

GOWANS'S NATURE BOOKS. No 14. 6D NET

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# ANIMALS AT THE ZOO



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ANIMALS  
AT  
THE ZOO

*Sixty photographs by W. S. Berridge, F.Z.S.*

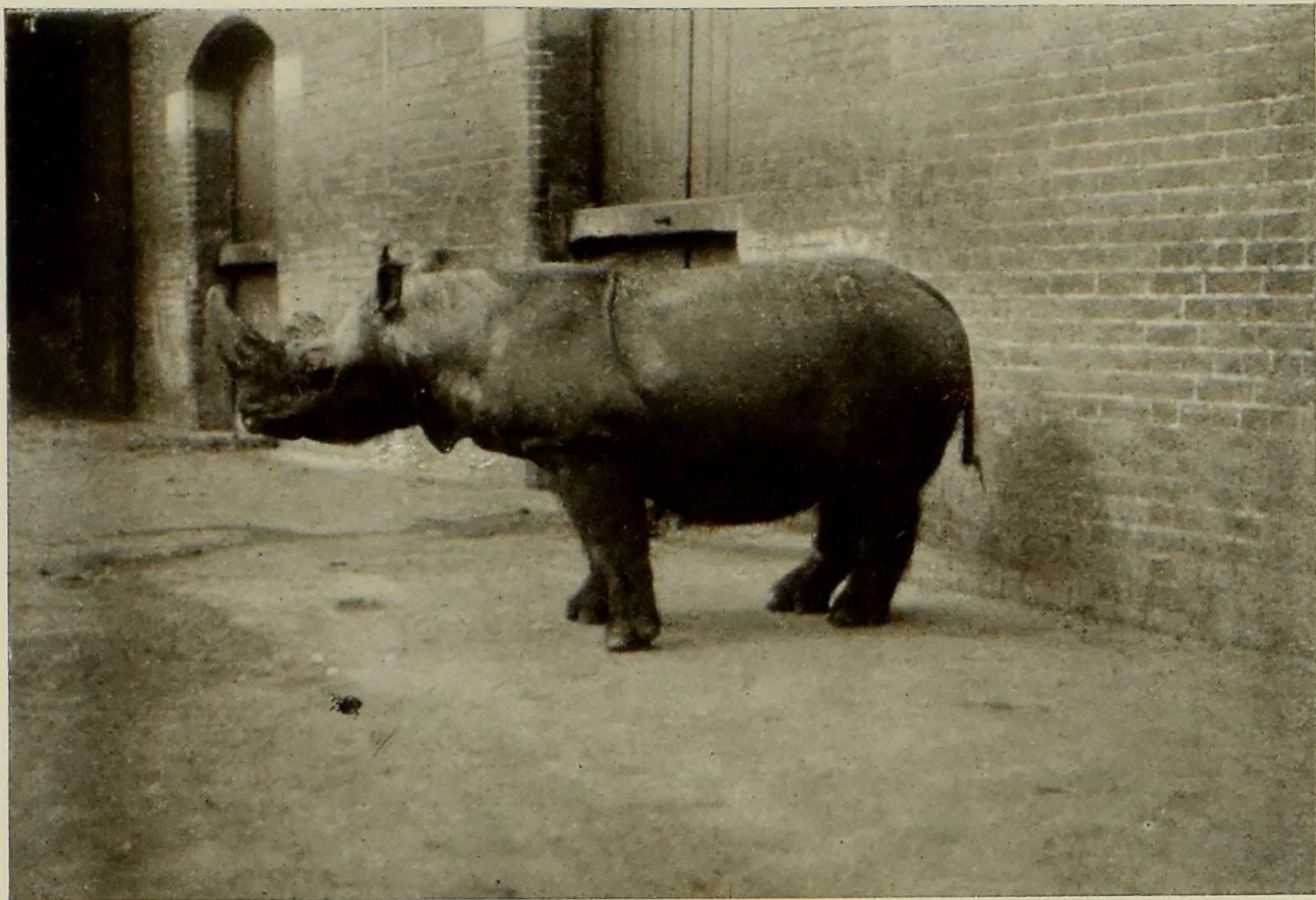
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*I*T is hoped that these sixty photographs, besides forming a most interesting and tangible memento of visits to the London Zoo and similar institutions, will be of great educative value for the study of Natural History. The order is that of Lyuekker's "Royal Natural History;" the nomenclature that of the Zoo labels, except in a few cases where Lyuekker is followed.





HAIRY-EARED RHINOCEROS  
(*Rhinoceros lasiotis*)

*W. S. Berridge, F.Z.S., Photo.*





YOUNG AFRICAN BLACK RHINOCEROS  
(*Rhinoceros bicornis*)

*W. S. Berridge, F.Z.S., Photo.*



# Some Notes on the Animals

OF WHICH

PHOTOGRAPHS APPEAR IN  
THE FOREGOING PAGES . .

BY

W. S. BERRIDGE, F.Z.S.

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**Chimpanzee** (*Anthropopithecus troglodytes*), Frontispiece.—The man-like apes are the most interesting and intelligent of the monkey family. They are few in number, including only the Chimpanzees, Orang-utangs, Gorillas, and several kinds of Gibbons. Of these, the Chimpanzee is the best known, and most frequently seen in captivity, and owing to its great intelligence and ability to learn tricks, is in great demand as a show beast. In expression Chimpanzees differ one from the other very considerably; as is clearly shown in the photograph.

**Orang-utang** (*Simia satyrus*), Page 6.—The Orang-utang is readily distinguished from the other man-like apes, by its long red hair and brown skin. In captivity it is, as a rule, quiet and affectionate; though it rarely shows the same degree of intelligence as the Chimpanzee, and is also much more lethargic in its movements.

**Guinea Baboon** (*Papio sphinx*), Page 7.—This animal, a native of Guinea, is one of the Baboons most frequently seen in captivity, and like others of its kind is characteristic in having the nostrils situated at the extreme end of the snout. The fact that it has been called by some writers the "Common Baboon" or "Papio," and by others the "Sphinx" or "Guinea Baboon," has led to considerable confusion. Little is known of its habits in a wild state.

**Lion Marmoset** (*Midas leoninus*), Page 8.—The Marmosets, all of which are natives of South and Central America, are of very diminutive proportions, most of them being no larger than a small squirrel. They differ from other American monkeys in having sharp claws on all fingers and toes (with the exception of the great toe), instead of the usual flattened nails. The "Lion Marmoset," often called the "Silky Marmoset," is the prettiest of the group, its long golden mane giving it the appearance of a dwarf lion. These animals are somewhat difficult to keep in captivity, owing to the ease with which they catch cold.

**Grey Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus cinereus*), Page 9.—The Loris, or Slow Lemur, is a nocturnal animal, belonging to the monkey tribe. Its mode of feeding is to prowl about the branches of trees at night, pouncing upon any small defenceless bird it may happen to come across. In size it is about that of a guinea pig, which it resembles in having no tail.



**Lion** (*Felis leo*), Pages 10 and 11.—The Lion is usually called the "king of beasts," but it is a matter of doubt whether it is entitled to such a proud distinction, for the Tiger is as a rule by far more dangerous and courageous. However, as regards appearance, a fine male Lion certainly gives one the impression of grandeur and majesty. The young, of which there are sometimes as many as six in a litter, are spotted, and they have their eyes open at birth. Lions frequently breed in captivity, though rarely, at the London Zoo. In a wild state they are nocturnal in their habits.

**Tiger** (*Felis tigris*), Pages 12 and 13.—The Tiger, like the Lion, is a nocturnal beast, lying concealed in long grass and undergrowth during the daytime. Tigers greatly dislike the intense heat of the sun, and to cool themselves will roll in the shallow pools of any streams which may be at hand; they are adepts at swimming, and take readily to the water. The usual number of cubs found in a litter is two, although as many as six have been known. The majority of Tigers are natives of India, though there are some found in Siberia, which, owing to the very long shaggy coat they grow in the winter, are well able to withstand the rigours of the climate.

**Ocelot** (*Felis pardalis*), Page 14.—This animal is somewhat larger than our domestic cat, and is found in considerable numbers in South America. It lives in the thick forests of that region, spending the greater part of its time amongst the branches of the trees, in search of the small mammals and birds upon which it feeds. It is very fierce and dangerous in a wild state.

**Aard-Wolf** (*Proteles cristatus*), Page 15.—This animal has been much discussed in zoological circles, for although undoubtedly akin to the Hyena, yet in many respects it differs considerably from it. However, it is now recognised as being the solitary representative of a distinct family. It is a native of Africa, where it is by no means plentiful. Entirely nocturnal in its habits, during the daytime it hides in burrows which it has excavated for itself. In size it is very inferior to the Hyena, being compared to a large leggy fox.

**Timber Wolf** (*Canis occidentalis*), Page 16.—The Timber Wolf of North America, although at one time very plentiful, is fast disappearing, and can only be found in any numbers in the remote and wild parts of the country. Timber wolves are usually found in pairs, though in the winter they will sometimes congregate in large numbers. They wander about both by day and night, and when pressed by hunger become both bold and dangerous. The number of cubs born in a litter is from 6 to 10. These appear in the spring and remain with their parents until November or December, but occasionally for a longer period.

**Dingo Dog** (*Canis dingo*), Pages 17 and 18.—The Dingo is the wild dog of Australia, though it is now recognised as not being a true native of that part, but as having been introduced by man at a very early date. In colour, different specimens vary one from the other very considerably, ranging from red to black, whilst the puppies shown in our photograph are pure white. It is a great enemy of the farmers, owing to the number of sheep it kills; for it will destroy in one night many more than it can possibly eat. When captured Dingos usually feign death; sometimes with such success that they are able to make good their escape. The usual number of cubs in a litter is from six to eight. In their natural state they never bark, though in captivity, when brought into contact with other dogs, readily learn to do so. They are rarely seen during the daytime.



**Indian Wild Dog (*Canis dukhunensis*), Page 19.**—This dog is found from the Himalayas southwards; but not in Ceylon. It lives principally upon deer, wild pigs, wild sheep, and antelopes, hunting them both by day and night, though chiefly during the daytime. It hunts in companies of from 6 to 10, but rarely attacks domestic animals, avoiding the neighbourhood of man.

**American Red Fox (*Canis fulvus*), Page 20.**—This animal differs little from the ordinary English Fox, except in its colouring, which is lighter and brighter. In habits it is also similar, feeding upon small mammals and birds, though when food is scarce it will readily take to a diet of frogs and worms. From 4 to 6 cubs are found in a litter.

**Arctic Fox (*Canis lagopus*), Page 21.**—The great point of interest in Arctic Foxes lies in the fact that their coat, which during the summer months is of a dirty brown colour, is changed to one of a pure white in the winter; although this change does not always occur, certain individuals never attaining the pure white stage. They feed principally upon the Arctic birds as well as upon their eggs.

**Indian Desert Fox (*Canis leucopus*), Page 22.**—This Fox is considerably smaller than the common species, the head and body being only some 19 or 20 inches in length; in colour it is also paler. It is found in the sandy desert regions of India, and parts of Persia and Arabia. The chief food of the Indian species is Gerbils, which are so plentiful in the sandy districts.

**Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*), Page 23.**—This bear is readily distinguished from all others by the uniform white colour of its coat, which remains of the same colour at all seasons, not being changed in the summer for one of a darker hue, as is the case with the Arctic Fox. It is the largest of its kind, often growing to a length of 9 ft. Found in the Arctic regions among the snow and ice, it feeds principally upon seal and walrus, although it will resort to a vegetable diet. Owing to the fact that the soles of its feet are partially covered with hair, it is able to move about upon the slippery ice at a remarkably quick pace. It is a very powerful swimmer, taking to the water readily.

**Himalayan Black Bear (*Ursus tibetanus*), Pages 24 and 25**—The distinguishing mark of this bear lies in the crescent-like white mark across the chest. In size it is inferior to many others, the average specimen being only some 4½ to 5½ feet in length. It is a forest-dwelling animal, subsisting chiefly upon vegetable matter, such as nuts, maize, berries, acorns and roots, though at times it will kill cattle. It is very numerous in its haunts, it being no uncommon sight to see as many as 2 or 3 in one tree in search of food. These bears are very good climbers, and for that reason have been given a tall pole to mount at the Zoo.

