

beeps heads, Roach & Perch, & trout in inland streams. Of fowls, the Swan, white gray & black Goose, & Cranes: the best Duck & Seal I ever ate, & the Snipe and Curlew, with the Snow-bird are also excellent.

The aire is sweet & clear wth makes a serene and steady sky as in the more southern parts of France—Our Summers & winters are commonly once in three years in extremes, but the winters seldom last above ten weeks & rarely begin till y^e latter end of December. The days are above two hours longer, & y^e sun much hotter here than with you, wth makes some recompense for y^e long nights of the winter Season, as well as the woods y^e make heap & great fires.

We have of graine, wheat, maize, Rye, Barly, oates, severall excellent sorts of beans & pease; pumkens, water & musmellons, all English Roots & garden stuff, good fruit & excellent sider. The Peach we have in divers kinds & very good & in great abundance. The vine of severall sorts & y^e sign wth us of rich (and) is very fruitfull & tho' not so sweet as some I have eaten in Europe, yet it makes a good wine, and the worst good vinegar: I have observed three sorts, the great grape w^{ch} has green, red & black on y^e same tree, the muskedell, and black little grape which is the best, & may be improv'd to an excellent wine. These are spontaneous.

Of cattle we have the horse, not very handsome, but good—low cattle & hogs in much plenty & sheep encrease apace.

Our town of Philadelphia is seated between two navigable rivers, having from 4 to 10 fathom water; about 150 houses up in one year, & 400 Country settlements, thus do labour to render our selves an Industrious colony to y^e honor & benefitt of y^e crown as well as our comfort & advantage, & lett them not be separated say I.

Pardon this history, & the imperfect dress it shows things in. I thought better offend by being troublesome a little, than by neglect of duty. The first ship y^e goes for Ireland, shall carry a small present of this Countrys growth, as a Token of my Respect which I assure myselfe will not be disagreeable for the value, when 'tis considered as y^e all of testimony y^e is left me here to express myselfe by, who in all places & conditions shall with zeal & pleasure study to approve myselfe—

My noble freind

Thy affec^t and
faithfull freind

to serve thee in w^h I can

WM. PENN.

From the "Leisure Hour."

Asiatic Rhinoceroses.

The first section of existing rhinoceroses is distinguished by the possession of a single nasal horn, and by the skin or hide being very thick and tuberculated, and partitioned off by great folds into what have been compared to plates of mail. This is the type of rhinoceros with which alone the people in Europe have long been familiar. It is known that African two-horned rhinoceroses were anciently exhibited in the Roman circus, but in modern times the larger of the two one-horned Asiatic species was the only kind that had been seen in Europe, until the arrival some years ago of one of the African species in the London Zoological Gardens.

This large one-horned rhinoceros is a huge beast that attains to nearly or quite six feet

in height, with enormous bulk of body. Its geographical range and distribution would appear to be comparatively limited. It inhabits the swampy lands at the base of the Eastern Himalaya, becoming more numerous eastward, and being especially abundant in the valley of Assam, from which province the young are not unfrequently brought alive to Calcutta, and hence the supply of specimens for the menageries of Europe and America. In other localities, the lesser one-horned rhinoceros (to be described in the sequel) has been generally mistaken for it.

