



THE RHINOCEROS, OR ORNAMENT WHITE RHINOCEROS.

### SPORT UPON THE UPPER TRIBUTARIES OF THE LIMPOPO, AND IN MAKALAKA LAND.

(Continued from page 61.)

One long chase after the elephant had led us quite twenty miles from our camp at Maritzburg, and as the day was nearly spent we founded up a herd of impressiva kind for the protection of our horses, a couple of lions for ourselves, and in less than an hour had established a comfortable kraal for passing the night. Large watch-fires were lighted, wood which we retained and talked over the events of the day and our plans for the morrow, and it was decided that three of our number, with a party of Kaffirs, should remain to collect the ivory, while the rest of us returned to our camp and back to the kraal for the moment. All our people were equipped themselves to march on elephant's flesh, and as the night came on it was a strange sight to see them cooking up the carcasses by the light of large fires, like so many devils.

Hardly had the sun gone down than we were surrounded by a party of lions, and during the evening night the camp was surrounded by the dismal howlings of hyenas and jackals, who, attracted by the smell of the flesh, followed in great numbers round the dead elephants. The next morning we were about out at breakfast some after dawn, and the sun was just making his appearance above the horizon as we got into the saddle. Leaving some of our coaches to make their way back direct to camp, Sigbee, Van Jaanen, Stevenson, and I took a westerly direction, so as to skirt the edge of the Limpopo hills, a range said to be full of game, lying on the left bank of the River below.

We had ridden over an undulating plain for about an hour without putting up any other game than a few partridges and snipe, when Stevenson, after observing the horses with his telescope, pointed out a couple of male antelope that were protruding a male detest. Stevenson and I bryer took one flank and Van Jaanen and I the other, and we made a circuit before commencing the pursuit, so all antelope, when alarmed on a plain, make off with their heads to the wind; and for



THE KUDU, OR TWO-HORNED BLACK RHINOCEROS.

object was to get on each side of our quarry before starting him. With a little management this was effected, and the chase began. For the first mile the animals got over the ground at a great rate, and several leaps into pools before us; but before the second mile was covered they were quite exhausted, and Stevenson and I bryer, who were admirably mounted, were almost within shooting-distance, when we lost sight of them in a dense up of watercourse overgrown with bush and high reeds. Here a strange coincidence happened, for while we were quite unprepared, as Stevenson and I bryer were observing up the antelope chaps, two black rhinoceros suddenly made their appearance, and without the slightest provocation, charged and knocked down I bryer's horse before he could get out of their way. Stevenson, who was riding close to him, managed to hold his horse round, sensible on the bank, and discharge both barrels at the animals just as they were returning to the charge, and Van Jaanen and I, who came up at the time, gave them a volley which made them bolt to retreat. Both I bryer and his horse, saw a good deal of action by the fall, but no serious wounds, and neither of them were



HOUNDING THE KODONG, OR LONG-EARED WHITE RHINOCEROS.

seriously hurt; so, after a mouthful of "schlags," we agreed to follow up and pursue his march. The spear was paid enough, and that one was laid for we could see, as blood had flowed freely as we went along. 863. It was necessary to keep a light look-out, as a wounded and infuriated herd is one of the most vicious and ferocious animals a hunter can encounter. While we were following up the spur of the rhinoceros the two white antelopes sprang up from behind a bush where they had been lying, and, by a fortunate shot, I hit one of them at the back of the head, and secured a magnificent pair of antlers, and, almost at the same moment, the two horns broke out into the plain. Our task was now a comparatively easy one, and, moreover, it afforded considerable fun. They charged so repeatedly, and fairly nosed with rage when they found that they could not get one horse to the spear. At last, after repeated discharges, they surrendered, and we set them as they fell, for their flesh is too tough and bitter to be eatable.

In this part of Africa, we came across four varieties of rhinoceros—the black, or black rhinoceros; the Java, or two-

horned black rhinoceros; the Asiatic, or common white rhinoceros; and the African, the long-horned white rhinoceros. The black rhinoceros are much smaller than the white varieties, and have but comparatively short horns; but they are much more vicious and pugacious. The black rhinoceros fly upon those banks, and their flesh is bitter and worthless, while the white varieties are extremely good eaters, and their flesh is considered one of good flavor. To an African hunter who keeps up a large train of native followers, and who has many mouths to feed, a white rhinoceros is a welcome addition to the herd, as it yields between two and three thousand pounds of wholesome food. The black rhinoceros is a different animal to kill, as, besides being extremely invulnerable to life, his horns are so small and his shell so thick, that there is very little use firing at his head, unless with barbed bullets driven by a very large charge of powder. The most vulnerable part is just behind the shoulder when the forehead is moved forward, and thus the hunter, if fired from a proper angle, is soon likely to penetrate the heart or lungs. Unless ambushed or cornered by them, I generally made it a practice to give them a white

bull, as they have an spots worth eating, and their flesh is sweet.

After having disposed of the rhinoceros, even to I bryer's satisfaction, we continued our route, and as we neared the Limpopo hills a troop of seven eland were detected, and it was determined to drive them towards our camp if possible. Had our party been larger this would have been no easy matter, for a line of horses would have guarded each flank and obliged them to head in the direction required. As it was, however, our resources were up to nearly none on the head in driving game, and they outwitted us difficulty. Stevenson and Van Jaanen made a detour so as to get between them and the wooded hills, what we called some distance on their flank so as to start and drive them forward, although without giving them any express alarm. This was admirably accomplished, and Van Jaanen and Stevenson at the same time drove themselves on the other flank, they set off at a rapid slow-down. Our object was not to press him, but they would