**Syrian Bear (*Ursus syriacus*), Page 26.**—The Syrian Bear, of which a young specimen is depicted, is a somewhat larger animal than the Himalayan, and in colour is of a light silvery brown. Its habits are similar to the latter, and it is equally proficient as a climber. Both species are very fond of honey, for which they make diligent search. The bears which are frequently seen performing in the streets are very often of this species.

**Otter (*Lutra lutra*), Page 27.**—The Otter is essentially a water-loving animal, and for powers of swimming and diving it has no rival. It lives upon fish, of which it kills many more than it can eat; though when these are scarce, it will readily attack the feathered inmates of the farmyard. The young, which are born blind, are usually from 2 to 5 in number. If captured young they make ideal pets, following their owner about like a dog.



**Californian Sea Lion** (*Otaria californiana*) Page 28.—The Sea Lions, or Eared Seals, are those from which the sealskin of commerce is obtained, this being the under fur, the coarse outer hairs of the coat having been first removed. Their breeding places are known as "rookeries," where they assemble in vast numbers, fighting for the possession of the different stations and for the females. At one time great numbers were slaughtered annually, but now their favourite breeding places are protected by the United States Government. They become very tame and gentle in captivity, showing a large amount of intelligence. Their cry is a rather harsh bark and not at all pleasing.

**Common Seal** (*Phoca vitulina*), Page 29.—The Seal is distinguished from the Sea Lion, by having no external ear tufts, also in having the hind flippers permanently directed backwards. In size it is very inferior. It is more adapted for a purely aquatic life than the Sea Lion, being able to remain under water for a period of 15 minutes, though it has been stated upon good authority that 30 minutes is not too long for it. The young are of themselves unable to swim and have to be taught by their parents. On land its movements are decidedly clumsy.

**Zebu** (*Bos indicus*), Page 30.—Zebus are the domestic humped cattle of India. As regards size the different species vary one from the other considerably—the largest standing as high as an ox, whilst the smallest are not much bigger than a very young calf. These animals are looked upon as sacred, and certain bulls are protected by the natives, and allowed to roam about the towns and villages at will. The larger species are used for drawing the native carts.

**Banteng** (*Bos sondaicus*) Page 31.—The Banteng or Javan Ox, is an animal rarely seen in captivity. Of its habits very little is known, though the domestic variety breeds freely with the Zebu. The specimen depicted is a young animal.

**American Bison** (*Bison americanus*), Page 32.—This noble animal, once so plentiful, is now fast approaching extinction. There are, however, still a few left, which receive protection at the hands of the American Government, notably the small herd in the Yellowstone Park, numbering about 20 specimens. It is stated that between the years 1872 and 1874, no fewer than 3½ millions of one herd were slaughtered. The photograph is of a cow, which differs from the bull in having a smaller head, and being less massive in proportion.

**Blandford's Sheep** (*Ovis vignei*, var. *blandfordi*), Page 33.—This sheep, named after the well-known explorer and zoologist William Thomas Blandford, is a variety of the Ural or Punjaub wild sheep. It is found in Baluchistan, and is notable for the very widespread spiral of its horns. It is an active animal, and gets over the steep ground of the hillsides with great rapidity.

**Burrhel Wild Sheep** (*Ovis nahura*), Page 34.—These sheep are found in Tibet, in herds varying in numbers from 8 to as many as 100. They are remarkable climbers, and when alarmed rush away to inaccessible parts where man cannot follow. In captivity they breed freely.

**Barbary Sheep** (*Ammotragus lervia*), Page 35.—Also known as the Maned Sheep. These animals are found in Africa. They are great adepts at hiding themselves, even where there is little cover, sitting motionless beside some stone or small bush, their earth-like colouring making it difficult to distinguish them even at a comparatively short distance.



**Serow** (*Capricornis thar*), Page 36.—Serows are also known as Goat-antelopes. The common Serow, which is depicted, is a native of the Himalayas, where it is not very plentiful. Serows are only found in small companies of 3 or 4, and frequent the steepest and most inaccessible slopes of the hills. Although shy animals, they are dangerous and fierce when disturbed.

**Rocky Mountain Goat** (*Oreamnos montanus*), Page 37.—This fine animal is rarely to be seen in captivity, the specimen depicted being the only living example in Europe. In its native parts it spends most of its time amongst the mountains, but when pressed by hunger, will descend to lower pastures. It has been known to swim in order to reach a desired spot. In colour it is white, with a slight creamy tinge.

**Eland** (*Taurotragus oryx*), Pages 38 and 39.—The Eland is the largest of the Antelope tribe, the average height for an adult bull being some 5 feet 9 inches at the withers. At one time Elands were plentiful in South, East, and Central Africa, though they are now no longer to be found in Cape Colony and the adjoining parts. As large numbers are slaughtered for the sake of their hides, they are fast joining the ranks of disappearing animals. They are usually found in large herds, the numbers varying from 50 to 100. In captivity they breed freely. The accompanying photographs show an adult bull, and a cow with her 4 days old calf.

**Springbok** (*Gazella euchore*), Page 40.—The Springbok is found in South Africa, and derives its name from the manner in which it bounds and springs along the ground when running, at times taking sudden leaps in the air. The band of erectile white hairs running down the centre of the back is peculiar to this animal, but is only to be fully seen when the animal is excited, the darker hairs of the back closing over it from either side in its normal condition.

**Blessbok** (*Damaliscus albifrons*), Page 41.—The Blessbok, another of the South African Antelopes, is an animal standing about 3 feet 2 inches at the withers. It congregates in large herds, but as is the case with all the South African mammals, the advance of civilization is driving it to remoter parts as well as considerably diminishing its numbers.

**Giraffe** (*Giraffa camelopardalis*), Pages 42 and 43.—The Giraffe is the sole representative of its family, and holds the distinction of being the tallest of living animals, 18 or 19 feet being by no means an unusual height for an adult bull. It is found in South Africa, but its numbers are fast dwindling, and its range getting more restricted. The food of Giraffes consists principally of leaves, which they pluck from the trees with the aid of their long flexible tongues. They not infrequently breed in captivity.

**Turkestan Wapiti** (*Cervus bactrianus*), Page 44.—The Wapiti Deer are large in size, a full grown stag standing 17 hands at the shoulder (5 feet 8 inches). As with most deer, the horns are shed annually. The stags live apart from the rest of the herd, during the greater part of the year, but during the breeding season take charge of the party of hinds, after having first settled disputes with their rivals, by a series of fights, which, however, rarely prove fatal.

**Spotted Deer** (*Cervus axis*), Page 45.—Also known as the Chital or Axis, this animal is of comparatively small dimensions, rarely standing more than 3 feet 2 inches at the withers. Chitals are found in most parts of India and Ceylon, though they differ considerably in size in different localities. They are usually to be found in herds of from 10 to 30. They swim well, taking readily to the water.



**Sambur** (*Cervus unicolor*), Page 46.—The Sambur is a large animal, being about 5 feet or more in height at the withers. In colour it is of a very dark brown. It is found in the hilly and wooded districts of India and Ceylon. During the heat of the day it lies in concealment, grazing chiefly by night.

**Muntjac** (*Cervulus muntjac*), Page 47.—The Muntjac, a native of India, is also known as the Barking Deer, on account of the curious bark-like cry it gives forth. It is a small animal, being about 22 inches high at the shoulder. The two ridges which run down the face in the form of a V, are a peculiarity of this animal. The photograph represents an albino specimen.

**Dromedary** (*Camelus dromedarius*), Page 48.—There are two species of Camel, the one-humped and the two-humped. The true or Arabian Camel is found in Africa and Asia, and has but one hump. The term Dromedary is given to the better class of these, which are used for riding purposes; whilst the inferior beasts are used as baggage camels. The difference between these classes is as distinct as between that of a race-horse and a cart-horse.

**Bactrian Camel** (*Camelus bactrianus*), Page 49.—The Bactrian Camel of Central Asia, differs from the Arabian in having two humps, also in its build, which is heavier and more clumsy, the hair being longer and thicker. The temper of all camels is vicious and sour, and at no time do they show the least affection for their master.