An experienced sportsman and hunter of this particular species in Assam remarks of it, that "for so ponderous an animal, the rhinoceros is wonderfully agile in its movements; and when charging an enemy dashes through the densest covert with astounding ease and rapidity. It is as much as an elephant can do to keep ahead of an infuriated one; and it often struck us, when being pursued after firing at and wounding one, that if the rhinoceros had continued the chase a little farther, instead of abandoning it, as they usually do after fifty yards or so, we should infallibly have been caught. These animals are gregarious, and are found in small herds of four and six together, although more often in pairs. The period of gestation is nearly eighteen months, and only one young one is produced at a birth. The little one, when it first sees light, is nearly three feet in length and two in height. It continues to suck for about two years. The haunts of the rhinoceros are characterised by numerous broad tracks trodden in his peregrinations to his favorite feeding-places. These he invariably follows, and he is occasionally killed by the natives, who lie in wait for him, concealed in a tree that may happen to be near the path. Habitually sluggish in his movements, he wanders along with a slow measured tread, sometimes stopping to plough up the ground in mere wantonness, and covering himself with mud and dirt. At times he takes it into his head to pay a visit to any neighboring paddy or rice-fields that may perchance be in the vicinity of his retreats. On these occasions, woe to the luckless cultivators of the soil! for the amount of devastation and ruin that he commits almost surpasses belief. A pair of rhinoceroses in a single night will completely destroy a large rice-field of four or five acres in extent. It is not so much what they eat—although their appetites are by no means delicate—but the amount of damage which they do in trampling the grain with their great clumsy feet into the soft, yielding soil. Drinking large quantities of water, and being fond of bathing and wallowing in the ground, they are consequently compelled to keep to those localities which afford these essentials to their existence and comfort, and which also supply the luxuriant and profuse vegetation necessary for their support. Hence the interminable swamps and jungles of Assam are the favorite resorts of the species, and teem with herds of them."

Writing of one of the single-horned species of rhinoceros, another experienced observer remarks:—"It is surprising to see how rapidly, and without the least exertion, as it seems, these huge, heavily-built, unwieldy-looking animals get over the ground, such ground consisting of the densest jungle of hill-reeds, bushes, and brushwood, and thick saplings interspersed with large trees. Awkward as

is their gait, they trot very fast: I say *trot*, for their movements more nearly resembles a trot than anything else, though actually it is rather a gait between a trot and a canter. Elephants with howdahs have no chance with them in the chase; and unless dropped with the first shot, or they suddenly stop to turn to stand at gaze, thus exposing the fatal shot in the temple within fair ball distance, they generally manage to escape. It is useless firing at the body." This was written before the present more efficient style of weapons came into use, or the terrible explosive shell was invented, which is now so promptly fatal not only to the largest quadrupeds on land, but equally so to the far more gigantic warm-blooded inhabitants of the ocean.

Another experienced sporting writer remarks of one of the two single-horned species, that "it is a mistake to suppose that their horn is their most formidable weapon. I thought so myself at one time," he adds, "but have long been satisfied that it is merely used in defence, and not as an instrument of offence. It is with their cutting teeth that they wound so desperately. I killed a large male, which was cut and slashed all over its body with fighting; the wounds were all fresh, and as clearly cut as if they had been done with a razor. Another rhinoceros that we had wounded stood, and, out of pure rage, cut at the jungle right and left, exactly as a boar uses his tusks. A medical friend had a man, who was sauntering through the forest, actually embowelled by a rhinoceros. He examined the wound immediately, and I heard him say afterwards that if it had been done with the keenest cutting instrument it could not have been cleaner cut, and that could not have been with the horn." A writer before cited remarks, of the large species in Assam: "The beast does not generally use his horn for aggressive purposes, but makes play with his mighty jaws, with a single snap of which he can cut a man in two."

There is little marked difference in size between the sexes of this species, but the male is generally somewhat larger. There is a particularly fine male now in the Regent's Park; and an old female with unusually long horns. It often happens that, in captivity, a rhinoceros wears away its horn to a level with the nose. The horn or horns in this genus consist merely of agglutinated hair, and are attached to the skin only, so that they are more or less movable, and when long are apt to hang over to the front, as exemplified by that of the female animal now in the London Zoological Gardens. One at Moscow knocked off its horn some time ago, and another has since grown in its place.

Another and smaller kind of single-horned rhinoceros inhabits the countries lying eastward of the Bay of Bengal, inclusive of the Malayan Peninsula and the Island of Java to the south, if not also both Samatra and Borneo, which is at present doubtful.

It is comparatively a small animal, which never much exceeds four feet in height; but its horns attain a beautiful development, more especially the anterior one, which is much longer than the other, and has a graceful curvature backward, which is more or less decided in different individuals; the other, or posterior horn, is not placed contiguously to the first, as in all of the African species, but at a considerable distance from it, and it has a corresponding backward curvature.

This animal inhabits Borneo as well as Sumatra, but not Java. It occurs likewise in the Malayan Peninsula, and would appear to be extensively diffused in the Indo-Chinese countries. One was captured not long ago in Chittagong (at the head of the Bay of Bengal, on its eastern side.) It appears that some natives came into the station and reported that a rhinoceros had been found by them in a quicksand, being quite exhausted with its efforts to release itself. They had attached two ropes to the animal's neck, and, with the assistance of about two hundred men, dragged her out, and keeping her taut between the two ropes, they eventually made her fast to a tree. The next morning, however, they found the animal so much refreshed, and making such violent efforts to free herself, that they were frightened, and made application to the magistrate of Chittagong for protection. The same evening Captain Hood and H. W. Wickes started with eight elephants to secure the prize, and, after a march of about sixteen hours to the south of Chittagong, they came up with the animal. "She was then discovered to be a Sumatran or Asiatic two-horned rhinoceros, rather more than four feet in height, with a smooth hairy skin somewhat like that of a pig, and with two-horns—one up high, almost between the eyes, and small; the other rather larger, and just above the nose—and the upper lip almost coming to a point, and protruding a little. The elephants at first sight of the rhinoceros were very much afraid, and bolted one and all; but after some little exertion they were brought back, and made to stand by. A rope was now with some trouble attached to the animal's hind leg, and secured to an elephant. At this juncture the rhinoceros roared, the elephant again bolted, and had it not been for the rope slipping from the leg of the rhinoceros, that limb might have been pulled from the body. The rhinoceros was, however, eventually secured with ropes between elephants, and marched into Chittagong in perfect health. Two large rivers had to be crossed—firstly, the Sungoo River, where the animal was towed between elephants, for she could not swim, and could only just keep her head above water by paddling with the fore feet like a pig; and secondly, the Kurnafuli River, where the ordinary ferry-boat was used. Thousands of natives thronged the march, which occupied a few days; the temporary bamboo bridges on the government road invariably falling in from the numbers collected thereon to watch the rhinoceros crossing the stream below, and sometimes the procession was at least a mile in length. The 'Begum,' as the rhinoceros has been named, is now free from all ropes, and kept within a stockade inclosure, having therein a good bath excavated in the ground, and a comfortable covered shed attached. She is already very tame, and will take plantain leaves or *chopattis* (in Australia called 'dampers') from the hand, and she might almost be led about by a string."

Since this was written "Begum" has made her appearance at the Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park, and we borrow part of Frank Buckland's characteristic report of her condition in her new quarters: "Although called the Sumatran rhinoceros, 'Begum' was caught near Chittagong, and was partly led and partly driven, with ropes round her legs, like a pig going to market, all the way through the jungle from that place to the river, a task

which does Mr. Jamrach much credit. She travelled best at night, and would then follow her keeper, who walked in front with a lighted lantern kept close to the ground. The guide used to sing to her at night as she trotted along, and the natives joined in chorus. In the streets of Calcutta she lay down like a sulky pig, and they had to wet the road so as to make it semi-mud and drag her along bodily. She was shipped on board the steamer 'Petersburg' at Calcutta and brought direct to the Millwall Docks in a gigantic cage made of teak. The transfer of this valuable animal—for she cost more than £1,000—from her travelling box to the elephant house along the path was effected by Mr. Bartlett with his usual ability and tact. He was, of course, assisted by Mr. Jamrach, who knew the habits of the animal well. She had to walk comparatively loose some sixty or eighty yards."

THOUGHTS OF HEAVEN.

Selected.

No sickness there—
No weary wasting of the frame away;
No fearful shrinking from the midnight air—
No dread of summer's bright and fervid ray!

No hidden grief—
No wild and cheerless vision of despair;
No vain petition for a swift relief—
No tearful eyes, no broken hearts are there.

Care has no home
Within the realm of ceaseless prayer and song;
Its billows break away and melt in foam,
Far from the mansions of the spirit throng!

