Chief of the Boobhana Nation.* (London, 1806) Cadell and Davies.

remainder of the journal would not have conformed in style or form to the revised portion.

(2) *The Borcherds Manuscript*

When work had already started on the transcription and editing of the Somerville manuscript Mr. Howard Phillips of the Department of History, University of Cape Town, drew our attention to the fact there was a manuscript covering the journey from Cape Town to Lattakoe in the Mendelssohn collection of the Library of Parliament, Cape Town. This manuscript is in Nederlands and, according to the title-page, is the journal kept by P. B. Borcherds, assistant secretary to the expedition. This title page reads as follows:

JOURNAAL
GEHOUDEN OP DE BRIQUASCHE

EXPEDITIE

In de Jaren 1801 en 1802. BEGINNENDE

het den 1ste October 1801 en EINDIGENDE MET

den 25ste April 1802

door

P. B. BORCHERDS

The reference to "de Briquasche Expeditie" is explained at a later stage.

In his *Auto-Biographical Memoir*, Borcherds tells us that "under the eye of Mr. Truter I kept the journal of our proceedings and accounts; under that of Dr. Somerville, I enjoyed instruction in languages and scientific subjects; and as a companion to the secretary, I had an opportunity of closely examining most of the animals and natives who formed the subject of that splendid collection of drawings which was published in England in coloured plates and folio."⁸ The last sentence, of course, refers to Samuel Daniell's *African Scenery and Animals*, as Daniell was the Secretary to the expedition.

It will be noted that Borcherds says he kept the daily journal "under the eye of Mr. Truter". It is unlikely that he would have had time to keep a private journal of his own. At a later stage in this introduction, under the heading of *John Barrow's Accounts of a Voyage to Cochinchina*,

8. P. B. Borcherds, *An Auto-Biographical Memoir*, (Cape Town, 1861), A. S. Robertson, p. 41.

it will be seen that Barrow claims he "availed himself" of the manuscript journal written in Dutch by Truter. As explained under that heading, Barrow was probably mistaken; the manuscript he used was the account written by Borcherds for Truter. What then is this manuscript account written by Borcherds? It will be seen that the manuscript Barrow used gave details of the goods used by the expedition in barter transactions. These details do not appear in Borcherds' manuscript. It must therefore be presumed that this manuscript was a copy Borcherds made for his own use, leaving out these details, perhaps as will be suggested, with a view to publication.

When Borcherds' manuscript was brought to our attention, we examined it together with the *Official Account* in Theal's *Records of the Cape Colony*⁹ and with Borcherds' own account in his *Auto-Biographical Memoir*.¹⁰ It was found that the *Official Account*, although it bore a close resemblance to Borcherds' original manuscript – even in language – was considerably abbreviated as far as small details were concerned. One example among many where the wording of the *Official Account* closely follows Borcherds' manuscript is, for instance, to be found in the entry for 9 October 1801. The *Official Account* for that day commences with the words, "The above mentioned Veldcorner Pienaar left us . . ." In Borcherds' manuscript, the wording is "Nam de woon: Veld-cornet Pienaar van ons zyn afscheid". Such examples can be frequently found. The one respect, however, in which the *Official Account* contains more information than the Borcherds manuscript concerns the accounts of the transactions conducted by the expedition.

The account given in the *Auto-Biographical Memoir*, taken in conjunction with the *Official Account*, includes almost all the material contained in Borcherds' manuscript.

It is a less mature record, however, than Somerville's observant and scientific manuscript. Borcherds was a mere lad of fifteen when he went on the expedition. Further, Somerville's narrative includes the important section dealing with the events in the Eastern Cape. We therefore continued to use the Somerville manuscript as the basis for this volume.

The large margins and neat handwriting of the Borcherds manuscript confirm the impression that it is a "fair copy" possibly intended for publication. It consists of 403 pages each 32 cms deep by 18 cms wide. There are almost invariably seventeen lines on a page. As in the "fair

9. G. M. Theal, *Records of the Cape Colony*, 36 Vols. (London, 1899), Government of the Cape Colony, Vol. 4, pp. 359-456.

10. P. B. Borcherds, *An Auto-Biographical Memoir*, pp. 41-134.

copy" of Somerville's manuscript, only the right-hand half of the page, and indeed often only one third of the page, was used for the writing. The left-hand margins are thus very wide and seldom used except for extra notes. Despite the fact that the number of pages is 403 as against the 225 of Somerville's original manuscript, the narrative is shorter because there are more lines to the page in the Somerville account which is more closely written across the entire width of the page. Some of Borchers' pages contain less than 60 words. Page 198, for instance, has 17 lines of approximately three to four words a line.

In addition to the 403 pages of the manuscript dealing with the narrative of the journey, there is, in the same file in the Library of Parliament, a letter written by Borchers to his father, the Rev. Meent Borchers, in Stellenbosch.¹¹ It is a personal description in Nederlands of the expedition's journey and has been reproduced in this volume in an English translation as *Appendix 1*.

Physically the paper is of the same size and the letter, like the narrative, has wide margins on the left-hand side and writing only on the right-hand side. This gives rise to the belief that it too is not the original copy, but a "fair copy", also probably intended for publication. It is more closely written than the diary and has more amendments. It consists in all of 174 manuscript pages.

(3) *Manuscript on the Structure of Hottentot Women*

This manuscript in the Royal Society consists of 26 pages of widely spaced writing. It is given as *Appendix 2* in this volume.

(4) *The Official Account*

According to G. M. Theal, the official, published account of the expedition's journey to Lattakoe, reproduced in Volume 4 of the *Records of the Cape Colony*,¹² was printed from a copy. The original manuscript has not as yet been found. This published account, comprising some 77 pages, is a strictly factual and objective narrative of which Theal gives the full title as follows:

"Journal in the form of a Report addressed, with due respect to His Excellency Lieutenant General Francis Dundas, Acting Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Castle, Town, and Settlement of the Cape of Good

11. The Rev. Meent Borchers was a minister of the N.G.K. and an early South African author. Two of his poems and, notably, "De Maan", are regarded as the first literary products printed at the Cape. (*D.S.A.B.* Vol. 1, p. 96).

12. Theal, *Records of the Cape Colony*, Vol. 4, 1899.

Hope in Southern Africa, and its dependencies, etc. etc, by the undersigned Commissioners of the Berigua Expedition, containing besides everything remarkable that occurred in the Course of their Journey in the unfrequented North-Eastern part of this Continent from their departure on the 1st of October 1801, the result of the Barter carried on in this Expedition."

It will be noted that the expedition is referred to as the "Berigua Expedition". This title is explained in the historical introduction to this volume.

Great use has been made of this *Official Account* in the editing of Somerville's journal for additional and complementary information. Since the Somerville manuscript finishes at 7 April 1802, the official report for the period until 25 April 1802 has been used to complete the narrative left unfinished by Somerville.

(5) *Borchers, P. B., Auto-Biographical Memoir*

Petrus Borchardus Borchers' *Auto-Biographical Memoir* is one of the earliest, if not the earliest, autobiographies of a born South African. It was printed and published by A. S. Robertson in Cape Town in 1861, when Borchers was seventy-one years of age. In the preface he says that the task of writing it "will further bring me back to the period when, under the auspices of Government, I had the opportunity of seeing my native country, travelling to assist in exploring the interior beyond the Orange River and to open communication with various tribes of the bordering aborigines."¹³

As has already been said, the account of the Truter-Somerville Expedition that appears in Borchers' book in "Sections" 3, 4 and 5 is a more general day-by-day description of the journey, consisting of some 93 pages out of a total of 498 (pages 41 to 134). To some extent it follows much the same line as his manuscript journal to which reference has already been made, but unlike the manuscript, the book is written in English.

(6) *John Barrow's Account in A Voyage to Cochinchina*

The last of the previously published accounts appears as an unlikely supplement to Sir John Barrow's *A Voyage to Cochinchina*, etc., published by Cadell and Davies in London in 1806. The full title of the book is: *A Voyage to Cochinchina in the Years 1792 and 1793 . . . To which is annexed an Account of a Journey made in the years 1801 and 1802 to the Residence of the Chief of the Booshuana Nation etc.*

13. P. B. Borchers, *An Auto-Biographical Memoir*. Preface, p. vi.

Unlike the other accounts it was not written by a participant in the expedition. In his preface to *A Voyage to Cochinchina* Barrow tells us that "the manuscript journal, of which the Author has availed himself, was written in Dutch by Mr. Truter. It contains a plain and detailed narrative of all their proceedings, as for instance the exact time they travelled on each day, the names of the places where they halted, the number of sheep bought and consumed, the quantity of knives, beads, flints and steels given in exchange for every ox they procured, of tobacco distributed among the Hottentots, and a variety of other matters which Mr. Truter in his official capacity, thought it his duty to notice, but which the translator conceived might very properly be omitted without diminishing the interest."¹⁴

It is unlikely, as has been said, that Truter kept this official account himself. This was Borcherts' duty. The copy Barrow used, therefore, as already pointed out, was probably the original day-to-day diary written by Borcherts.

Barrow admits that this account "might perhaps, with more propriety, have formed an appendix" to his *Travels in South Africa*. He explains that the reason he did not use it in that book was because at the time it was going to press, "he understood it was the intention of Mr. Somerville to publish an account of the expedition". As however "Mr. Somerville seems to have wholly abandoned the idea of favouring the public with whatever information he may have collected, the Author deems it of sufficient importance to make known to the public the extent to which discoveries have already been pushed into the southern part of the continent of Africa."¹⁵

As far as his own account is concerned, Barrow adds that "he thinks it right at the same time to observe, that Mr. Truter is responsible only for the facts and descriptions; and that, from his own knowledge of the country, the Author has taken the liberty to introduce many of his own remarks and observations."¹⁶ Consequently many of Barrow's own racial prejudices and generalisations are to be found in the account given by him. Barrow was, of course, a son-in-law of P. J. Truter whose daughter Anna Maria he married in 1799. As a fellow civil servant, he was, too, well known to Somerville.

This account is the most frequently quoted source of information about the expedition. The actual narrative runs from p. 364 to p. 437 of the

14. J. Barrow, *A Voyage to Cochinchina, etc.*, Preface, p. ix.

15. *Ibid.*

16. *Ibid.*, p. x.

book, a total of 73 pages. In this section of the book there are two aquatint engravings after Samuel Daniell and a map showing the journey (reproduced herewith).

(7) *Samuel Daniell - African Scenes and Animals*

Although Samuel Daniell's large and much sought-after folio album of aquatint prints, *African Scenes and Animals*, does not contain an account of the journey to Lattakoe, it may be regarded as a pictorial record of the people and fauna seen on this journey, and also of the period when Somerville and Daniell were on the Eastern Cape Frontier.

As a pictorial record it is of immense importance, giving visual substance to complement many of the verbal descriptions. Each of the plates too has an accompanying text which closely follows verbal information given in the various written accounts.

Six of the total of thirty prints relate directly to the period Somerville spent in the Eastern Cape Province and fourteen relate to the journey to Lattakoe. Some of these prints are reproduced as illustrations in the current volume.

The first edition of this magnificent album was published in parts by Daniell himself in 1804/5. The second edition was published by R. Havell in 1831, using the same plates.¹⁷

(8) *Samuel and William Daniell, Sketches representing the Native Tribes, Animals and Scenery of Southern Africa*

The small folio album entitled *Sketches representing the Native Tribes, Animals and Scenery of Southern Africa* "from drawings made by the late Mr. Samuel Daniell" was engraved by his brother William Daniell. It was published in London in 1820 by William Daniell and William Wood, eight years after Samuel Daniell's death.

The introduction to this volume mentions that Samuel Daniell "accompanied Dr. Somerville on two expeditions into the interior of the country", and William Daniell expresses "his obligations to Dr. Somerville and Mr. Barrow for the greater number of illustrative notices in this work", i.e. the texts accompanying the plates.¹⁸

Of the 48 monochrome soft-ground etchings in the volume, no less

17. The facsimile edition of Daniell's *African Scenery and Animals* contains a bibliographical introduction explaining the methods of printing, etc. (Cape Town, 1976) Balkema.

18. W. Daniell, *Sketches representing the Native Tribes, Animals and Scenery of South Africa*.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

by

EDNA BRADLOW

than fourteen relate to the Lattakoe journey, and ten to the Graaff-Reinet journey.

Later Accounts
In editing the current volume, use has been made of accounts by later travellers such as Lichtenstein, Burchell and Campbell, all of whom frequently refer to the same people and places, as does Somerville.

Conclusion
The five written accounts discussed in this introduction, together with the two pictorial albums, constitute a formidable body of knowledge about the events, places, people and animals encountered and observed by Somerville. There can be no doubt that of the five, his journal is the most valuable and is worthy of present-day publication.

