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AVE MARIA LANE.

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the hill districts of India are very hurtful to its feet. Otherwise it is remarkably sure footed,—more so, naturally, it is said, than the horse or the camel; and it has the advantage over them of being able, in cases of emergency, to hold on with the trunk. Upon level ground it stands out well; but ascents and descents are very fatiguing to it, as it has to lift, at least, four tons in the one case; and bear the shock of an equal weight in the other. From the natural antipathy that the elephant has to fire, it is no longer formidable in the ranks of battle, as the discharge of a pistol would send him scampering to the right-about; but he is very serviceable as a beast of burden, in a country where the roads are naturally bad, and, on account of the violence of the rains, kept in order with great difficulty. He is, however, only a beast of burden, and never employed for draught, though he assists in lifting guns, and other weighty articles, out of holes from which the bullocks that are used for draught cannot pull them.

The rhinoceros is more confined in its range than the elephant, being still fonder of water than even that animal. In clumsiness of figure, the rhinoceros exceeds the elephant, and it approaches that animal in the mass of its body; but as it is much shorter in the legs, it does not appear so large. In length it is about the same,

being twelve feet in the larger specimens ; but these do not stand above seven feet high. The skin of the rhinoceros is coarse, thick, and folded, and of a dull black colour ; but, instead of being impenetrable by weapons of hunters, as has often been said, it is delicate enough to be annoyed by the weapons of insects ; and as the animal has not the means of washing them off as the elephant does with its trunk, it has recourse to wallowing in the mud, and endeavouring to cover itself with a protecting coat of that substance.

The eyes of the rhinoceros are small, and its powers of vision far from acute ; and, indeed, in the jungles and thickets which are its principal places of resort, vision is, comparatively, of little use to it. Hearing and scent are what it depends upon, and both of these senses are remarkably acute, more especially the scent, which renders it dangerous to approach it, unless against the wind. As is the case with the elephant (and indeed with the *pachydermata* of Cuvier generally), the organ of touch is the upper lip ; and though that does not resemble, in the least, the proboscis of the elephant, it is considerably elongated, and the animal uses it as a sort of hand for gathering food and conveying it to its mouth. The rhinoceros is much better furnished with teeth than the elephant, having

twenty-eight grinders, and four cutting-teeth, so that it can cut and gnaw substances which are too hard and tough for being plucked by the prehensile upper lip. The inside of the mouth is remarkably firm, and the tongue, in the adult animal at least, beset with tubercles, so that it assists in swallowing. The food is wholly vegetable; and though, like the elephant, the rhinoceros shows some taste, and prefers the succulent vegetation of the cultivated fields, among which it commits great ravages when it sallies from its solitudes, it can browse upon the most hard and prickly vegetables.

The most singular thing about the rhinoceros is its horn (there are smaller species, or probably varieties, that have two), which differs from that of every other animal. It is inserted over the nasal bones, about equally distant between the nostrils and the eyes; and the bones at that part are remarkably strong, both from the volume of their substance and from their form, which places the horn as it were on the crown of a dome, and thus gives its base a maximum of strength.

The horn of the rhinoceros is a true horn, formed almost wholly of gelatine, like the ordinary hair, fur, feathers, and bristles of animals, and containing very little of those salts of lime that constitute the greater part of bone; and

it is not supported by a core of bone, like the horns of the ox tribe, but originates wholly in the skin, the part of the body in which all the corneous addenda of animals are secreted. It consists of a bundle of longitudinal fibres, and not of plates, like the hollow horns; and these fibres are often so worn and separated towards the base, that it has the appearance of being surrounded with coarse bristles.

This structure renders the horn of the rhinoceros, in many respects, a much more formidable weapon than the tusks of the elephant. It is much less frangible, living horn being very difficult to break against the fibres; and when it exerts a great strain, the pain to the animal is not nearly so great as if it had had its origin in a socket of bone, or had been supported by a core of that substance. It is formidable from its size, too, as it is often three feet in length, and more than six inches in diameter at the base. It has such a curvature upward, as that when it is horizontal, the whole force of the muscles that raise the head, can be exerted in giving it effect. Even when the rhinoceros stands at bay, the most daring animal dares not attack him in front. The mass of the animal, planted upon its strong short legs, with a broad foot and three spreading toes at the base, offers a resistance which the shock of no beast of prey

could move ; while, to the strongest of them, the gore of the horn would be instant death. If the animal should charge, which it can do at a tolerably rapid pace, the crush is dreadful ; and when the elephant is assailed by his fellow-tenant of the forest, which is very seldom the case, except when the elephant bears a hunter on his back, he has no security but in flight ; and if he cannot betake himself to that, he has no chance but to receive the shock on the least vital part of his body, and even then it dashes him to the ground.

But, notwithstanding all this power of defence and terribleness of attack, the rhinoceros does not seek strife, but leads an inoffensive, and comparatively indolent life in the jungle,—at peace even with the tiger, with whom he is often found in company, and towards whom he shows an indifference quite unknown to the elephant. Man has never brought him even into that partial subjection to which the elephant yields ; the hunting of him is a mere sport, though a very dangerous one ; and when he is taken alive, he is fit only for a show, in which condition, though he evinces some gratitude for food and kind treatment, his general character is sullenness, broken by occasional fits of violence.

Such are the two most remarkable subjects of

Indian zoology ; and, with the exception of Africa and the Indian isles, in the former of which the species, or, at all events, the varieties, are different, they are confined to India ; and, in the case of the rhinoceros, to a limited portion of that. They seem intended to keep down the exuberant vegetation of the districts alluded to, so that spots may be found that can be browsed by quadrupeds of humbler growth. The variety of these, and also of their destroyers, is very great. The wild animals in those places, are mostly deer, and antelopes of different kinds, with buffalos. The musk deer is found on the south of the Himalaya, but not equal in quality to that on the north. Wild hogs and boars are numerous in the jungles ; and there are various kinds of bears. In the mountains toward the south there is a black species, in considerable abundance ; but inoffensive, and living upon white ants and fruit ; and, on account of the numbers of the former that they destroy, they are benefactors to the people. To the east of the mouth of the Ganges, a more ferocious bear has been encountered, which differs from most of the genus, in having a short smooth covering, and the head formed something like that of a dog ; wolves, jackals, and hyænas abound ; and there are wild dogs of the cur species ; but whether they have

escaped from domestication, or are originally wild, has not been ascertained.

India is, indeed, redolent of all kinds of animal life, of the destroyers, as well as the destroyed; and teeth, folds, and poison, though exerted in a variety of ways, still find "the supply equal to the demand."

There is no satisfactory proof of the presence of the lion in India; and thus the king of the feline race there is the tiger—a more formidable animal certainly, taking all circumstances into consideration, than the lion of Africa. He is more numerous than the lion, more active, and comes more in contact with the habitations of men; and when those direful wars which the native rulers were in the habit of waging to desolation upon unfortunate districts, had done their work, it was astonishing how rapidly the jungles and the tigers reoccupied the country. The bound of the tiger, when he springs upon his prey, is tremendous, extending, as is said, to the distance of one hundred or one hundred and twenty feet; and independently of teeth and claws, the very impetus of such a mass of matter, flung to such a distance, would fell most animals to the earth. It is from this spring that the tiger gets his name: he, as it were, "shoots himself at his prey;" and *tiger*, in the Armenian language,