

A TWO-HORNED RHINOCEROS.—The Begum of Ramoo, near Chittagong, has presented to the Zoological Gardens, Alipore, in the name of her son Nawar Ali Khan, a boy of eleven years of age, an adult female rhinoceros belonging to that group of Asiatic rhinoceroses which is distinguished by the presence of two horns on the upper surface of the facial portion of the head, and which is generally distinct from the one-horned rhinoceroses of Asia, and from the two-horned species of Africa. This rhinoceros was captured about seven months ago by the Begum's retainers. This rhinoceros, as already observed, is a two-horned animal, and it has the *tout-ensemble* and general characters of a two-horned rhinoceros of the same sex caught in the same district, and very nearly in the same locality to the south of Chittagong in February, 1869. This latter rhinoceros was taken to London by Mr. W. Jamrach, where it was purchased for the London Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, but prior to its shipment for London it was for some months in Calcutta, where it was examined by Dr. Anderson and described by him in the proceedings of the Zoological Society, London, for 1872, as *Rhinoceros Sumatrensis*. Dr. Selater, the Secretary to the Zoological Society of London, after the animal had been a short time in their gardens, had the opportunity to compare this Chittagong animal with a female two-horned rhinoceros captured in Malacca. The result of his comparison led him at that time to believe that two species of this form of rhinoceros existed, and he was of opinion that to the Malaccan animal must be applied the term *R. Sumatrensis*, and that the Chittagong animal was a new species, which he proposed to call *Rhinoceros lasiotis* "from the peculiar long hairs which border the outer edge of the ear-couch, and which are of themselves sufficient to render the animal easily recognizable from *R. Sumatrensis*." The rhinoceros just arrived from Chittagong, however, presents several modifications of the characters found in the individual named by Dr. Selater *R. lasiotis* and which tend to affiliate it to typical *R. Sumatrensis*. One or two of these modifications may be named. The ears have not the remarkable long drooping fringe of hair, but their margins are densely clad with erect black hairs; and bristly hairs of the same colour occur over the whole surface, sparsely on the back and sides, but densely on the belly and on the fronts of the limbs; it is also a smaller animal and of darker colour than the so-called *R. lasiotis*. Like it, however, there is considerable cranial breadth between the ears, and the skin is finely tubercular compared with the more coarsely tubercular skin of the two-horned rhinoceros of the Malayan Peninsula. Taking into account these similarities and dissimilarities, between two animals brought from the same district, the present rhinoceros in the gardens would therefore seem to link together the two phases of one species separable perhaps into a southern and northern race; a conclusion which Dr. Selater also has more recently been disposed to adopt. It would, however, be very satisfactory if the committee could obtain an example of the two-horned rhinoceros of the southern portion of the Malay Peninsula, and place it side by side with the present example of the northern race, as the comparison would be of much scientific interest. This northern race would appear to extend into Tipperah and also into Assam, as Colonel C. Napier Sturt shot, in March, 1875, a two-horned rhinoceros near the gorge where the Sunkos river issued from the Bhutan range on the right bank of the Brahmaputra River, forty to fifty miles north of Doobree.—*Englishman*.