

# A NATURALIST'S LIFE STUDY

IN

## THE ART OF TAXIDERMY

BY

ROWLAND WARD, F.Z.S.

AUTHOR OF "RECORDS OF BIG GAME," "THE ENGLISH ANGLER IN FLORIDA"  
"THE SPORTSMAN'S HANDBOOK TO COLLECTING  
AND PRESERVING TROPHIES" ETC. ETC.

*FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION*

LONDON

ROWLAND WARD, LTD.

"THE JUNGLE"

167, PICCADILLY, W.

1913

*All rights reserved*

and popularly known as the "Healtheries." To this I contributed a section illustrating the various quadrupeds and birds—both native and foreign, wild and domesticated—used for food in the British Islands. This Exhibition was, I venture to say, of unusual interest, attracting a large share of public attention; and I may perhaps be permitted to add that it was a pity the opportunity was lost of making it a permanent show, especially as it has since been thought advisable to add several features of it to the Natural History Museum.

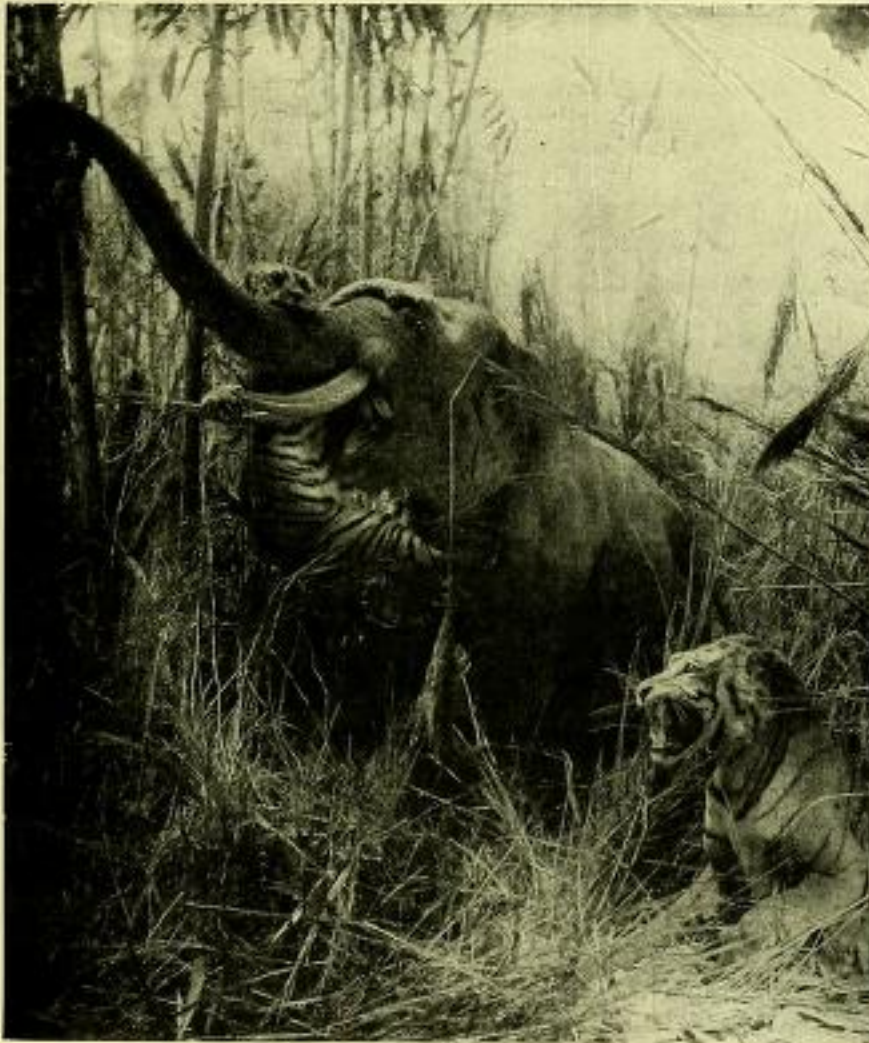
In the first case, labelled "Food for the London Markets," were arranged specimens of the principal birds and wild creatures that come into London markets as food. Another group represented "Food from the Poultry Yard," which was housed in a gabled farm-building, closed in with glass. The building contained a poultry yard, peopled by all the various breeds of fowls that supply our tables. All the best breeds were represented with as much completeness as possible, and arranged in a natural manner. Each specimen in this exhibit was studied from life, so as to facilitate my endeavour to make the action of each individual bird as life-like as could be.

Even cattle were represented in the general scheme, notably by a specimen of the old white, but black-eared, strain of the Pembroke breed. The relative values of the different species and breeds exhibited were described in special handbooks.

From the point of view of displays designed to attract the interest of the general public, one of my greatest successes was achieved in the Colonial and Indian Exhibition held at South Kensington during the summer of 1886, when I had four distinct exhibits, two of which were in the Indian Court.

The first of these took the form of a hunting scene, prepared for the late Maharajah of Cooch Behar. It represented a great group in

the deep-grass jungle. A hunting elephant preceding the beaters had come upon the group of tigers, one of which had sprung upon him with a deadly grip; others were near or retreating in the tall grass and bamboo copse. I had been at a great disadvantage in arranging



SCENE FROM THE COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION, 1886

Animals modelled by the Author

this for want of space; if I had had more room I could have given a greater depth to the jungle and more space for mountain scenes, and so have obtained a still better effect. Some of the animals were lent by the Maharajah, most of them having been shot by himself, in his own dominions, where there are the finest jungles for big game to be

found in India. As providing some indication of the work entailed, I may mention that I gave thirty hours at a stretch to the preparation of one tiger. It is a curious fact, not generally known, that much of the expression on a tiger's face is gained by the disposition of his whiskers. I made a special study of that tiger from life—went to the Zoo and made a tiger snarl by rattling the bars, and afterwards fixed the whiskers on my mounted tiger in exact imitation. In addition to these there were several heads of the rhinoceros, whole reptiles, birds, etc. One of the rhinoceri was a very fine specimen, killed by the Maharajah. The whole skin was sent to me, but I had not time to model the beast entire. The bamboo canes used in this scene to represent the jungle also came from India.

The second and larger scheme, which was designated "Jungle Life," was installed at the instance of the Exhibition Commissioners in order to illustrate some of the more striking representatives of the fauna and flora of India as a whole. The idea I had to carry out was to group these representative animals and birds as picturesquely as possible in illustration of their habits. I had commenced the drawings of the trophy in the previous June, but I should like to have had much more time to make the collection of specimens more representative and complete.

The late Maharajah of Cooch Behar (who died in 1911) said he would send what he could to help me to form the exhibit, and the then Prince of Wales (the late King Edward VII) also gave valuable assistance, and helped me to obtain some of the best trophies then existing, on loan from their owners. To achieve this object he made a signed request in *The Times*. We found we had a much larger task than we had any idea of at the start, for we were allotted a very large space just inside one of the entrances of the old Horticultural build-

ing, reaching right up to the roof. I enclosed the space in large sheets of plate-glass and canvas, and painted on the latter the foliage of the banyan tree; to avoid the "Pepper's Ghost" effect, in one portion I enclosed it with banyan leaves, so that the visitor would get no reflection, and the whole scene was lit up with electricity inside. There was an enormous amount of detail work involved; some of the trophies that had been promised never arrived, and some of them arrived, including natural palms and foliage from India, after the "Jungle" was finished. Still, once it was fairly on the way, nothing could stop the "Jungle," and it was ready a week before the opening day.

I was so pestered with officials and people looking in whilst the Jungle was being erected, that I built a hoarding right round it to keep them away, and the commissionaire I put at the door had to inform many an official that he was not allowed in that particular section of the Exhibition until it was finished. The hoarding itself proved a great attraction, as on it I had outlined with a black brush several big animals, some of them in action. At the start I had been offered assistance "how to do it" by numbers of officious persons, but when it was ready to be shown to the public, they apologised—they had no idea it was going to be like that. It was a set scene of all the Indian animals I could get hold of, and those I hadn't got I made! For instance, the sambur head had an artificial skin to it, and that is only one; then there were the imitation gaur bison and others! Several real heads I mounted in this way on imitation bodies and coloured them, and no one found it out. I had a good opportunity of hiding the feet of some of the animals, for I went to Norfolk and got loads of Norfolk reeds and rushes, dead trees, and things of that description, to take the place of the Indian foliage

which I was promised and did not receive until it was too late. I also made use of a number of trophies which I had in stock. Some very large snakes hung from the dead trees, and on the very top of the scene—at the roof, in fact—I put some ibex with their heads just appearing over the top of the rock-work. Portions of the "Jungle" were draped with cloths painted to resemble foliage and rocks, and there was also some imitation rock-work which gave me an excellent opportunity of concealing any portion of an animal I did not desire to expose. At the bottom were artificial pools with alligators, and overhanging creepers, all of which had to be made—some I had made in Paris, and the rest we did ourselves. Then the animals and birds had all to be prepared for the various positions they had to occupy. With all these things going on at one time, I had quite enough to do—it was night and day work, and even then I did not know what kind of show it was going to turn out. I was very anxious to get all the subjects together to see the effect, and help me to go on, for the idea was all in my head and I wanted to work it out. At length I was able to collect the majority of the exhibits and put them into a group. I could see at once it was going to be a fine effect, and from that day I was sure of its being a success. The tigers came from Cooch Behar, but we had to get an elephant, or the "Jungle" would not have been complete.

I hadn't a suitable Indian elephant, but I heard that Hagenbeck, at Hamburg, had a dangerous one that he was going to kill. A friend of mine—a Dutch gentleman—said he would like to kill it when I told him I was going over to see whether it would suit me. So we went to Hamburg together, he taking a '477 rifle to shoot the elephant with. We saw the elephant, and although it wasn't as good as I wanted, I decided to have it. I went with my friend to Hagen-

beck to witness the shooting of the elephant. I had expected that Hagenbeck would have taken it out of the town away from any crowds, but he had made the preparations for the "elephant hunt" in a square of houses, and with people looking on all around us. It is true that it was in a poor neighbourhood, but I didn't want to be concerned in an affair of that kind, so I told Hagenbeck that I couldn't advise my friend to do any shooting in such a place, and I was surprised that he (Hagenbeck) had suggested such a dangerous quarter. I told him if he killed the elephant I would take the skin, so he agreed to that. I was told afterwards that he strangled the elephant with a big chain, but neither my friend nor myself saw it. So that is how the elephant came into the "Jungle."

I put one of my Cooch Behar tigers on the elephant, and set up another tiger lying on its haunches just in front of the elephant, with its shoulder broken, and several other tigers were in the vicinity. I let this form one scene, and separated it from the other part of the "Jungle" with Norfolk grass, and when the Indian grasses came—after my work was finished—I put some of them in the scene as well.

The Indian palms, which also arrived late, I put round the edges of the plate-glass, but when the authorities saw them they had silica sprayed over them only a day or two before the opening day, as a precaution against fire. When I saw the result it looked as if it had been raining all over the plate-glass—it had spoilt the whole effect of the work. I asked a man who knew something about glass what I had better do, and he said there was nothing to do but to hand-polish the glass all over; so *that* had to be done before the opening. It meant working against time, but it *was* done, for I have never been late in opening at an Exhibition in my life.

This "Jungle," the first one exhibited, was an enormous success, and it was inspected by many thousands of persons, over ten thousand visiting it on August Bank Holiday alone. I introduced two other "Jungles" at Earl's Court in 1895 and 1896, both of



"A TRYING MOMENT"

Modelled by the Author, 1875. (See page 72.)

which were also very successful, and one of them produced £10,000 in gate money in the few months the Exhibition was open.

At the conclusion of the Exhibition in 1886, the then Prince of Wales sent and told me I was not to remove the "Jungle." I was



very concerned at this request, because there were so many trophies in it that had been borrowed, and I wished them returned to their owners; and also I knew that the interior of the group was full of rats, and I could do nothing with them whilst the exhibit was still standing. For that reason I wished to get rid of the trophies I had borrowed as quickly as I could, and the wet was coming in through the roof of the building. However, after a good deal of delay, the "Jungle" was pulled to pieces to avoid further damage to the trophies.

An amusing reference to the "Jungle" appeared in *Judy* for May 12th, 1886, and is worth quotation here for its insidious humour:—

"AN ADDRESS TO CERTAIN STUFFED ANIMALS AT THE  
'COLINDIES!

"Beasts of the forest, bred in primal wood on igneous rocks and various other geological arrangements we wot little of, oh, what stuffing you have stood! Stuffing including tasty morsels of nut-brown infants, dainty bits of boys and girls reared on India's soils; elks and potted-meat cans, camphor, bug-paste, good lamb's-wool, alum, oakum, salt, pepper, timber, and tin-tacks, have all reposed within you! At last you are full for evermore.

"Verily we welcome you among us. You from India's indigo-coloured mountains and Afric's gamboge-tinted strands. You that have boomed around and snarled about with sullen roar and grim ferocity!

"Here among us, dead to the popping sound of champagne corks, and the hoarse rattle of braying trumpets, you will gaze with unflinching eye and immovable dignity at the vagaries of a species of civilised human being known as 'Arry.

"He will prod you with walking-sticks; he will facetiously tickle your noses with straws; he will dance around you gibbering like an idiotic baboon; he will raise his cheap patent-leather boot to you slyly.