**Albanian Pig** (*Sus scrofa*), Page 50.—In size this pig varies from 30 to 40 inches at the shoulder, whilst in weight 300 lbs. or more is by no means unusual. In their native parts pigs of this species inhabit moist and marshy neighbourhoods, searching for food amongst the loose ground. The number of young born in a litter is from 6 to 10, and it is common for two litters to be produced during the year.

**Hippopotamus** (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), Pages 51 and 52.—The name Hippopotamus, derived from the Greek, signifies "River Horse." Hippopotami are ungainly beasts of huge girth. A specimen which once lived at the Zoo, weighed close upon 4 tons. Entirely aquatic in their habits, these creatures live upon grasses and water plants, of which they eat enormous quantities. They thrive well in captivity and not infrequently breed.

**Hairy-eared Rhinoceros** (*Rhinoceros lasiotis*), Page 53.—The Hairy-eared Rhinoceros, a native of India, approximates very closely to the Sumatran Rhinoceros; but from its having a more hairy appearance, especially due to the tufts upon the ears, and because of its paler colour, it is regarded as a distinct species. The horns are two in number.

**African Black Rhinoceros** (*Rhinoceros bicornis*), Page 54.—This species also possesses two horns, but these are usually of a larger size than those of their Asiatic brethren; the African animals also differ in having no permanent folds in the skin, a feature which is so marked in the Indian Rhinoceros. The specimen depicted is a young one.

**Zebras**, Pages 55-58. — The Zebras, of which there are four recognised species, are readily distinguished by their prominently striped heads and bodies. All are natives of Africa.

**Common Zebra** (*Equus zebra*), Page 55.—This animal, also known as the Mountain Zebra, is the first of the group, and is essentially a native of the hilly districts. Although called by the name "Common Zebra," this beast is now one of the rarest, and is seldom seen in captivity.



**Burchell's Zebra** (*Equus burchelli*), Page 56.—This species is a plain-dwelling animal, and is still fairly plentiful. The greater majority of Zebras seen in captivity are of this kind.

**Grevy's Zebra** (*Equus grevyi*) Page 57.—This Zebra has only been known to science for the last few years, and is easily distinguished from other species, by the greater number of stripes (these being placed closer together), and by the larger size of its head.

**Grant's Zebra** (*Equus granti*), Page 58.—Grant's Zebra differs little from Burchell's Zebra, except in the slight variation of the striping. But as this difference is the most important distinguishing feature between the species, it has been recognised as distinct from the others.

**Indian Elephant** (*Elephas maximus*), Pages 59-61.—There are two species of Elephant, the Indian and the African. The former is the one almost always seen in captivity, in fact, the only living specimen of the African Elephant now in England is to be seen at the London Zoo. The chief points of difference between the two are to be found in the size of the ears, which in the African species are so large as to cover the shoulder, whereas those of the Indian species are comparatively small; also the Indian Elephant has but one finger-like ending on the front edge of the trunk, whilst the African has two (one in front and the other behind). The highest point in the African Elephant is the shoulder, but with the Indian, the middle of the back.

**American Grey Squirrel** (*Sciurus carolinensis*), Page 62.—This pretty little squirrel, as its name denotes, is grey in colour, though varieties are found in which the predominating hue is olive-brown. Like other squirrels it is extremely active and alert, and in confinement soon becomes tame and confiding. A number of animals of this species have lately been given their liberty at the Zoo, in the hope that they would establish themselves in the grounds and neighbouring park. The experiment has proved satisfactory, many couples having mated and reared offspring.

**Elephantine Tortoise** (*Testudo elephantina*), Page 63.—The Giant Tortoises come from the Galapagos Islands and Aldabra. Some scores have, during the last few years, come over to this country, and they are fast becoming extinct. However, it is pleasing to note that the few remaining species now receive protection by the hands of the Government of Mauritius, to which Aldabra belongs. The specimen depicted is estimated to be 200 years old, and its great size can readily be estimated by comparison with the small and average-sized tortoise upon its back.

**Indian Python** (*Python molurus*), Page 64.—The Pythons are the largest of the snakes, and it is by no means unusual to see one in captivity measuring 20 feet or more in length. They kill their prey by crushing, swallowing it whole after it is dead. The photograph depicts the Indian Python.