In September 1795 the Cape passed temporarily into British hands. This was a direct result of the establishment in Holland of the Batavian Republic, under the aegis of the invading French revolutionary army; and the subsequent agreement between the British and the ousted Stadtholder, by which the former would act as "caretaker" of the Dutch colonies to prevent a French take-over.

During 1797 British control of the Cape was entrenched by the appointment of a governor, Lord Macartney, to replace the former military command. The new rulers, however, were primarily interested in the defence of Cape Town which formed an important link in Britain's imperial chain. Like the Dutch before them, they had little concern with events on the Eastern Frontier, except insofar as they affected the Cape's meat supply, which came mainly from the Graaff-Reinet and, to a lesser extent, from the interior districts.¹

Dissatisfaction with the new regime's fiscal policy was compounded by dissatisfaction over its failure to drive out of the Suurveld (the area between the Fish and Lower Bushman rivers) groups of Xhosa, whose numbers were continually being increased by arrivals from East of the Fish, and who contended with the colonists for pasturage. A revolt broke out in Graaff-Reinet in 1799 – the so-called Van Jaarsveld Rebellion – led by a group of anti-British, anti-Stadholder "Patriots".

Soon after the suppression of this rebellion in April 1799, in a sequence of events which still requires clarification, a combined Xhosa-Khoi (Hottentot) force fell upon the colonists in the south-eastern part of the Graaff-Reinet district, thus precipitating the 3rd Frontier War.

Fear of a possible French attack on India had half depleted the Cape garrison. Consequently the Acting-Governor, Major-General Francis Dundas, vacillated uncertainly between a policy of force and one of concession. Finally opting for the latter, he enlisted the services of H. C. D. Maynier, former landdrost of Graaff-Reinet, to effect some kind of peace with the invaders. As a reward for his "very meritorious public service",

1. See page 56, note 29 where Somerville mentions that a number of "butcher's knechts" were buying sheep from the farmers.

when he returned to England. In 1812 Somerville married his cousin, Mary Greig, one of the most remarkable scientific minds of her time, whose name is commemorated in an Oxford college. After some four years in Edinburgh they moved to London, where they made a varied circle of friends – William and John Herschel, Macaulay, Maria Edgeworth, Lords Melbourne and Brougham, and Sydney Smith – all of whom were attracted by this gifted woman. Somerville retained his links with the army medical service until 1838 when his ill-health forced them to live abroad. He died in Florence in 1860.

After his marriage, Somerville, convinced that his wife's work was more important than his own, neglected his interests for hers, "ransacking libraries and even copying her manuscripts".⁴⁹ Perhaps he realised that his life had peaked during that heroic journey across the vast African desert. Yet this rough account, which he never completely revised for publication, is of inestimable value. It provides the kind of priceless source material out of which, slowly and laboriously, an impression of pre-literate societies in Southern Africa, and their early relationship with Europeans, is being shaped.

April 1800

8th. I left Cape Town on Tuesday morning in order to proceed to Graaff-Rynett, being by His Excellency the Governor appointed assistant Resident Commissary for the arrangement of the affairs in that Colony, in conjunction with Mr. Maynier¹ who had for some time been employed in restoring tranquillity to the Inhabitants and establishing a good understanding amongst the Caffres and Hottentots as well as the Inhabitants of the Country – the great extent of the district, the variety of objects to be attended to, and the precarious state of Mr. Mayniers health rendered it necessary that someone should be associated with him in a Commission of such importance, that upon its success the future welfare of the Colony depended, and also in great measure the present supplies of Bullocks and Sheep for the consumption of the Navy, Army, and the Settlers in the lower and western parts of the Colony.

The colony of Graaff-Rynett of which a village of that name is the residence of the Civil Magistrate or Landdrost comprises a vast tract of country bounded on the East by the Great Fish river from its embouchure for nearly . . . English miles² upwards, separating the Caffre country from His Majesty's possessions; By the Bosjesmans country on the North, lying along the banks of the Great River – or Orange River which empties itself into the Atlantic Ocean, and on the West the colonies of Zwelendani³ and Stellenbosch form

1. Honoratus Christianus David Maynier (baptised 20.7.1760, died 1831) held various appointments in Graaff-Reinet after 1789. His policies towards the Xhosa and Khoi aroused burgher opposition and he was forced to leave the district in February 1793.

2. The distance from the source of the Great Brak River (the main tributary of the Great Fish) to the sea is 430 miles (692 km).

3. Swellendam was officially recognised as a separate district in October 1746, although a full landdrost had been appointed in August 1743. In November 1747 this "colonie in de Vergeleegene Distriken" was named Swellen-dam in honour of the governor Swellengrebel and his wife Helena ten Darne. Lichtenstein,

49. M. Wilson, *Jane Austen and some Contemporaries*, p. 237.

Elephant he had killed were brought from a considerable distance and deposited at the Grave at the head of which they struck the head and Horns of the Hartebeest which he had shot⁹⁵. There some of the Elephants bones were still to be seen, and as much of the Harts Skull as had escaped the rapacity of Kock whom he had (?) met. He found the horns but little decayed, and sawed them off to make Tobacco pipes. There is a striking contrast between the principle in which this monument was erected by the Savages – and that in which Kock made it subservient (?) to another use.

29th October

dist. from
Krygers fonteyn
to Halt 8
Hours

one springbuck
seen

From Krygers fonteyn we entered into another extensive plain by a passage formed by the extremities of the chain of hills which bounded that which we left. The appearance of the country was much changed. The flat consisted of loose sand and abounded with excellent grass. There were innumerable tracks of quachas Elands and Gems Buck – and flocks of namaqua partridge even on the calmest day whirlwinds⁹⁶ are very frequent on the plains, which raise a column of sand to a very considerable height before it bursts and falls to the ground – after eight hours tiresome travelling, the darkness of the night and the tired state of the oxen made it necessary to halt at a spot on which not a drop of water was to be had. Two of the party had been sent on before to look for a spring to halt at, but at Eleven at night the time that the waggons stopped they had not returned. Neither had we reason to suppose them near us – as they did not answer the report of the muskets fired as a signal to them. As good a fire was kept up all night as the miserable bushes and tufts of grass could afford to show where we were. Before day light on the 30. we proceeded in order to get to the water before the heat of the day had exhausted our people and cattle and in an hour we found the two men who had gone on the night before as anxious to see us as we were to find them. They had found a pool of dirty brackish water called Biesse fonteyn⁹⁷ which was delicious to every one in the present circumstances.

dist. to the
water 1 Hour

95. When Krugger later accompanied Lichtenstein he set about repairing the cairn holding in his hand his brother's elephant gun.

