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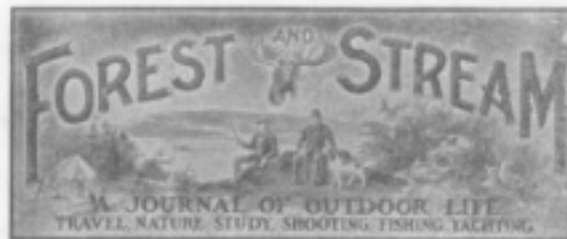
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THE WHITE RHINOCEROS.

MAJOR POWELL-COTTON has just presented to the Natural History Museum the skull and horns of a male white rhinoceros killed by him in the Lado district of Equatorial Central Africa. The skull, says the Field, indicates an immature animal, the last upper molar tooth on each side not having yet come into use, while the last premolar has not been replaced by its permanent successor. On contrasting this specimen with skulls of the typical southern race of *Rhinoceros simus* I have been somewhat surprised (considering the distance separating the haunts of the two animals) to find how comparatively slight are the differences. Of the two southern skulls used in the comparison one belongs to the male obtained some years ago by Mr. Caryndon, while the other is a specimen which has been long in the museum, and of which the sex is unknown. They both indicate fully adult animals, having the last molar teeth in use. As the second skull differs somewhat in form from the first, it may possibly be that of a female.

As regards the teeth (which are of quite a different pattern to those of the black species), I can find no difference between the southern and the northern skulls. The latter is, however, readily distinguished by the shorter and wider form of the nasal bones which support the front horn. In the skull of Mr. Coryndon's specimen these bones project 6 inches in advance of their lateral supports, and measure $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches in maximum width in front; whereas the corresponding dimensions in the Lado skull are $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches and $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. If the second South African skull were used as the basis of comparison, the differences would be greater; but that skull, as already mentioned, may pertain to a female. It may be added that if the skull were fully mature the width across the nasal bones would probably be still greater, as a character of this nature is one which might naturally be expected to intensify with age.

The Lado white rhinoceros thus presents an exaggeration of the feature from which the species received its designation of *simus* ("snub-nosed," or "blunt-nosed"), and the difference appears sufficiently marked to admit of its being regarded as a separate local race, for which the name of *Rhinoceros simus cottoni* will be appropriate. Of this race the skull in the museum will be the type. The horns of this specimen present no characters by which they can be satisfactorily distinguished from southern examples. The front one has an extremely massive basis, and curves very sharply backwards; its total length being $30\frac{1}{2}$ inches. In this connection it may be mentioned that two horns in the museum brought from the Lake Tchad district in the early part of last century appear, although of small size, to belong to *R. simus cottoni*, and will be so labeled. I may add that I have never yet seen female rhinoceros horns from Equatorial Africa of the long and slender type of those upon which Gray founded the so-called *Rhinoceros ovalis*; and the absence of horns of such a type in the female of the Lado rhinoceros may eventually prove to be another distinctive characteristic of that race.

FOR UNIFORM LAWS.

THE organization of the Wisconsin Game Wardens' Association ought to result in closer co-operation in the performance of the duties of deputy wardenship under the direction of the chief warden. But the need of an extra organization, with each of the wardens bound by his oath to yield obedience to orders and to "hustle" is not clearly apparent. Perfect discipline in the control of the force of wardens would have been sufficient. There would be more to hope for from an organization embracing the game wardens of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The laws of these States are not uniform, and an association of game wardens could assist in harmonizing the views of the sportsmen of the three States and establishing conditions under which more protection could be afforded game animals and fish.—Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin.