

BIFID RHINOCEROS HORNS.

IN the stuffed specimen of the African two-horned Rhinoceros kheitloa, in the British Museum, it will be seen that the anterior horn is split or divided towards its tip in a direction transverse to the axis of the body, the cleft having taken place during the life time of the animal, and after the horn had attained considerable growth. I have seen two specimens, both of them received from Natal, in which the bifurcation is much more remarkable, and of these I now supply representations. The larger of the two is in the Museum of Natural History within the Zoological Garden at Antwerp, the smaller in the Museum of Natural History at Leiden. Both are highly remarkable for having a distinct natural transverse septum in the basal concavity, which is difficult to understand, and both of them have been artificially polished, which does not enhance their value in the estimation of a naturalist. The horn or horns of a rhinoceros, consisting merely of a mass of agglutinated hair, grows of course at the base only, and to a great extent is fashioned into shape by the attrition to which it has been subjected. It is, therefore, easy to comprehend that a split once effected may be gradually extended by the violent usage to which the horn is commonly applied; but it is less obvious how the tips should come to diverge so very widely, and still less why there should be a corresponding septum in the hollow of the base. I am not aware that the subject has ever previously been brought to notice. ZOOPHILUS.

SQUIRRELS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

THERE are three species of squirrel in New Brunswick—the common red squirrel (*Sciurus Hudsonius*), ground squirrel (*S. striatus*), and flying squirrel (*S. sabrinus*). The last-named is a little animal of very secluded habits, which leads a solitary life in the depths of the forest, rarely seen by the hunter, though sometimes caught in his traps. It flies from tree top to tree top, feeding on cones of the fir and pine trees, and makes its nest in a hollow tree.

The red squirrel may be seen not only in the forest, but in the settlements. A cheerful, noisy, audacious little fellow, he may sometimes be met with even in the villages, chattering on the roof tops or running along the fences. The fur of these animals, though very soft, thick, and pretty, is of little or no value. Their chief enemies are martens and weasels in the woods, cats and small boys in the settlements. Systematically hunted they are not, so that, unlike most of the other wild animals of the country, they do not melt away; on the contrary, they increase and multiply, for man kills some of their natural enemies, and helps to supply them with food. They build their nests in old stumps or under the roots of a tree, and lay up for themselves ample provisions of fir cones for the winter. They also eat nuts of every kind, apples, and even potatoes. No shell seems too hard for their sharp cutting teeth; even the butter-nut—a nut so hard as to defy nutcrackers, and impregnable to human efforts without the assistance of hammer and anvil—is breached by the squirrel.

The habits of this species and of the flying squirrel seem to be almost identical. Both provide themselves with warm comfortable winter quarters, as does the bear; but they do not hibernate like

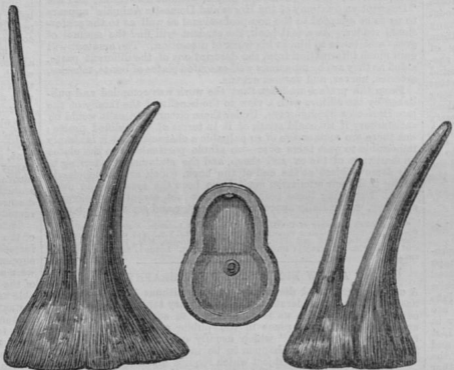
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Bruin. When a mild day occurs, as mild days do occur even in this Arctic winter, or an unusually warm ray of sunshine peeps through the tree tops, then the red squirrel may be seen emerging from his hole in the snow, scampering on the nearest tree, and even

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