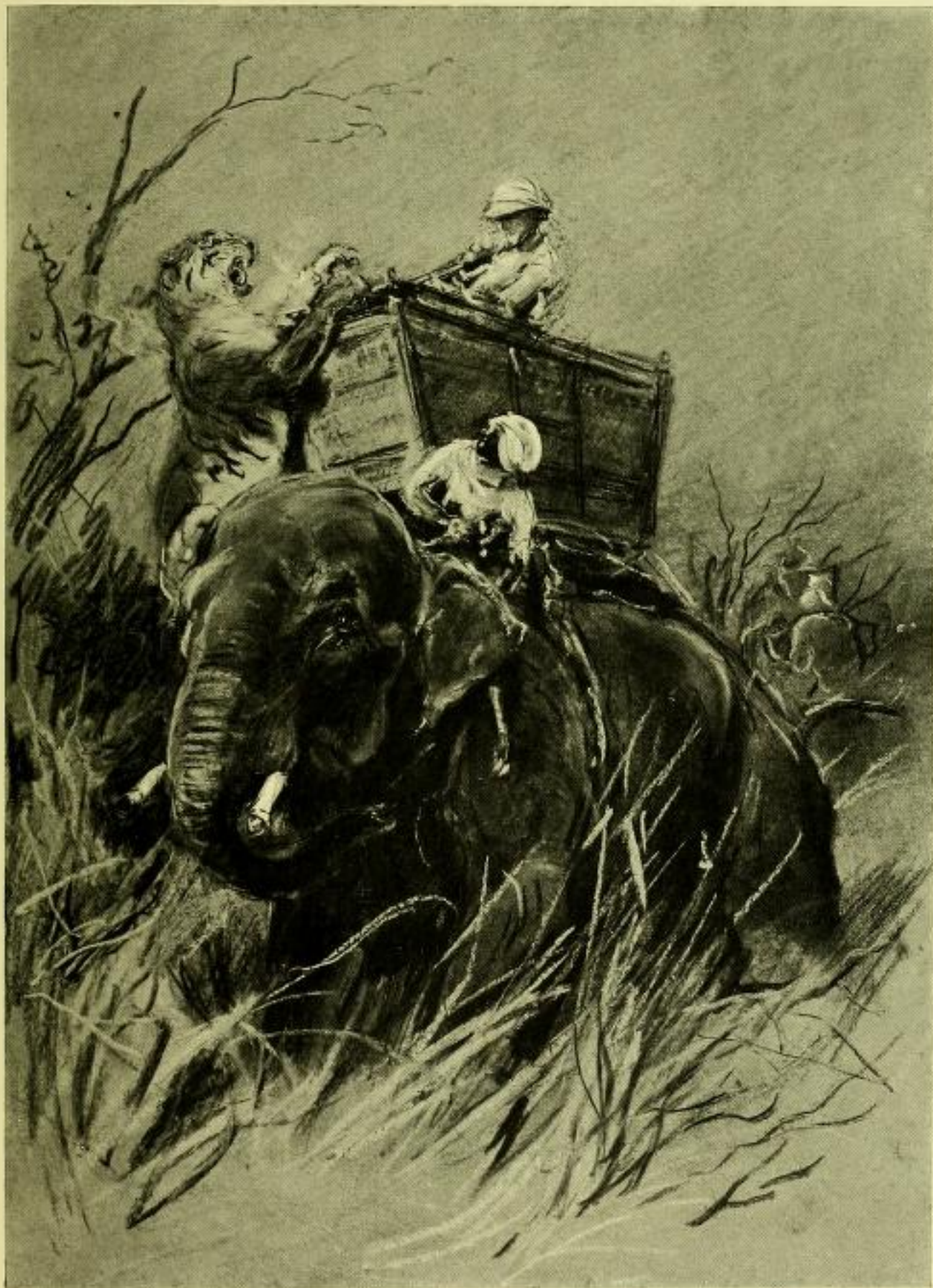
"Then you can moralise and console yourself by calling unto your minds that celebrated fable which describes an insolent jackass who amuses himself by kicking a dying lion."

Looking back to this work, done more than twenty-five years ago, I recall the endless thought and labour bestowed on the undertaking. To design it and get the objects together, to hide the defects of some of the imperfect specimens, make dummy animals where required, paint the backgrounds, and group the animals, birds, and foliage so that it became a scene in the Exhibition which everyone went to see, gave me many sleepless nights and an amount of work which I should hesitate to take on so lightly again. If I have one regret it is that I have been unable to carry into effect my desire to do something of this kind in an unlimited space and without the rigid restrictions which such exhibitions entail.

An Anglo-Danish Exhibition, held partly in commemoration of the silver wedding of the then Prince and Princess of Wales, and partly in aid of a deserving charity, was opened at South Kensington by Their Royal Highnesses in May, 1888.

On this occasion I arranged an exhibit of natural history specimens representing an "Arctic Scene," a glass case full of Arctic animals and birds grouped in natural attitudes.