96. Caused by air rushing in to fill a vacuum created by great surface heating and subsequent convection.

97. Borchers, p. 39, describes it as "Biessefonteyn at the Buffelsbont". The latter was a plain, the name of which was derived from an incident in which a Khoi had been wounded in the thigh by a buffalo at that spot. (Burchell, 1953, I, p. 212).

dist. from
Biesse fonteyn
to Jonker's
fonteyn
8 Hours

A party of Bosjesmen were seen behind a sandhill pretty near the waggons; to prevent their being afraid [sic] one person went up to them and with much difficulty prevailed upon them by signs, to remain altho' they shewed great signs of dread, and suspicion. They were coaxed to the place where the waggons were. Tobacco, and sheep and some copper medals were given to them – treatment which they seemed little to expect. By digging a few feet in the ground a copious spring of excellent water was discovered. Three more of the natives came to us, but trembling with fear, which the bustle of yoking the oxen which happened then to be begun augmented so much that they could not be induced to stay long enough to receive the tobacco that was destined for them. A severe gale of wind North to West blew, carrying along with it volumes of sand most distressing to the Eyes, hardly short of the violence of a Cape South Easter. After the cattle had grazed a few hours we proceeded in order if possible to arrive at the Garce⁹⁸ or orange River on the last of the month and proceeded Eight hours to a fountain of tolerable Water.⁹⁹ A good deal of the water was very sandy abounding with dried grass. Some parts dry Karoo stony ground. Spring buck,¹⁰⁰ Elands and Quachas seen. In the Evening lightning – apparently rain behind us.

[October] 31. At day light the print of a Rhinoceros feet was discovered who had come to drink in the night. We took some pains to find him but to no purpose – half a mile from our encampment was a large lake of very salt water,¹⁰¹ with abundance of flamingoes,¹⁰² and wild duck – some particles of crystallised Salt lay on the margin where the water had been evaporated. About noon thunder and a trifling shower of rain.

The variety amongst the Tribes of Bosjesmen is not greater than might be expected from the extent of country they inhabit and the

98. Presumably a mis-hearing of Gartiep (Xarib) the Korana name, meaning literally "the river".

99. Borchers, p. 63, "Jonkerfonteyn"; Lichtenstein, II, p. 271 states it was usually called Chalk Fountain.

100. Springbok, *antidorcas marsupialis*.

101. *Reovids IV*, p. 369 – "Jonker's fountain". Lichtenstein II, p. 271, described the area as "a perfect plain of some hours in circumference, which in very heavy rain, is filled entirely with water . . . When it dries . . . it is covered with a thick crust of natron".

102. Probably the Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) although the lesser, *P. minor* is also possible.

sonorous like cast metal – sometimes it is excavated like scoria⁹⁵ around the base of this little hill is the course of a periodical river at present dried up, except in a few spots, the channel is now full of excellent grass and reeds both of which afford good pasture to the Buffaloes. The hill itself is about 50 feet high, entirely formed of irregular blocks of stone exceedingly massy and large which give the idea of their having been thrown out of the earth by some violent convulsion – there are various siliceous stones mingled in the masses of rock which is chiefly the ponderous iron oxide sparkling with mica. The interstices between the pieces of rock afford a lodging to the Dasses or Marmots. In the immediate neighbourhood are two similar masses of inferior size; in none is there any appearance of regular strata, the whole presenting a perfect trouble with seams running in every way.

Found Wild Cucumber⁹⁶ amongst the rocks and also what seems to me to be the Wolf poison⁹⁷ the fruit is in great abundance on the ground as well as on the tree perfectly ripe – but I suppose poisonous because the Baboons, whose tracks are numerous, have not touched it.

17. The approach of night having put an end to any researches the evening before, I returned to the Iron rock; to look for the place from whence the natives procure their brilliant powder, the distance being somewhat less tho' in a different direction. One of the inter-preters conducted me to the mouth of a vaulted cavern the entry to which is on the east side of the rocks, immediately contiguous to the bed of the river. The ashes still remaining in this dreary place together with the bones strewn about, evinced that it had been at no very remote period the retreat of the Savages, it appeared now to have no other tenants than a flock of wild pigeons which flew out and met us at the approach to it and the marks of the wolf under-neath.

The parts most exposed to the air are hardest, these are ponderous

95. Slag or dross which remains after metal has been smelted from its ore.

96. Probably *Cucumis Africanus* L.

97. Somerville was probably referring to *ogroa dispar* which superficially resembles *Hybanthide globosa* (Guertn) Lamb. This latter shrub (wolf poison) bears fruit about 2 cm in diameter, which, when crushed were placed in a case as bait for jackals and other predators. The Giffbergen near Van Rhynsdorp take their name from this plant which is common there, but not found where the expedition was at this stage.

dist. 3 Hours

Journey 7
Hours from the
Kloof to the
Marsh

iron stone, with fissures filled up with brilliant particles. (See the specimens of the different parts of the cavern &c). Some pieces sensibly affect the magnet. Its course goes nearly under the hill of Iron stone, the extent tho' probably not very great the darkness prevented me from ascertaining.

This day we advanced 3 Hours – country full of sour grass. A range of hills running N and S. from the Gareep on our left – distance 13 miles. We halted at a kloof in a hill⁹⁸ of the same Iron stone – grass plenty. Heavy rain all night.

18. The weather was much pleasanter after the rain, every thing was greatly refreshed by it and the air was cooler – our road lay thro' the same sort of country as before – the soil a red clay, abounding with grass, and a sort of mimosa the root of which is sought after by Elephants⁹⁹ – it closes its leaves at Sun set – height about that of the common fern – blossom growing from the stem as it rises out of the ground. See specimen – its seed ate by Brigwas. The place at which we halted was the border of a marsh¹⁰⁰ two or three thousand yards in circumference affording excellent water, the middle choaked with reeds and rushes. The border was surrounded with some hundred pitfalls for catching the antelopes, but different in shape from those of the Bosjesmen, instead of being round they were uniformly about 3 feet in length and a foot and a half in width by 3 feet deep. There are no sharpened stakes placed in the bottom, neither is there any covering to conceal them, otherwise than is afforded by the long grass growing over them. In the middle they are rather narrower than at the extremities – in one we found a steen buck¹⁰¹ not yet corrupted. These pitfalls are made by the Brigwas. The tracks of Rhinoceros in plenty. The marsh and indeed the whole district is called by the Brigwas *Kophi¹⁰²* – the name of the grey Jackal which they hunt here.

98. *Records*, IV, p. 375, notes that this Kloof lay in the "Magaaga (or Yzerberg) fountain as it was renamed by the expedition).

99. *Elephantorrhiza elephantina* (Burch.) Skeels.

100. *Records*, IV, p. 376, "Koussie fountain and vle¹". Campbell (1815), p. 236. "Kosie is a Bootchuana word which signifies rich and perhaps is applied to this fountain from their always finding water in it." Borchards, p. 74, "Cossey" means "the bastard jackal". Mossop, *The Journal of H. J. Wikan*, V.R.S. XV, 1935, p. 7, "Koussie, derived from /Gaob, buffalo".

101. Steenhok, *Raphicernus campestris*.

102. The area between Prieska and Griquatown is called Koup, a name derived from a Khoi word.

19th. At half past one we left this spot with some regret on account of the excellent water and pasture. Having proceeded about an hour and a half, the shade afforded by some Thorns or Mimosas about a mile from the way made it likely that we should find some game there. The Rhinoceros had left such marks as proved that he had but lately gone from the spot - we soon perceived the prints of a herd of Buffaloes¹⁰³ which were tracked for a short time when we saw the herd in the plain amongst some bushes. The utmost dread was expressed by the boors who assured us that the Buffalo was much more ferocious than the Lion or Elephant, and that the utmost care must be taken in approaching. We advanced not perfectly at our ease, from the report of those who pretended to know the habits of this formidable animal, neither were the apprehensions roused by our timorous companions allayed when we saw the whole troop of Buffaloes, rise from the ground very deliberately and face towards us after collecting themselves into a body. This formidable movement was however speedily followed by a very precipitate retreat, which greatly elevated the courage of every one. The Buffaloes run [sic] directly towards the waggons and were there met by another party which placed them between two fires. Three being shot the hunting was put an end to. The Buffalo is larger in dimensions of his body than the Bull, his legs are shorter, and his head is narrower measured in front. The neck goes very far back, with a mane - from the rump to the root of the tail very short - no dewlap. His motions are heavy and awkward and he gallops like a Sow. We saw no marks of ferocity than self preservation dictated. The three that fell tried to gore the dogs that ran at them when wounded, a Bull the father of the flock more than once advanced a few steps, to give time for his flock to retire. I do not think that the Buffalo is so large an animal here as in the Eastern coast - about the Sundays River. The meat is coarser in the grain or fibre than the Bulls but it is by no means tough or ill tasted. In the herd I reckoned about 40. After the loss of time occasioned by this the first successful shooting party during our journey, the spoils were laden on the waggons and we proceeded as far as the weary bullocks were thought able to drag their burthens, and altho' there was not a drop of water to be found either for the people or Oxen no choice was left. The night was therefore spent here.

A Large Red
Cap¹⁰⁴ shot
during the
Buffalo hunt -
preys on
Antelope and
he is preyed
upon by the
Hornbills who
eat him.
i'coolish idea
amongst the
colonists that
wearing his
skin cures the
gout.

distance to
the Fountain
12½ Hours

20th. Before daybreak the oxen were yoked, our guide and interpreter assuring us that if the oxen did not hold our well or if the day was hot we should not arrive at the water before night. Fortune favoured us in this most essential point for the day turned out cloudy and cool, otherwise it must have been impossible for us to get there. The country is a heavy sandy red clay in which the cattle sank deep. The course was N by E. in general - the range of hills from the Gareep formerly mentioned far to our left after having extended Northerly turn round off to the W. Another range not very lofty seen E and West thro' which we penetrated into the Country of the Brigas about 2 o'Clock and continuing to wind round the base of some of the hills in forming the chain we reached the Water at ½ past 6. The oxen hardly any longer able to drag the waggons, exhausted from thirst, as well as fatigue, having tasted no water for upwards of thirty hours it was truly pitiful to see the miserable state in which not only our people but even the dogs Horses sheep and cattle were. The dogs run [sic] to every bush they saw and scraped in vain for water. One horse was left unable to proceed further by his master a farmer, who had his humanity been greater, would have put a period to the sufferings of the miserable animal by a friendly bullet.

To us the hardships of the day were most amply compensated for - the drought had hitherto prevented us from falling in with much game, every animal having retreated to more favoured spots as the fountains dried up - our curiosity however was much elated by the circumstance of perceiving about noon the fresh track of the Giraffe² or Camelopardalis, soon afterwards one of those animals

1. *Records*, IV, p. 377: "Fountain Klaboganie flowing with the purest water we ever saw". This is the "eye of Kuruman" arising from dolomitic rock at the foot of the Kuruman Hills.

2. *Giraffa Camelopardalis*.

103. The African buffalo (*Synanus Caffr*).
104. The caracal, rooi kat, desert lynx or African lynx (*Felis caracal*).

was seen running amongst the bushes but at too great a distance to remark anything more than the lofty stature and extraordinary gait of this animal. In the afternoon we saw a herd of them consisting of nine of very different sizes and varying not less in their colour. They suffered us to get pretty near them on horseback, and if our horses had not already been tired we should have been able to overtake them with ease, their motion is a very clumsy slow canter, which covers but little ground. The print is much larger than the largest ox's [sic] foot. The Horn is covered with hair - tufted at the end, but it is hardly possible to give even a general description that is capable of conveying a just idea of an animal that is only generally seen. I at least had no conception of this creature from any description that has fallen in my way.

In the Evening, having entered the Brigua Country we saw at the distance of about 150 yards three animals lying upon the grass which lay and then standing up remained long enough to admit of our examining them with the telescope. They differ from every antelope known at the Cape - their size seems to be about that of the Hartre beest - their general mould resembles very much that of the goat - their action is also very similar - first the male then two females sprung up with alacrity, turning their heads in every direction, the male is darker in colour than the others - has a black beard - mane, a mane under the neck - Horns like the Ram Goat, tail differs, being longer - black stripe along the back. The Briguas say he is a very dangerous animal.

This animal is well known to the Natives, Kor's and Briguas. The Kor's call him Tsaghaap which is carefully to be distinguished from Gna'haap the Rhinoceros.

Evening Thunder, Lightning and a heavy shower.

[November] 21. Our Guide⁴ was sent out to inform the first Horde of the Briguas⁵ of our arrival, and to invite them to come to our Encampment. Several of the unknown animal seen by our

3. The Tswana called it Takhtize. In 1793 Petrus Pienaar, during a journey inland from Walvis Bay (J. L. M. Franken (ed.) *Daminy-Dagbake*, V.R.S. XIX, 1938, p. 317) saw a similar animal which he described as being "the size of a bontebok, greyish blue in colour, with a long black mane, hair on its chest, a long black beard . . . and horns curved inward". Austin Roberts (*The Mammals of South Africa*, Johannesburg, 1951, p. 303) suggests that either Daniell - who drew the animal - saw the horns first and then figured a Roan (which is incorrect judging from Somerville's account); or alternatively there was another species between the Southern bloubok and the Northern Roan antelope.

