

ingratitude and short-sightedness.

"I am, sir, yours very faithfully,

"T. ARTHUR CURTIES."

## THE RHINOCEROS SUMATRENSIS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The first rhinoceros *Sumatrensis*, or Sumatran rhinoceros, imported to Europe was purchased by me, and sold to two of the largest importers of wild animals in the world—viz., William Jamrach, of Calcutta, London, and Liverpool, and Charles Hagenbeck, of Hamburg, in Germany, for the large sum of £160. It was landed in the South West India Dock on August 19th, 1872, from the s.s. *Glengyle* from Singapore, and died September 21st, 1872. Another of the same species, a female, was deposited in the Zoological Society's Gardens July 14th, 1875, and did not survive long. Another on October 4th, 1878, was also deposited at the same society's gardens, and died also very shortly. The last one was an adult male, sold to the late C. W. Rice, London and Hamburg, also a large dealer in wild animals, and imported direct from the Malay Peninsula by Mr. Jamrach, and sold for £100, and died April 6th, 1879, living only seventeen days. This animal was also deposited at the Zoological Society's Gardens on March 20th, 1879, where every attention was paid to all the above animals, and since then it has been proved by greater authorities than myself, although not one of the least authorities, that they are not long living animals, similar to the Malayan *Tapia*, *tapirus indicus*.

The species which realised £1,250 was a new animal—i.e., the hairy-eared rhinoceros, *rhinoceros lasiotis*, and to prove the longevity of this animal it may be seen alive now at the Zoological Society's Gardens, Regent's-park. This animal was landed by me for W. Jamrach, the importer, in the Milwall Docks on February 14th, 1872. It arrived in the s.s. *Petersburg*, Captain Black, from Calcutta. The specimen is unique, and at that time was new to science.

The longevity of the rhinoceros *unicornis*, an animal worth from £150 to £200, is proven by the diary of the Zoological Society's book. A female of this species was purchased from the eminent Mr Charles Jamrach (millionaire) on June 17th, 1850, and died December 14th, 1873, living upwards of twenty-three years in the Society's gardens.

A rhinoceros *indicus* was brought to England by Mr Charles Jamrach's son, George, and was partly owned by W. Cross, of Liverpool.

A rhinoceros *bicornis*, or *keitloa*, was sold by Mr Charles Hagenbeck, of Hamburg, to the Zoological Society, September 11th, 1868, and is still alive. The society possess four species of rhinoceros. I am, Sir, yours obediently,

August 25th, 1884.

WEEJUGGELAH.