In May, 1889, I was entrusted with a commission from His Royal Highness the Duc d'Orléans to mount a series of trophies obtained by him on a big shoot in Nepal, during the period when he was serving



STUDY FOR GROUP MODELLED BY THE AUTHOR FOR H.R.H. THE DUC D'ORLÉANS

Illustrating an incident during his Indian tour.

in India on the staff of General (afterwards Sir George) Luck and Sir Frederick (now Earl) Roberts. During this hunt a tigress, whose cubs had been killed, sprang on the neck of the elephant carrying His Royal Highness, and attempted to enter the howdah, breaking as it did so the stock of his rifle. The details of the incident, on which I based my group, were given me by His Royal Highness himself, and afterwards appeared in *The Graphic* under the title of "At Close Quarters," from which I extract the following:—

"Two cubs of a tigress had been shot, and the mother hemmed in by a line of elephants. There was an idea that she was crouching in a small patch of jungle behind a tree on the bank of a small stream, but none of our elephants could be got anywhere near it. After some time my elephant, being pluckier than the others, was induced to move forward and push the tree down. While thus engaged, the tigress sprang out from beside it with a roar and a tremendous leap right on the top of my howdah, smashing in the front of it, breaking my gun with one blow of her paw and exploding the right barrel before I had time to fire. The gun is still in my possession—a double-barrelled rifle broken in two pieces just below the barrels, the trigger-guard and metal plates wrenched off and twisted by the force of the blow, and with one barrel discharged, the other still at half cock. Fortunately for me she then stumbled backwards, possibly startled by the explosion, and made off for the jungle. My elephant, mad with fright, bolted in the opposite direction, and for a considerable distance nothing would stop her. When at length we got back to the others, we found the whole line of elephants so demoralised that we had to give up sport for the day, and return to camp. Next morning we cornered our game in nearly the same spot, and I had the good luck to bring her down just as she was crossing the river."

I chose the moment when the animal was in the very act of trying to enter the howdah. These trophies were kept for many years in the museum at Sheen House, the Twickenham residence of the Duc d'Orléans; but the tiger was shown at the first Paris Exhibition.

Towards the end of June, 1892, I had the pleasure of exhibiting in Piccadilly the biggest bag of lions I have ever had—shot in one trip and by one individual, viz. Lord Delamere, of East African fame. Two of the finest skins chosen from this bag of fourteen shot by his lordship on an expedition to Somaliland were mounted as though in the middle of a deadly combat. One of the lions, whose fore-paw was held in the other's powerful jaw, and whose sides were dripping blood where the sharp claws and fangs had struck him, was depicted as roaring in fierce agony. Locked together, the two great beasts seemed to be rolling down a sloping bank towards the spectators' feet (see illustration, page 89).

The bigger of the lions, which had a magnificent mane, took two days in the killing. Wounded on the first day in an attack on Lord Delamere's man, he retired into a thick cover of reeds. On the second day, when all attempts to dislodge him—including fireworks and other devices—had failed, Lord Delamere determined to get at close quarters. He had an exciting quarter of an hour, the lion being at his lordship's very feet before the third shot laid him dead.

The group eventually found a home at Vale Royal, Lord Delamere's Cheshire residence, where even the ceilings are decorated with lion skins. Lord Cranworth, in his recently published book *A Colony in the Making*, mentions that Lord Delamere, single handed, has accounted for close on seventy lions, more than twice as many as stand to the credit of any other sportsman. He holds a far

'seventies, when Wyoming—then thickly populated with natives—was annually visited by a number of British sportsmen in pursuit of bison, wapiti, mule deer, prong-horn antelope, mountain goat, bear, and puma. In 1883, it may here be mentioned, the State of Wyoming prohibited the export of hides and horns, thus paving the way for that system of protection which has proved so beneficial to big game throughout the United States. Since those days, much has been done in the way of game reserves in America, Africa, and India. The Yellowstone Park contains a wonderful collection of the game of North America. Pity it is that it is not possible to do more in this way, but during the last few years many game reserves have been made. One interesting fact comes to my mind in this connection, and that is, whereas a few years ago scarcely a buffalo could be got in East Africa owing to the ravages of rinderpest, now they are very numerous.

Later in the same year (1887) I had the pleasure of exhibiting in Piccadilly a large number of African big-game trophies secured by Sir John Willoughby, Sir Robert Harvey, and other pioneer sportsmen in what is now British East Africa, the start for which was made from a point opposite Zanzibar. This was, of course, in the early days of East African shooting, when the game was extraordinarily abundant, and comparatively little known in this country. An account of the trip and the sport was given by Sir John Willoughby in a book entitled *East Africa and its Big Game*, published in 1889. In an article in a sporting paper it was observed that "various animals are represented among the heads which Mr. Ward has so successfully mounted that they look almost life-like." As a matter of fact, the collection included examples of nearly all the East African big game, from lions, elephants, and rhinoceri to

antelopes. Prominent among these was a huge rhinoceros head, of which the writer in *The Chronicle* had the following to say:—

“The fierce, wicked eye gleams on either side, as in life. Unlike the Indian rhinoceros, which boasts only one horn, the African variety bears two horns, the front one rising straight up from the nether snout some 2 feet high, terminating in a formidable point; while nearer the forehead is a blunter horny projection. As this animal's weapons of attack are terrible, so its means of protection are all but perfect. It is clad in bullet-proof armour, in its heavy hide. Even on the face a bullet from the most improved rifle striking it would do no hurt, but glance off. To hunt this beast, therefore, is no joke. Tiger hunting is not ‘in it.’ There the sportsman is up on the back of an elephant, in a comfortable howdah, and the tiger, hit above the shoulder blade, dies easily. The African rhinoceros, however hunted, whether on foot or astride a horse, is a terrible quarry; even if the daring hunter had the opportunity of peppering him with a machine gun, yet if one or two vulnerable spots were not hit, the leaden rain would glance off the pachydermatous umbrella, and the two-foot spike would soon settle matters with the daring hunter.”