4. *Records*, IV, p. 377 - Makaua.

5. See page 50, note 11, on the people North of the Orange. Borchards, p. 77, notes that they were then about 5 hours journey from the residence of Serakoni, brother of the Thaping chief Molehabangwe.

shooters, but none near enough to be fired at. The whole fate of our expedition depending upon the impression that our messenger should make upon his countrymen by his report of us naturally made us look with anxiety for his return. No precaution had been omitted that could inspire the natives with confidence in our intentions being friendly, and indeed the messenger himself was so firmly convinced of this that previous to his leaving the encampment he said that when he was first asked to be our guide at the residence of the missionaries he had given an evasive answer, because he knew the undertaking to be arduous, the Briguas had so often been deceived by people from the Gariep, but that during the days we remained there he had kept his eyes open, and that he had informed himself until he was perfectly satisfied that we had no hostile intention, and that he had only assented to our proposal after his doubts had been removed. He added that we might now rely upon his exertions in our service. Nothing could exceed the diligence and accuracy with which he had conducted us thro' a country more destitute of landmarks to guide the traveller than most others: we had only twice lost our way, and then we were misled by the assurances of a farmer, who for the *love of religion* had followed the missionaries, and pretended to know perfectly that part of the country having more than once travelled that way - what influence the precepts of religion has upon the practice of these slothful people is difficult to find out. This man whose ignorance misled us was asked by Mr. Kicherer in my presence how many draft oxen he had, as it was the order of Government that every one should render the assistance he could to forward the expedition. He very seriously replied that he had only in the world Eight bullocks, and these were so lean that they could not move a waggon. Mr. Kicherer reminded him that it was Sunday, and his duty to God required the truth being told, that this Expedition was sent by Government, to which his duty as a good citizen equally bound him to be obedient - he nevertheless persisted. The rebuke he received was, that this being Sunday his memory might not be distinct, and accordingly when he departed we took ten of his Twenty six oxen with us.

In the evening our Conductor returned with the welcome information that the Brigua Horde he had visited, had full faith in our assurances of friendship. On his first appearance they fled owing to the circumstance of his wearing clothes instead of a Kaross or skin cloak; altho' the skin was his usual apparel his vanity would not yield to the remonstrances made, for he made a point of bor-

Wind not at
all violent.
Lime stone as
specimen.

This is the
most timid and
inoffensive of
the antelope
tribe - when
attacked or
wounded he is
said to cry
like a child.

half from Mapavy in the direction of S.E. up the Koormanah thro' scenes more beautiful and picturesque than we had seen on any part of the road from the Cape - several miles of the road lay thro' a valley or rather forest of the mimosa Giraffe growing nearer to one another than in any other place but nowhere thick enough to be an obstacle to the waggons - They are about as much apart as fruit trees in an orchard, and the ground under each is strewn with the large pods containing the seed. This valley is a dry sandy soil - overgrown with long grass. The Mimosa Giraffe is seldom or never found in moist places - but what is worthy of notice is that altho' the tree is the most luxuriant and plentiful hereabouts the Giraffe is hardly ever seen. We found an Antelope of a species unknown called in the Bootshoana language Sesayby¹⁸ and by the boors who are less puzzled in naming new animals than a naturalist would be the bastard Hart-beest. This antelope has a resemblance to the Hart-beest in his gait and a little in the form of the body - which is however smaller, and falls off lower behind - his hind legs however bend as if dislocated exactly like the wolf's. The tail is short and bald as the spring bucks but without the tuft at the end. The horns are fluted, but bend towards each other at root and point in a sort of parenthesis, the colour is a dirty gray - like the wolf. . . . in the plain inclined towards the river the Mimosa Giraffe entirely disappears - the ground is moist and overgrown with mimosa Karoo matted together so closely with their thorny boughs that they are only permeable to the Rhinoceros and buffalo - footpaths of which leading to the water traverse the wood in every direction. We encamped at a charming spot where the serpentine course of the river overgrown with long reeds in full verdure, sweeps round a luxuriant plain skirted on either side by a forest of the Karoo Mimosa, near to our tent there grew a Solitary Mimosa Giraffe surrounded by a grove of the other species by much the largest that had been observed - the girth three feet from the ground measured 9 feet 2 inches a stem nearly upright rose to the height of seven feet from where the boughs sprung - Several buffaloes were shot - bulls and cows.

Th. 24. Many buffaloes coming to their usual drinking place run thro' amongst our cattle in the night and in the morning four that had been fired at by some of our people ran within a hundred yards past the waggons and sought shelter in the wood. They were im-

A refreshing S. Easter began to blow in the night and continued till noon. The second we have experienced (one at Liakone).

18. *Damaliscus limatus* (Bastertartbees).

diately followed by several people, one of whom¹⁹ was perceived by a wounded buffalo before he saw him - the animal run behind him and tossed him over his head amongst some thorns, most opportunely a dog began barking at the buffalo and drew his attention from the man who lay sprawling in the bush - he had received no other injury than a very severe bruise over his whole body. In the wood Loories²⁰ Green winged doves²¹ and beautiful birds (?)

In the afternoon we continued our course to the fountain at which we had formerly spent a few days called Klabooleyany,²² leaving the Koormanah about half way.

F. 25th. As we had resolved to halt a day or two here to refresh the cattle for the long journey Mr. Daniell and I with four of the farmers embraced the opportunity of proceeding to the place frequented by the Giraffe in hopes of procuring one of those animals - determined to persevere as long as the supply of water we could carry with us would allow - accordingly in the evening we set out on horseback and arrived in three hours and a half at the spot where we had formerly seen the Giraffes and spent the night there that we might at day break observe if any were in the plains.

S. 26. At Sun rise Giraffes were seen in two different places - a NW blew, and as it is the habit of the animal to run against the breeze we went a great way to windward and found a herd of twenty one, which crossed very near us. We endeavoured to tire them by chasing them out of wind but our horses failed - many shots were fired and several wounded but none fell - amongst those we saw thro' the day to the number of 52 in different parties there was great variety in size and also in colour - those who stood upright must exceed fifteen feet in the straight line from the fore feet to the top of the head - when he moves the neck is instantly thrown from the straight line obliquely forward, some times nearly in the line of the body - from the great bulk of all the parts the speed deceives the eye very much. The Giraffe goes at an easy canter which is his constant pace, when any horse that we had at least fell behind. I have no doubt that a horse however, in good wind would outrun the Giraffe. Some are brown verging towards black in the spotted part of the body - others are nearly of a fawn colour - the horns very

19. Schultze, the overseer of the waggons.

20. Probably the Grey Loerie, *Corythaeoides concolor* (A. Smith).

21. Probably the green pigeon, *Tyrann australis* (Linnaeus).

22. See page 107, note 1.

short – the head small in proportion – the ears very short and erect – hair short and sleek, colour lighter on the legs – belly, neck and body spotted in irregular figures, not round but bounded by right lines – dying away on the lower parts. The tail hardly reaches to the knee joint and hangs straight down – but in constant motion, wreathing to the right or left – rump plump round – body sleek – every one fat. It frequently happened that we saw the outstretched neck of one overtopping the bushes, but when we approached several more were seen cropping either the grass or low bushes. The mimosa Giraffe is only found here of a stunted growth and very rare – altho' this district is noted as the haunt of the Giraffe a proof almost convincing that he does not (always at least) derive his chief nourishment from that tree²³ – grass and various shrubs abound – but not a drop of water could be found in the neighbourhood – neither do the natives who reside near know of any – whether this animal has in common with the Camel the faculty of enduring thirst is not yet ascertained.²⁴ Very timid.

Every hope of finding water having vanished, the horses having now passed 24 hours without a drop it became necessary to quit this place – we therefore at seven in the evening set out and with some difficulty reached Kossy²⁵ in four hours and a half.

[DECEMBER] *Sunday* 27. In the morning Mr. Truter with the waggons arrived having travelled 17 Hours without halting. Two farmers who remained in the fields all night from the Giraffe hunt arrived – they had shot a Rhinoceros in our neighbourhood – large of the kind – the black two horned Rhinoceros²⁶ – this specimen an old male is beyond comparison the most awkward and ugly of quadrupeds – he bears a closer resemblance to the Hippopotamus than to any other animal but he is still more clumsy in all his shapes. The outline of the body excepting the head is like the boar's. The whole skin is of a disagreeable ash colour approaching to that of a toad,

23. *J.E.S.A.* V, p. 200. "They browse on the leaves and shoots of various tree species, stripping the food material with the long tongue, the mobile upper lip and the lower incisors."

24. Giraffes can go without water for long periods, but do drink regularly if it is available.

25. See page 105, note 100.

26. Probably the black rhino, *Diceros Bicornis*. By the time Borchard's autobiography was published in 1861, this species was "too well known to need any further description". (p. 90).

and perfectly bald excepting a few coarse bristles on the tip of the ears and extremity of the tail – and the eye lashes. The furrows formed by the network of the skin are full of dirt and mud in which it is his greatest delight to wallow. The ears are erect projecting a little forwards – and stiff. The foremost and longest horn is placed on the nose, bending upwards and backwards from the base to a point – immediately behind the margin of its base rises the second horn equally thick but not half the length of the other – both are solid masses of horn – the foremost was split and wore [sic] in several places – a circumstance common to the males – which are at perpetual war of which this individual bore the marks – in many recent wounds gored in his body – and bruises on his head. The eye bears no proportion to the mass of the body but is small, placed immediately under the center of the shortest horn – the mouth is small, the aperture not extending far back. The upper lip falls in a curve from the base of the first horn like the hawk bill Turtle. There are neither incisor nor canine teeth – but 6 large grinders in each side in the lower, and 6 in the upper jaw. Of course he must like the Hippop. [sic] crop the bushes on which he browses with his lips. The whole head is of enormous bulk and the neck is equal to carry its weight, tho' short – from the shoulder extending over the neck is a large mass of flesh almost flat above. The legs are short – the feet large and the hind feet the smallest – both have a large fleshy pad behind and before three toes, tho' hardly separated from each other, but marked by three distinct nails or rather horny masses. The largest in the middle. The tail reaches nearly to the ground.

Black Rhinoceros	Ft.	Inches
L. from nose to root of Tail	10	6
L. . . . to behind the Ear	2	9
L. from behind the Ear to behind crest	2	9
Circumference round belly	9	
L. of Tail	2	
Ht. from ground to shoulder		
Ht. from ground to elbow		
Ht. of hind leg to the joint		
Ht. from ground to root of tail	1	4
L. of fore horn		
L. of 2 ^d do.		10

	Ft.	Inches
Black Rhinoceros		
L. of Ear		9
Dist. across between the Ears	1	1
Circumf. base of large Horn	2	
dist. between horns at the base		
circumf. of the second horn		

This animal the most ferocious that Africa produces is better endowed than any other with tremendous weapons of offence – and from the thickness of his hide he has nothing to fear from their attacks – he has no enemy but those of his own kind whom rivalry in his amours makes so – and at the time that the female is in season he is peculiarly fierce, running at every thing that comes in his way, tearing up by the roots large bushes and spurning the ground, his senses of hearing and smelling are very acute which compensate for the narrow compass of his vision. The utmost caution is therefore necessary in approaching him to get under the Wind from him, and then to creep so near that the shot may take effect, for when wounded he seldom fails to fly to the place from which the wound came – a leaden bullet is too soft to penetrate his skin – it is therefore hardened by the mixture of a fifth part of tin, and aim is then taken as near the heart as possible.

Friday 1 January 1802. The first day of the year we remained at the fountain situated about five miles NW of the Iron rock²⁷ to refresh the cattle which had sensibly begun to fall off, especially as several days' journey long from want of water, awaited us, and water and grass were yet in plenty at this place, from the appearance of the country we had much reason to apprehend a scarcity of both as we went southward – for the last two days the plains were arid and the grass withered – till then every thing was in full verdure from the thunder showers daily falling on some spot – the ground falls off towards the Gareep, to the NW is the chain of mountains which run from that river to the Bootshoanah country, about twenty miles distant.²⁸ They are not in a straight line but run in

the direction of SW and NE. Thermometer in our tent 96° almost the whole day – about 2 p.m. pretty strong SW. wind – during the night it blew strong NW.

5.2. Sultry close weather – We travelled ten hours SWBS to *Tootach-wagmy*²⁹ (*Heads of Baboons*). Some Bosjesmen who came to us on the road say that no rain has fallen since we passed and indeed every thing is burnt up. The water here is at present only a pool – but there are evident marks of its assuming the form of a river during the rains – it is constant.

