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Reptile Number.

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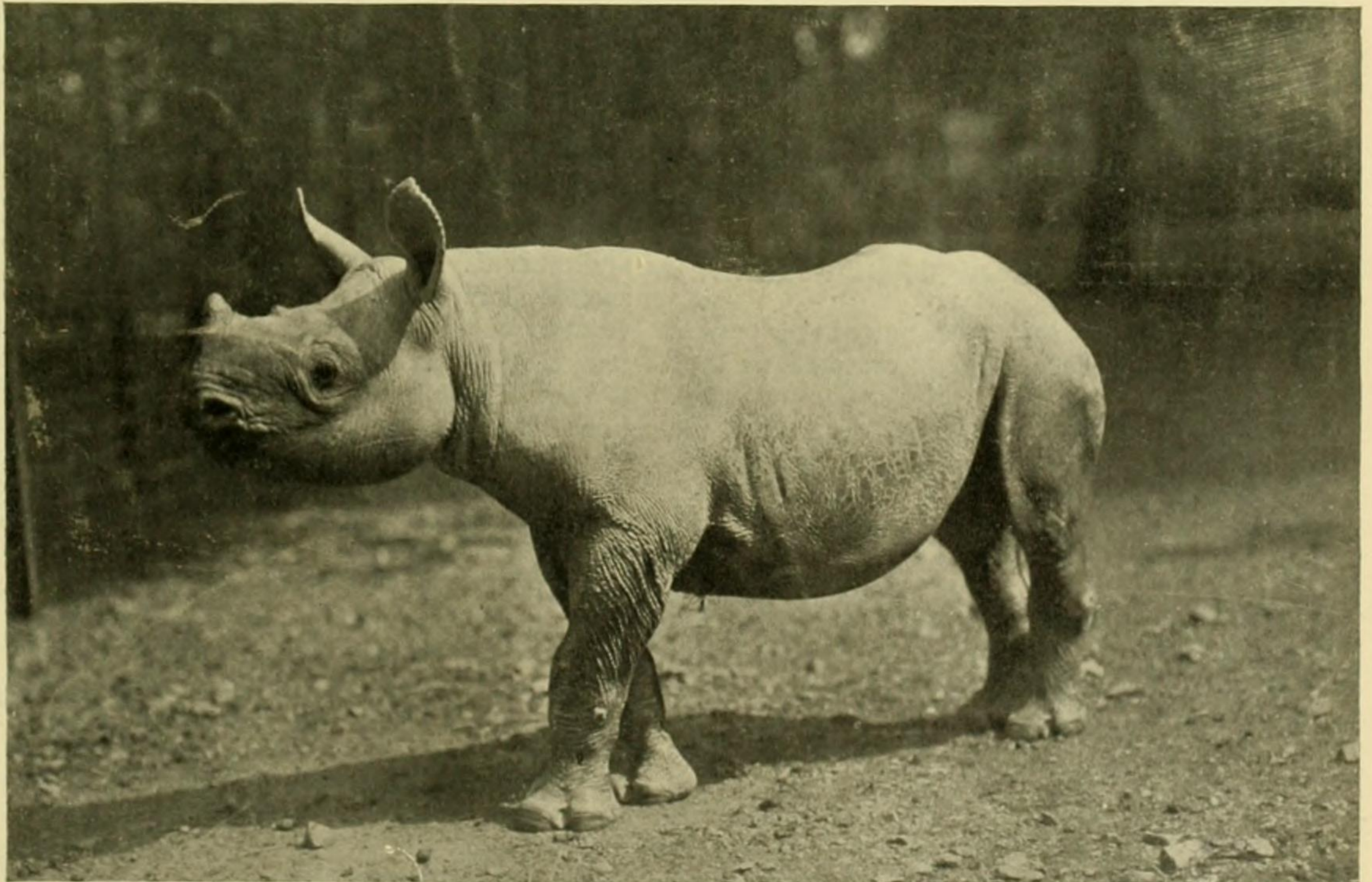
THE NEW RHINOCEROS

THE only specimen of the now rare two-horned, black African Rhinoceros which has come to America in the last eight years, with one exception, has been purchased by the Society and is now one of the valued possessions of the Zoological Park.

Learning of the arrival in Europe, from the Kilimanjaro District, German East Africa, of a rhinoceros, we cabled an offer and promptly secured the animal. The transportation was effected without trouble of any kind, the rhinoceros reaching the

park on June 1st and was safely quartered in the Antelope House, where she has been on view ever since. The anterior horn is already quite prominent and the posterior one just appearing. The color of the skin on the back is very light, darkening on the under parts. It is perfectly proportioned, bright and energetic, and is entirely satisfactory as an exhibit.

It is a young animal, possibly two years of age, weighs about three hundred pounds, is thirty-one inches high, fifty-six inches long from snout to base



TWO-HORNED BLACK AFRICAN RHINOCEROS.

From a photograph of a young specimen now in the Zoological Park.



of tail, and is apparently in perfect physical condition. Considering the rarity, the price paid was not excessive, yet it can be safely mentioned that no other animal in the collections either exceeds or

nearly equals the cost of this specimen. The German keeper who accompanied her, *en route*, still has her in charge until the park keepers become familiar with her habits and diet. E. R. S.



YOUNG ALLIGATORS IN THEIR SUMMER HOME.

Since the Sea-lion Pool in Baird Court was completed, the alligators have been transferred to the pool near the Reptile House, formerly used by the Sea-lions.

THE COLLECTION OF CROCODILIANS.

EXCEPT for the distinct difference in the outline of the snout, the various crocodilians look very much alike to the popular observer. Among all there is the rough, plated armor of the back, the dull, monotonous coloration and always the semi-aquatic habits. From the standpoint of habits, however, we may draw some sharp definitions. Over forty specimens, representing four species of crocodilians, are now living in the Reptile House. The species exhibited are the Salt Marsh Crocodile, *Crocodylus porosus*—known as the Man-eating Crocodile, of Malaysia; the Florida Crocodile, *C. americanus floridanus*; the American Alligator, *Alligator mississippiensis* and the Spectacled Caiman, *Caiman sclerops*, of Central and South America. One more species is needed to make the collection thoroughly representative. This is the Indian Gavial, having a snout so elongated and slender as to look like a tooth-studded beak. Gavials are common enough in the Ganges

and other rivers of northern India, and the various zoological institutions are always on the lookout for specimens—without avail. Here lies the chance for some enterprising person returning from the East to readily dispose of, among the zoological institutions of both Europe and America, a number of animals hardy in shipment. Incidentally it might be explained that the Indian Gavial reaches the greatest size of any of the crocodilians—a length of thirty feet.

The second largest of living crocodilians, the Salt Marsh Crocodile, is represented in the Park by a thriving young specimen nine feet long. In spite of the fact that this species is a bold reptile and a notorious menace to human life, our example at the present time has a lamb-like disposition, living in comparative harmony with the big colony of alligators. For several weeks it valiantly tried to hold its own against the aggressive actions of our big Florida crocodiles, but was so vigorously mauled that it lost all its fighting spirit, retreated to the sand-bank, and would not go into the water for food. Hence its transfer to the big alligator colony