As is probably well-known to most of my readers, Sir John was one of the pioneers of sport and exploration in Rhodesia as well as East Africa.

During September, 1887, I received an unusual specimen, namely, a blue shark. Its capture was duly recorded in *The Times* of September 23rd, as follows:—

“There arrived in Piccadilly this afternoon a fine specimen of the blue shark (*Squalus glaucus*) that was caught by a gentleman with hook and line on the coast of North Cornwall on Wednesday, no

## WHITE RHINOCERI (*Rhinoceros simus*)

IN the spring of 1894 considerable excitement was caused in this country by the arrival of two complete skins of the white rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros simus*) of South Africa, a species then supposed to be on the very verge of extermination, as, indeed, was really the case in Southern Africa. These animals were shot by Major R. T. Coryndon in North-Eastern Mashonaland, on behalf of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, by whom they were consigned to me. The skin of one was mounted in my studios for Mr. Rothschild's museum at Tring; the other skin and skeleton were transferred to the British Museum, while the second skeleton found a home in the Zoological Museum at Cambridge. The specimen at Tring, which was displayed for some time in my Piccadilly studios in April of that year (1894), was the first complete adult example of the species ever exhibited in England, the only other in Europe being one in the Museum at Leiden. The papers during April, 1894, were full of descriptions and pictures of the Tring specimen, and considerable discussion arose as to why the species were called the white rhinoceros (*Whit rhinaster* of the Boers). To this day the question remains unanswered; the only possible solution being that the representatives of the species formerly met with by the Boers in the more southern districts of Africa were lighter coloured than those which survived further north to our own days. In view of its inapplicability to the latter, many attempts were made to



replace the old designation of the species by such terms as Burchell's rhinoceros and the square-mouthed rhinoceros; but white rhinoceros it was, and white rhinoceros it will remain.

Major Coryndon himself read an interesting paper on the subject before the Zoological Society, in the course of which he stated that when, in the middle of July, 1892, he was returning from the Zambesi River his companion found three white rhinoceri—a bull, cow, and a calf. In following them up they came across three others. They shot the cow and the bull, and captured the calf after a very hard struggle, but the youngster died on the ninth day after his capture. He managed to get two specimens, and in order to convey some idea of the size of the animals, he stated that it took thirty-seven boys to carry the skins and skeletons to Salisbury. Why they should be called white he did not know, because, if anything, they were of a darker colour than the black, and very much larger. The white rhinoceros lived on grass alone, whilst the black fed on twigs. The rhinoceri which fell to his gun were about 6 ft. 6 in. high, and had enormous heads, which they carried very low. The white rhinoceri were as big again as the black, and carried enormous quantities of fat on the ribs, the flesh being of a good flavour and very juicy.

At the time Major Coryndon shot his specimens Mashonaland was believed to be the last stronghold of the species; but Mr. C. L. Leatham, writing from Zululand in October, communicated a letter to *The Field* of December 1st, 1894, in which it was stated that "the white rhinoceros still flourishes in the remoter corners of this country (Zululand). This season alone six specimens of this rare pachyderm have been slain, two of them having fallen to the rifle of that well-known big-game hunter, Mr. C. R. Varndell, who, in company with Sub.-Inspector C. C. Foxon, of the Zululand Police, enjoyed excellent

sport during the past dry season in the low, tsetse-fly infested country between the lower Black and the White Umvolosi rivers. The first one shot by Mr. Varndell—a fine specimen, with a 3-ft. horn—has been preserved, and is, I understand, going home to Messrs. R. Ward and Co., of Piccadilly.”

This specimen, as recorded in *The Times* of March 9th, 1895, was duly received in my establishment, where it was set up.

