

Some of the Costliest Show Animals in the World.

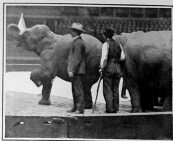


FOUR HANDSOME GIRAFFES WHICH £8,000 COULD NOT BUY

An Elephant which cost £50,000.—The sale of animals which showmen will invest in rare animals is astonishing to the ordinary business man. Showmen will give any sum for a rare bear, bird, or reptile if they think it will excite sufficient curiosity to bring them a fair return. One of the most expensive animals ever acquired by a showman was the white elephant obtained by Mr. Bailey of Barnum and Bailey's.

An agent named Gayford was dispatched to India to secure a white elephant, and he succeeded in obtaining two excellent specimens; they were shipped on to the steamer at Hong Kong but were found dead on the morning of the day on which the vessel was to sail. It was believed at the time that they were killed by some natives as the result of the superstitious belief that if a white elephant was to leave India the country would suffer that misery. Mr. Gayford took passage for San Francisco, notifying Mr. Bailey that he would arrive there on such and such a day. Mr. Bailey took the train from New York, met Mr. Gayford at San Francisco, and in the conversation that took place asked Mr. Gayford, "Are there any more specimens of the white elephant that can be obtained?" Mr. Gayford replied, "Yes; I think there are." "Then," said Mr. Bailey, "return immediately and get one." "Do you mean for me to return at once, Mr. Bailey?" said Gayford. "At once!" replied Mr. Bailey. "Can I not visit my family? I have been away a long time." "No," Mr. Bailey replied, "go right back on this same steamer."

Two Valuable Chimpanzees.—Mr. Gayford succeeded in obtaining a third white elephant which he purchased from King Theobald of Bavaria. This one was safely shipped to London, where it was for a time placed in the Zoological Gardens, and from thence it was shipped to New York, where it was



THREE TRAINED ELEPHANTS VALUED AT £5,000

Became Wild.—A correspondent sends the following as evidence that all country-people are not quite as stupid as they are frequently represented:—

A Norfolk squire and a friend from town were driving along a country lane. "I suppose these laboring fellows are very dull and stupid!" said the gentleman from London to the squire. "Well, they are not so stupid as you might think," the squire answered. "That," said the Londoner, "I see now if you ask your workmen to get down and to take the very laboring men in a field if he wants a foot a plow he will take it to them and ask how much the wages are." "So when they saw an old man ploughing the coachman got down and went up to the old man and said, 'His master says, do you want a foot a plow?' The old man looked him up and down and then said, 'He isn't a master' or do you think was another fool?"



AN EXPENSIVE RHINOCEROS—COST OF PROCURING, £2,800

exhibited in Madison Square Gardens. The total cost of obtaining this animal was about £30,000, including the cost of the first two animals which died in transit. Two other very valuable animals owned by Mr. Bailey were China, an unusual variety of chimpanzee, and Johanna, a very large chimpanzee. They were valued at £40,000 the pair.

James Hever was brought up, I am told, as a foster-child by a Dublin family and used to be coachman to an English nobleman before he was employed in the same capacity by Mrs. Thomas Carnegie's mother. He was about five-and-thirty and a widower when Miss Nancy Carnegie married him, and was, of course, much older than his bride. She

cannot be more than three-four-and-twenty and is a very handsome young woman who has lived a great deal in the open and has not gone much into society. This, I may say, was not from any lack of means, for her father left quite a large fortune when he died, though he was never nearly so wealthy as the "laird" of Skibo Castle. Ransom has it that the family would have accepted "a worthless duke" with resignation.



£2,000 WORTH OF HIPPOPOTAMUS