

A  
BRIEF DESCRIPTION  
OF THE PRINCIPAL  
FOREIGN ANIMALS AND BIRDS,  
*The Property of*  
Mr. GILBERT PIDCOCK,  
NOW EXHIBITING AT  
THE GRAND MENAGERIE,  
OVER  
*Exeter-'Change, Strand:*

CHIEFLY EXTRACTED FROM  
THE WORKS OF BUFFON AND GOLDSMITH:

EMBELLISHED WITH  
*ELEGANT ENGRAVINGS:*

WITH SEVERAL  
ADDITIONS AND ANECDOTES.

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*By T. GARNER, Printer, York.*

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SECOND EDITION.



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TO THE  
CURIOUS IN NATURAL HISTORY.

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*THE* chief design for compiling the **FIRST EDITION** of this Pamphlet, (by permission of **Mr. PIDCOCK**, Proprietor of the Grand Menagerie of **FOREIGN ANIMALS and BIRDS**, over *Exeter-Change*), was from private motives of curiosity, and contemplation on so small a part of the wonderful works of the **CREATOR** of animated nature!

Being in possession of some elegant **ENGRAVINGS**, which were drawn from life, by the justly celebrated **Mr. BEWICK**, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the month of July, 1799, when **Mr. PIDCOCK**'s Collection was returning from a tour through Scotland, I was advised to publish them, with a short description, for the inspection of the curious. Having an opportunity of seeing the Animals daily, and making observations thereon, I have presented this *Brief Description* without exaggeration, hoping that truth will be considered as the best recommendation.

As the **ENGRAVINGS** may be useful in Schools, for young artists to copy (where they have not an opportunity of doing it from Nature), I have comprised this Publication in a quarto size, the better to accommodate them.

I have likewise added a few **ANECDOTES**, some of which I have been an eye-witness to, and will pledge myself for the truth of the assertions I have made.

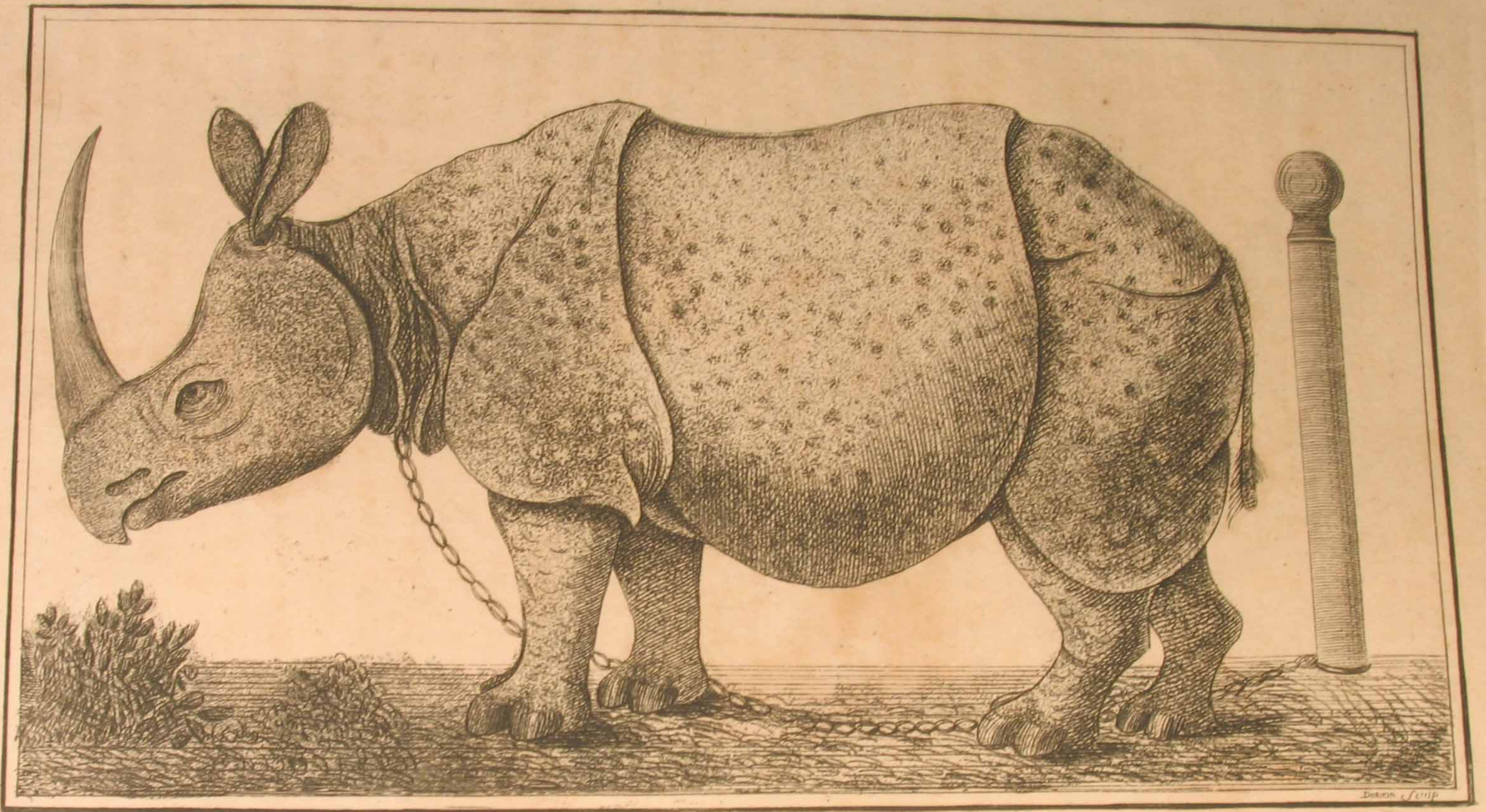
## TO THE CURIOUS, &c.

*The Figures, which consist of that beautiful creature, the ZEBRA; the two stupendous ELEPHANTS, Male and Female; the MALE LION, the ROYAL BENGAL TIGER, &c. cannot but be acceptable to the Public, especially as they are exact likenesses of the Animals they represent; as a proof of which, I refer my Readers to the GRAND MENAGERIE, over Exeter-Change, Strand, where they have been, and are at present exhibiting; and which, when seen, must be allowed to far exceed any Collection ever shown in this kingdom; or, I may say, in the world.*

T. GARNER.

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☞ The first four Figures, viz. the ELEPHANT, LION, TIGER, and ZEBRA, are engraved by Mr. BEWICK; the KANGAROOS, by Mr. BRANDSTON, China-Row, Lambeth; and the others by different Artists.



The Young RHINOCEROS or real UNICORN.

*arrived in London June the 5<sup>th</sup> 1790. from the Empire of the Great Mogul  
taken from life at the Lyceum near Exeter Change in the Strand.*

*Dobson*

*THE RHINOCEROS.*

**T**HE Rhinoceros, when full grown, measures at least twelve feet long, from the extremity of the muzzle, to the origin of the tail, and the circumference of his body is nearly equal to his length. In magnitude, therefore, he makes a near approach to the elephant; and he appears to be much less, only because his legs are proportionally shorter than those of the elephant. But he differs still more from this animal in his natural powers and intelligence; for Nature has bestowed on him nothing that elevates him above the ordinary rank of quadrupeds. He is deprived of all sensibility in his skin; neither has he hands to enable him to improve by the sense of touching; and instead of a trunk, he has only a moveable lip, to which all his means of dexterity or address are limited. His chief sources of superiority over other animals consists in his strength, his magnitude, and the offensive weapon of his nose, which is entirely peculiar to him. This weapon is a very hard horn, solid throughout its whole extent, and situated more advantageously than the horns of ruminating animals, which defend only the superior parts of the head and neck. For this reason, the tiger will rather attack the elephant, whose trunk he lays hold of, than the rhinoceros, whom he dare not face, without running the risk of having his bowels torn out; for the body and limbs of the rhinoceros are covered with a skin so impenetrable, that he fears neither the claws of the lion or tiger, nor the sword or shot of the hunter. His skin is of a blackish colour, but thicker and harder than that of the elephant. His head is proportionally longer than the elephant's; but his eyes are still smaller, and seldom above half open. The upper, which projects over the under lip, is moveable, and can be stretched out about six inches in length; and it is terminated by a pointed appendix, which gives this animal a power of collecting herbage in handfuls, as the elephant does with his trunk. Instead of those long ivory tusks which constitute the armour of the elephant, the rhinoceros has a formidable horn, and two strong incisive teeth in each jaw.

Though the rhinoceros was frequently exhibited in the Roman spectacles, from the days of Pompey to those of Heliogabalus; though he has often been transported into Europe in more modern times; and though Bontius, Chardin, and Kolben, have drawn figures of him both in India and Africa; yet so ill was he represented and described, that he was very imperfectly known till the errors and caprices of those who had published figures of him were detected by inspection of the animals which arrived in London in the years 1739 and 1741, and those which were bought to Exeter-Change within the last seven years.

The rhinoceros, which came to London in the year 1739, was sent from Bengal: though not above two years of age, the expence of his food and journey amounted to near one thousand pounds sterling. He was fed with rice, sugar, and hay. He had likewise hay, corn, and green herbs, which last he preferred to hay. His drink was water, of which he took large quantities at a time. He was of a peaceable disposition, and allowed all parts of his body to be touched.

When the rhinoceros is taken young he is easily tamed; but if taken after he has grown to his full size, it is with difficulty he is brought to subjection. He seems even to be subject to paroxysms of fury, which nothing can appease; for the one which Emanuel, King of Portugal, sent to the Pope, in the year 1513, destroyed the vessel in which they were transporting him; and the rhinoceros, which was exhibited in Paris, was drowned in the same manner in his voyage to Italy.

The rhinoceros never attacks any person, nor becomes furious, unless he is provoked, and then his ferocity is tremendous. His sense of smelling is surprisingly acute: when he sees any thing he pursues it in a right line, and tears up every thing in his way; but it is one happiness that his eyes are exceeding small, and so fixed, that he can only see straight forward, so that it is easy to avoid him by slipping aside, as he is a long time in turning himself, and longer still in getting sight again of his object. He will not, however, attack a man, unless provoked, or unless he is dressed in scarlet. In a wild state, he feeds principally on shrubs, thistles, and a plant, which resembles the juniper, and which, from his fondness of it, is called *Rhinoceros-bush*.

The rhinoceros is so powerful, that with his horn he tears up the ground, rips up the elephant, to whom he is a mortal enemy, pulls up trees by their roots, and throws large stones over his head at a great distance. His grunt is something similar to that of a hog. They are chiefly natives of Asia and Africa.

The wonderful works of the Creator are curiously displayed in this surprising Herculean quadruped: he is said to be more compact in his formation, and stronger made than the elephant. I have seen one, that, at the age of three years, weighed near a ton weight.

The female produces but one at a time, and at considerable intervals. During the first month, the young rhinoceros exceeds not the size of a Newfoundland dog.

## THE MUSK KANGAROO.

THIS animal has been at Exeter-Change upwards of two years; he is become quite tame and inoffensive; his skin is covered with a kind of soft down, and he will suffer any person to touch him.

Although this animal is very old, and has been a long time in captivity, yet I have lately seen him take those surprising leaps above-mentioned, when he was exhibited in the great room, over Exeter-Change. From the great danger of his leaping near the dens of the two male lions, which have lately arrived there, the Proprietor has, I think, very wisely, removed him, and he is at present in the same apartment as the elephant.