The fact vouched for by Mr. Leatham was verified in June, 1895, by Mr. Varndell himself, who sent an account to *The Field*, of which the following is an extract:—

“While resting awhile my shikari, ‘Ehla ingwe’ (Eat a leopard), descried something in the distance glistening a faint white in the sun, and on getting up and nearing it, we made it out to be the bulky form of one of the huge pachyderms of which we were in search. A long stalk *ventre-à-terre* brought me to within a hundred yards of my victim, and I at once planted a shot in her shoulder, on receiving which she immediately turned and charged, upon which I gave her another bullet in the neck, which caused her to swerve and run past me. Hastily reloading, I fired again, and had the intense gratification of seeing her sway, stumble on a few yards, and then fall, with a mighty crash, stone dead. Next day I skinned her, cutting the hide in half longitudinally, and as soon as I could find means of conveyance carted the trophy off to Eshowe, whence Mr. E. A. Brunner, of that place, acting as my agent, forwarded it to Durban *en route* to England, where the perfect specimen may shortly be viewed in the showroom of Mr. Ward, of Piccadilly. I may mention that, in a second trip, taken again in company with Mr. C. C. Foxen (than whom a keener sportsman does not exist), we saw five other specimens of *R. simus*, only one of which (a bull) was killed, though we might easily have added another to our bag.”

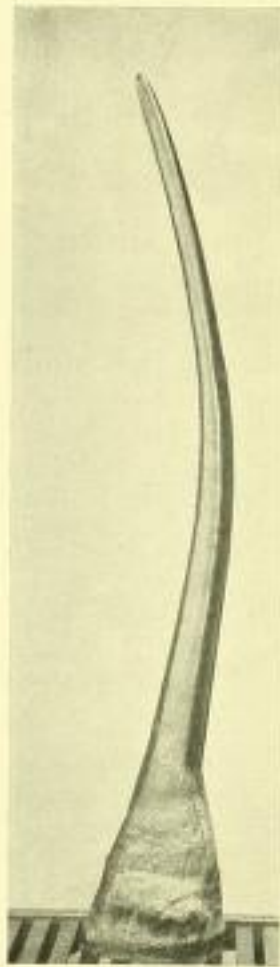
The white rhinoceros is such a huge beast that the skin of Mr. Coryndon's Tring specimen had to be brought in three pieces and afterwards put together again on the model. It stands some 6 ft. 6 in. or 8 in. high, and measures from tip to tip close upon 16 ft. Buried in its skin when Mr. Coryndon shot it were six native bullets, which must have been put into it some years before. Two of these bullets were of hammered iron and four were of lead. This remarkable fact is decidedly in favour of Mr. Coryndon's argument that it is impossible to preserve the very few remaining specimens.

Some ten years before the arrival in England of the specimens shot by Mr. Coryndon, Mr. Selous shot a specimen in Mashonaland which he gave to the Cape Town Museum, where the head is now to be seen. Beyond one other which was shot by the late Mr. J. S. Jameson, while hunting with Mr. Selous, no authentic records of any specimen of this rare animal had been published. But there had been for some years a young specimen in the British Museum, although its presence, curiously enough, seemed to have altogether escaped observation.

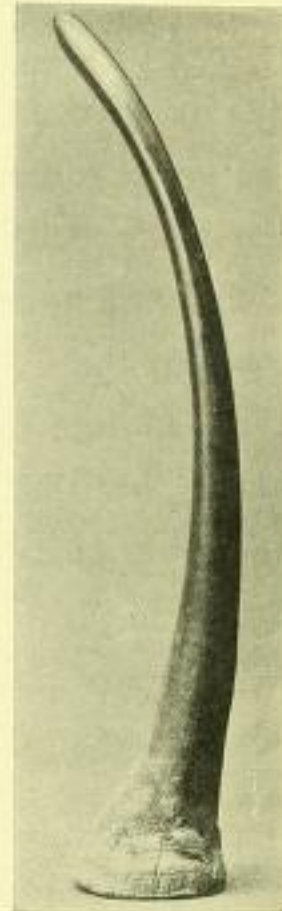
There is a marked difference between the *R. bicornis* (black) and the *R. simus* (white). The latter possesses a massive lip perfectly square in front, with a huge rubber-like jagged edge, and its head is altogether larger than that of the *bicornis*. Another curious feature about the South African white rhinoceros is that it always carries its huge unwieldy head so low that the fore-horn in many of the specimens was found to be worn flat by perpetual contact with the ground.

Although the white rhinoceros was at this time rightly considered to be on the verge of extinction in South Africa, it was soon afterwards discovered to be still existing in the Lado district of Central Equatorial Africa, whence an incomplete specimen was brought home

some time previously to 1908 by Major A. St. H. Gibbons, and later by Major P. H. G. Powell Cotton. Of this northern race, which Mr. Lydekker has named *Rhinoceros simus cottoni*, several complete skins and skulls of a fine male, female, and calf were subsequently brought to England by Major Powell Cotton. One of these skins



HORN OF  
*Rhinoceros simus*  
Length, 50½ in. ; girth, 20 in.



RHINOCEROS HORN  
Supposed hybrid between  
*Rhinoceros simus* and  
*Rhinoceros bicornis*  
(See page 139)

I mounted for that gentleman's own private museum at Quex Park, Birchington, and another for the Congo Museum, near Brussels. I also mounted a head of another of Major Cotton's specimens for the British Museum.