3 *Sunday*. Halted. Hot weather – Flying White clouds all day. Strong North Wind during the day and SW at night.

Monday 4th. Weather as usual – went to the fountain called by the Korá's *Hatty-kamy*³⁰ or White Water – the Bootshoanahs have no name for it – distance 8 Hours – Course a little West of SW.

T.J. Three Elands were shot³¹ differing greatly in color and size [from] any I had seen in the eastern parts of the colony – The . . . of them exceeded the bull buffalo – the hump on the shoulder [?] at least twice as large – colour a lead blue – legs white . . . the whole skin very naked comparatively – hairs wide apart – animals very fat – breast fuller and larger than a Horse – in the evening we proceeded to the residence of the missionaries called by the Korá's Ahap³² or Reed fountain distance 5 Hours – S½W – (soil very dry) and grass withered.

W.6. Sultry day – Whirlwinds constantly flying – quite a storm of South Wind all last night – dust as bad as in the Cape South Easter. The missionaries say that there has not been one calm day since we left them – Several cattle were purchased by barter from the Barts³³ – that no time might be lost in crossing the river which was reputed to be yet passable we went in the night to the Narrow Kloofs³⁴ Koras . . . where we had formerly found Kocks³⁵ – 4 Hours WSW – thro' the pass formed between the rising grounds rather than Hills on each side. The wind got up about 8 p.m. – while we were on the road and blew sometimes directly East and often due West – Lightning to the Westward.

29. *Records*, IV, p. 394, "Tjoeka Ijoenie or Dwaalfountain."

30. See page 100, note 83.

31. Daniell "took a drawing of the same". (*Records*, IV, p. 395).

32. Aakap or Rietfontein.

33. See page 99, note 81.

34. T^uKaraap.

35. I.e. Jan Kok.

27. *Records*, IV, p. 394, "Mackassanic fountain" (p. 375 – "Mackatsanic or Eendelfountain").

28. Langberg, running almost due north into the Korannaberg.

over an earthen pot - which they beat with one Thumb and deepen the sound with the other.⁸⁹
Their Women and Children have their heads fantastically shaved in stripes - and every shape.

Their only industry is the fabrication of their arms, which are made with much accuracy and neatness - dressing of skins, which they prepare even cleanly - and Earthen pots rudely formed.

The Women (only) perforate the Septum nasium⁹⁰ and wear a straw or reed thro' the hole.

Thursday 1 April. It began to rain at 8 last night and continued all night - morning cool and cloudy. Since we left the river the weather has been very pleasant. The thermometer has been by day from 70 to 78 and by night it has run from 50° to 55°. The Bushmen went to their Horde with a goat that we gave them. The water so scarce and briny that the people could scarcely use it - and but little came to the share of so many cattle. The rainy night in some measure compensated for the want of it. We were however obliged to push on to a better place. We crossed the plain to *Grass Fountain*. The bushes of Karoo growth had begun to sprout and to put on their short lived verdure, but they were far behind those near the river. The vast range of Table Land forming that irregular ridge of mountains called Karay Bergen⁹¹ was distinctly seen extending in every direction - of various heights every hill is uniformly terminated by a straight line. Some parts are very high - many *cones* with the top cut off - two the most regular I ever saw are seen to our left like two inverted punch bowls.

F. 2. Thunder Lightning and some very heavy showers in the early part of the night. Halted on account of the wagon wheel had broken down - it arrived in the afternoon. Wind North (Very foggy morning).

[*APRIL*] *J. 3.* Weather cloudy and cool all day. The ground quite wet and swampy - went to the Dub of Rain water in the large plain which we found full of excellent water. Six of the Bushmen came to us on the road, they were told to fetch honey to the halting place - on our arrival there we found ten females old and young who said they had come to beg Tobacco - which they had, and provision.

distance from
Grass Fountain
to
Dub of Water
4 Hours
Course by
Compass
SW⁴⁵
SSW.

dist. from
Bessen Foun-
tain to Grass
Fountain
8 Hours
Course at first
by Compass:
SW 1/2 SSW
SW by W
SW by S
WSW SW

They were so pleased that they remained all night. Thunder Lightning and Heavy rain poured the greater part of the night.

Sunday 4. Thermometer 45° at Sunrise and 38° in the pool of Water. The Bushmen arrived according to their promise with a Klip springer Antelope⁹² and skin full of Honey, truly delicious. In return Tobacco and few knives were given. The confidence they shewed in coming so freely now contrasted with the fears which prevented them from coming near us they explained unasked. The Commando was the only shape, in which they were acquainted with so many waggons - their experience had therefore taught them to avoid so formidable an appearance - during an absence to the north they had informed themselves, and learned that all white people were not necessarily their enemies. They were assured that peace was our most desirable object and for reason we wished that as many of the natives as possible would visit us during our journey; to receive Tobacco and presents. Their Chief answered - We never used to walk from Hut to Hut without the bow and quiver, but we have this day come from that distant Hill armed only with our jackals tail to wipe our Eyes, excepting one who has brought his bow by chance. They were as the rest of their nation diminutive in stature but fairer than most of them. They had for cloathing each of them, only a skin of spring buck wore almost to pieces, and the males a jackal and the women the most spare *jalousie*⁹³ that I ever saw, consisting of a few narrow thongs moving by the movement of their bodies.

Proceeded to Skeet Fountain - the distance was performed for-merly in 4 Hours but from the heavy rains the road was swampy and being uphill added to the difficulty (20 Bushmen).

Water abundant - one of the people shot a Rhinoceros.

M. 5 Heavy dew - and cold night. Set out in the morning and passed Klip Fountain and arrived at Lion Fountain clear weather and Hot. The Sun as I have frequently observed, is more scorching than when . . . heat is greater. Grass but poor here.

[*April*] *T. 6* Thermometer a few minutes before 7 stood under 40 and at 3 p.m. it stood at 81 - a viciisitude of 41° in 7 hours - proceed- ed by a very winding path to the pan on the Brack River which now

dist. from Skeet
Fountain to
Klip Fountain
2 Hours and
from Klip Ft.
to Lion
Fountain
4 Hours
dist. to Pan
6 Hours
Course for Two
hours from
SSE - SW to
SW then 4
hours in
general SW

92. *Oreotragus oreotragus*.

93. Literally, a blind or shutter. Schapera, *Khoisan*, p. 68: "women wore a large triangular rear apron . . . From the knot in front depended another apron, not quite so big, its lower part was cut into long thin strips to form a fringe".

89. See page 80, note 16.
90. Partition between the nostrils. See page 28, note 16.
91. See page 70, note 90.