The storm's black wing
Is never spread athwart celestial skies!
Its wailings blend not with the voice of spring,
As some too tender floweret fades and dies!

No night distills
Its chilling dews upon the tender frame;
No moon is needed there! The light which fills
That land of glory from its Maker came!

No parted friends
O'er mournful recollections have to weep!
No bed of death enduring love attends
To watch the coming of a pulseless sleep!

No blasted flower
Or withered bud, celestial gardens know!
No scorching blast or fierce descending shower
Scatters destruction like a ruthless foe!

No battle word
Startles the sacred host with fear and dread!
The song of peace creation's morning heard,
Is sung wherever angel minstrels tread!

Let us depart,
If home like this await the weary soul!
Look up, thou stricken one! Thy wounded heart
Shall bleed no more at sorrow's stern control.

With faith our guide,
White robed and innocent, to lead the way,
Why fear to plunge in Jordan's rolling tide,
And find the ocean of eternal day?

ASPIRATIONS.

Selected.

Our aims are all too high; we try
To gain the summit at a bound,
When we should reach it step by step,
And climb the ladder round by round.
He who would climb the heights sublime,
Or breathe the purer air of life,
Must not expect to rest in ease,
But brace himself for toil or strife.

We should not in our blindness seek
To grasp alone for grand and great,
Disdaining every smaller good;
For trifles make the aggregate.
And if a cloud should hover o'er
Our weary pathway like a pall,
Remember, God permits it there,
And His good purpose reigns o'er all.

Life should be full of earnest work,
Our hearts undashed by fortune's frown;
Let perseverance conquer fate,
And merit seize the victor's crown.
The battle is not to the strong,
The race not always to the fleet;
And he who seeks to pluck the stars
Will lose the jewels at his feet.

For "The Friend."

A Boarding House for Friends.

Without imputing to our friends residing in Philadelphia any want of hospitality, yet from the removal of so many to parts quite remote and widely separated, it does appear desirable that a central home should be provided, where those visiting the city on business of the Society as well as on other occasions, could, for a moderate compensation, be accommodated with comfortable lodging and meals. Such a home properly conducted would, it is apprehended, be found also to be a great convenience to many even in the city, not housekeepers, who would be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity to obtain quiet pleasant quarters, and where, as desired promptly, they could mingle in a social way with those holding similar views and feelings. Friends are a social people, and many feeling themselves restrained from much unnecessary intercourse with people of the world and other religious persuasions, do feel at times the want of the society and sympathy of the fellow members. There is also an advantage in Friends mingling together—asperities are rubbed off, and prejudices many times removed; and if access were had to a good library, it would add greatly to the advantages of such an institution.

A Selection from the Memoranda and Letters of the late Elizabeth Greer—for private circulation.

(Continued from page 68.)

To M. M.

Raheen, Seventh month 12th, 1867.

I felt much obliged for thy kind remembrance of me, and pleased to hear of your safe arrival at the nice place at your journey's end. I can truly say I never missed you more and your kind visits. As we sat together, on your taking leave of me, I felt a little covering not at our command. And now thou wilt be surprised when I tell thee I attended the meeting in Carrick, on First-day, for the first, and it may be the last time. When I saw the gathering of Friends I felt a little dismayed—the number was twenty-eight—not going under what I might stamp so high as a *convulsion*, I at first thought I might pass away in silence; but, after a while, found I must petition for best help, and afterwards delivered my messages. I trust we were owned by a little life which is not our own, but crown all. I had a wish to be at Carrick meeting before my last illness, but had given it up until dear L. G. proposed my going—it is a very quiet spot; if our busy enemy may be kept out. I met from all Friends a welcome comforting to my aged heart. Farewell, dear M., sometimes remember thy old but loving friend in thy prayers.

ELIZABETH GREER.

To M. M.

Raheen, Seventh month 4th, 1868.

I shall be obliged for the reading of the pamphlet. I have only seen the extract from it in the "P. Friend," which is sad. Where can we look, or to whom can we look in this day, but unto Him who changeth