In my collection I possess a very fine specimen of a white rhinoceros horn measuring 50¾ inches on the front curve. The

animal, I believe, was killed in Zululand by a Mr. Green, a friend of the famous African traveller Livingstone.

Early this year (1912), the Hon. Walter Rothschild sent me the curious rhinoceros horn shown in the second illustration on opposite page. It was to me so abnormal that I wrote to *The Field* as follows:—

“The accompanying photograph represents an African rhinoceros horn (belonging to the Hon. Walter Rothschild), which seems to have the characters of both *Rhinoceros simus* and *Rhinoceros bicornis*. Three inches from its base the horn has almost a flat front surface like *simus*, but within two feet of the tip is circular like *bicornis*; length in front curve,  $43\frac{1}{2}$  in.; circumference at base, 22 in.; weight, 10 lb. This specimen was obtained by the late Mr. Doggett on his last trip during the Uganda Boundary Commission. It would be interesting to learn if both species, viz. *Rhinoceros simus* and *R. bicornis*, occur in or near the Lado Enclave, for if this is the case it may possibly be a hybrid.”

That well-known authority Capt. C. H. Stigand, writing in *The Field* on October 21st, 1912, said: “There was a query in *The Field* lately as to whether the white rhinoceros ever occurs on the east bank of the Nile opposite to the Lado Enclave, its known habitat. During several years' acquaintance with this locality I have never heard of one being shot or seen on the east bank of the Nile, nor have I ever heard of a black rhinoceros being shot or seen on the west bank in the Lado. I have often remarked on this fact, and asked officials about it, but have never received any information which would give reason to suppose that the white rhinoceros ever occurs in Uganda territory. . . . The rest of the fauna of the two banks of the Nile appear to be identical, and so it is curious that neither species of rhinoceros should ever cross the river. Elephants frequently cross the Nile, and

so do other animals on rare occasions. Not so long ago a leopard was seen swimming in the Nile. If other animals can cross from bank to bank, it should be easy for the rhinoceros to do so, and the type of country is identical on both banks. As far as is known at present, the limits of distribution of the white rhinoceros, besides the Nile to the east, are the Mahagi strip to the south, and about lat. 6° to the north, where it occurs outside the limit of the Lado Enclave. To the west it extends into the western part of the Welle. The exact limits of its range in that direction are not, I believe, clearly known, but according to the reports of Belgian officials both black and white rhinoceros are found intermixed in the neighbourhood of Dongu and Faraje."

difficult to understand how the work was accomplished. The specimen is now in the Natural History Section of the British Museum.

"It would have been interesting to know," said the writer in his article, "whether during life this lion was as well nourished as its fellows. The skull, though adult, is of rather small size. This is the first instance of an abnormality of this description that has come under my notice. Partial or complete duplication of the upper canine seems, on the other hand, to be not very uncommon in the dog family, and I have had many lions, tigers, and leopards illustrating all sorts of duplications and abnormal growths. It will be remembered, for instance, that some time ago a fox's skull with completely double canines on both sides of the upper jaw was figured in *The Field*. A precisely similar condition obtains in the skull of the African long-eared fox now exhibited in the Natural History Museum."

During the year 1901, I suggested to the late Maharajah of Cooch Behar that our Natural History Museum was much in want of a complete Indian rhinoceros, and, with his usual generosity, he sent a fine specimen in due course, so that before 1903 it was mounted in my studios and handed over to the Natural History Museum. The animal, as mounted, stands 5 ft. 3½ in. at the shoulder, and measures 10 ft. 4 in. in a straight line from snout to tail-tip.

Early in 1905 I received the skin of a Malay tapir, which, when mounted, went to the Royal Scottish Museum. It was one of the best complete specimens that ever passed through my hands. Its portrait appeared in *The Daily Graphic* of April 4th, 1905, under the title of "Indian Tapir," a mistake which was doubtless due to the animal's misleading scientific name, *Tapirus indicus*, a name which,

his nose and passed out through his mouth. I was so struck with the size of the fragment, which was quite three-quarters of an inch long, and the circumstance that it had been stowed away seven or eight months without his being aware of its presence, that I mounted



The late  
A. H. Neumann.

Abel  
Chapman.

F. C.  
Selous.

Major C. S.  
Cumberland.

J. G. Millais.

GROUP TAKEN AT STRADSETT HALL, NORFOLK, DURING THE AUTHOR'S RESIDENCE

it in gold and presented it to Mr. Selous as a memento. I also took a cast and reproduced the fragment, and mounted it as a scarf-pin for his travelling companion, Mr. J. S. Jameson.

The circumstances which led up to this occurrence are related by Mr. Selous in one of his books. He was cantering after a bull