

**THE SUMATRA RHINOCEROS.**

One of the most important additions recently made to the Zoological Society's living collection is the Sumatra or hairy rhinoceros, which arrived on the 15th inst. This animal was captured in 1869, by some natives, about sixteen hours south of the station of Chittagong, in British Barmah, having become immersed in a quicksand from which it was unable to extricate itself. On the news arriving at Chittagong, some officers engaged on the service of supplying elephants for the Indian army proceeded to the spot, and brought the rhinoceros into the station tethered between elephants—not, however, without much difficulty, as two large rivers had to be crossed on the march home. At Chittagong "Begum," as she was named, remained three years in a stockaded inclosure, prepared for her residence, in which a shed was built to give her shelter, and a basin excavated for her to bathe in. Negotiations were on several occasions undertaken between her owners and the Zoological Society of London for the transfer of the animal to this country, but never arrived at any definite result. At length, in November last, Mr. William Jarmach, of London, a well-known dealer in living animals, being at Calcutta, proceeded to Chittagong, and succeeded in effecting the purchase of the animal, with the view of bringing her home for the society. A huge box of the best teak was constructed for her habitation on board ship, and a large supply of fresh provisions laid in for her consumption, as well as for that of the other animals (including five elephants) imported by Mr. Jarmach in the same vessel. On the 21st inst. the screw-steamer Petersburg arrived in the Millwall Docks, via the Suez Canal, with its valuable cargo in excellent condition; and a few hours afterwards the "Begum" was safely housed in the new elephant-house in the Regent's Park Gardens.

"Begum" is about 4½ ft. high and 8 ft. in length, from the snout to the root of the tail. With the general form of the Indian rhinoceros she combines many curious peculiarities. She is covered all over with short bristles, about an inch in length, and has the margins of the ears fringed with long, drooping hairs. There are two short horns on the nose, the hindermost just above the eye, the other above the nostril. A strong well-marked fold crosses the back, and other folds are on the body; but there is none of



ISAAC JARMACH, LATE COXSAIN OF THE HAMNGATE LIFE-BOAT.  
SEE PAGE 284.

the massive armour-like sheathing that is seen in the Indian rhinoceros.

Out of five known living species of rhinoceros the Zoological Society has now succeeded in obtaining specimens of three—viz., the Indian (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), the Sumatran (*R. sumatrensis*), and the African black rhinoceros (*R. bicornis*). The two not yet acquired are the Soudanic rhinoceros (*R. sondaicus*) of Sumatra and Java—a one-horned species, resembling the Indian rhinoceros, and the African white rhinoceros (*R. simus*), with two long horns. Any of our foreign correspondents who might be able to assist the society in obtaining specimens of these last-mentioned animals would be not only rendering a service to science by so doing, but would also probably benefit himself, as the Zoological Society are extremely liberal in their dealings when such rare animals are offered to them, and have, we understand, paid upwards of £1200 for their last acquisition.

**THE CHANNEL SQUADRON AT VIGO.**

The Channel Squadron was lying in the harbour of Vigo Bay, on the Atlantic coast of Northern Spain, in the first days of this month, having there to await further orders from the Admiralty. Vigo, in the province of Galicia, not far from the Portuguese frontier, is memorable for the sailing thence of the Spanish Armada, which was to have conquered England in Queen Elizabeth's time. It is but a small village, with a fort upon the hill overlooking the bay, and with a range of mountains behind it. We have to thank Lieutenant Jelinger Symons, R.N., an officer of H.M.S. Agincourt, for the sketch from which our Engraving is drawn. The Agincourt, the Bellerophon, and the Sultan are represented lying in the front of the view, the first-named ship to the left hand; while the Minotaur, the Northumberland, and the Hercules form the second line inside, arranged in the same order.

Sheffield finds itself deficient in school accommodation to the extent of 12,000 children, and the local school board asks authority to borrow £89,000 for school buildings. The ratepayers of Wigan have agreed to constitute a school board without a contest. The nominations were five Churchmen, three Nonconformists, and three Roman Catholics.



THE SUMATRA RHINOCEROS AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS.