according to my proposal, to be sent eighty miles, and each one that returned was to be purchased by me for the sum of £10. It meelless to say that, although many faciers believe in what they call the homing instinct, not one was willing to risk the loss of his birds passisting me in carrying out this experiment. It is quite possible that, if it had been performed with many birds, one or two might have returned to my place; but that would have been no proof of any instinct, as, had this existed, all of them should have returned, whereas every pigeon fancier knows the necessity of yearly training his birds, by stages, in order to get them to do any considerance with the contraction of the

distance. W. B. TROETMEIER.

THE PRESERVATION OF AFRICAN BIG GAME.

A PROVISIONAL committee of English sportmen and naturalists having been formed for the purpose of devising some scheme for the protection of South African Chartered Company.

It is a notorious fact that many species of force the advance of the British South African Chartered Company of South African Same. It is a notorious fact that many species of South african same, it is a notorious fact that many species of South African Same. It is a notorious fact that many species of South African Same. It is a notorious fact that many species of South African Same. It is a notorious fact that many species of South African Same. It is a notorious fact that many species of South African Source that Some of the rarer species will shortly follow in the wake of the now extinct quagga, unless steps are taken to preserve them before it is to late.

To meet this end it is proposed—
1. That a society be formed who of the thirty-dave to ford; sistinct species having their habitat within measurable distance of the district species having their habitat within measurable distance of the district species having the first of the society. On the state of the society of the proposed below.

2. That for this purpose a suitable tract of country—of, say, alroy such an inclosure to be made in the district near Fort Salisbury, which has already been reserved for game by the commany.

In this district the cland, koodor, roan and sable anticlopes, hartcheest, sorts, how wildebest, reed-bund, and other species still inclosure.

To these could be added the young of other species so th nidgenous

inclosure.

To these could be added the young of other species not indigenous to the district.

To avoid overcrowding, the herds of each species would necessarily te limited; the species marked \* in the appended list, as being more immediately threatened with extinction, to twenty, and others to twelve, or thereabouts.

Eland foan Antelope Waterbuck Blue Wildebeest Tsessebe
Hartebeest (B. caama)
Hartebeest (B. lichtensteini)
Pallah
Bushbuck (T. sylvaticus)
Bushbuck (T. scriptus)
\*Speke's Antelope Speke's An Inyala Reedbuck Lechwe Pookoo

Vaal Rhebuck Vaal Rhebuck
\*Bontebuck
\*Blesbuck
Duiker
Steinbuck
Oribi
Grysbuck
Klipspringer
Bluebuck Bluebuck Natal Redbuck \*White-tailed Gnu Damara Antelope Giraffe Ostrich Warthog Bushvic

Springbuck

3. That as a means of profit, specimens be exported for the use of existing scological societies, at market prices. Here there is a spring a special profit of the use of existing scological societies, at market prices. Here there is a spring as possible, reared on cove milk, and abirpoid at Beira, which will, and count, shortly be connected with Fort Salisbury by rail. A farm would be necessary outside the inclosure, to provide milch cows for earing purposes be no reason why this farm should not combine stock rearing on a sufficiently large scale to cover all current expenses, and the stock rearing on a sufficiently large scale to cover all current expenses. An experienced South African farmer, capable of superintending and protecting the interests of the society, would be appointed to manage the farm and preserve the game inside the inclosure. It would be necessary also, for the first few years at least, that some responsible person should control the expenditure on the spot, calving seasons to procuring as many species of game as possible from various districts, to be turned loose in the inclosure. To defray the cost of fenning, transport, and labour, an estimated capital would be required of about £5000.

## SOUTH AFRICAN RHINOCEROSES.

SOUTH AFRICAN RHINOCEROSES.

SIR,—In your issue for April 14 I read with much pleasure a communication from Mr Tegetmeier, on the subject of the South African species of rhinoceros, but with special reference to the Rhinoceros simus, an animal which will, in all probability, become extinct within a deade or two, and of which, therefore, it is important that some well-preserved specimens should be extant in our museums. The two hims, &c., complete, which Mr Coryndon has procured for Mr Will with the special of the special special for the special special for the special special for the special special for the special special of the saturalistic world; and Mr Coryndon is entitled to great praise for his exertions in obtaining these interesting spoils; an is spit of difficulties which I, at least, as an old African hunter, can duly appreciate.

among the world, and Mr Corpudon is entitled to great pulse for his cartines in obtaining these interesting spoia, in spite of difficulties which I, at least, as an old African hunter, can duly appreciate.

In the hope of contributing my mite to the amount of knowledge possessed of the several species of South African hunter, can duly appreciate.

In the hope of contributing my mite to the amount of knowledge possessed of the several species of South African hunting velde, extending from 1980 to 1883, and therefore a faint idea, as regards the vast quantities of "big game," and especially of rhinoceros, which then roamed over the northern parts of the Transvaal, the Limpopo country, and Matabele land.

Between the commencement of my hunting career and 1886, rhinoceroses were in these parts to be seen in great numbers by any travelle and the single specially of the commencement of my hunting career and 1886, rhinoceroses were in these parts to be seen in great numbers by any travelle and the mighty game. Indeed, black thinocenese inteact the immediate banks of the Limpopo and its affluents in such numbers, and their aggressive proclivities were so much in evidence, that it was often necessary to shoot them down in defence of the traveller's equipage and attendants. For many years, indeed, Boer hunters and some few Englishmen shot rhinoceroses in the intervals of their depant that any of the horne, which, if tong and fairly block, fetuad about 8s, a pound for the China market; in fact, the value of an adult rhinoceros was about £15, so that hunters only limited their bag to the amount of available transport.

Three kinds of rhinoceroses are to be found south of the Zambesi. The khinocerose sinus stands at the head of the family as being the largest, possessing the longest anterior horn, and an immense growmand by Mr Coryndon of the two specimens he got indicate young animals with nearly full stature at the shoulder, but hardly up to the mark as fine types of the matured animal in their respects. He has also omtit

numerous as R. bicornis, his race is run, and he will shortly disappear as a living entity.

It is, I think, very unlikely that any living specimen will arrive, for it is out of the question to expect the capture of an adult animal, which, even if caught, would soon die from the effects of a frankle temper; and young animals seldom live in captivity more than a few days, even when plentifully supplied with fresh milk and bome, and fitted out at was once ambitious of sending a specimen bome, and fitted out at was a namela of various sizes, but they all

came to grief, after causing an infinity of trouble and great expense. Lord Derby (I think the grandfather of the present nobleman) also end yeed a competent man with the object children, although, as in my case, several young ones were caught. As is well known, these animals are as a rale non-aggressive, but when one does turn on the hunter, he is a far more formidable opponent than his cousin the irritable and fierce black rhinoceros, as his system of warfare indicates superior intelligence and perseverance; and I men with an empty M.L. gun in hand, round an unclimbable antiful some 20ft. high and perhaps 10ft, in diameter, for fully a quarter of an hour, but eventually he subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet.

The local name of white thi covens has been. I think, given to this come 20ft. high and perhaps 10ft, in diameter, for fully a quarter of an hour, but eventually he subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet.

The local name of white thi covens has been. I think, given to this come 20ft. high and perhaps after the content of the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet and the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet and the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet and the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet and the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot I had given him with a 30c, bullet and the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the subsided from the effects of a lung-shot land the

REMARKABLE HORN OF SABLE ANTELOPE.

Sig.—It may possibly interest those of your readers who are conversant with the horn measurements of African game, to know that there is in the Natural History Museum of Florence, Italy, a single horn of a sable antelope (Hippotrague miger) of a most extraordinary length. This horn, lying at the back of one of the cases, and the same of the same of the cases, and the same of the same of the cases, and the same of the same of the cases, and the same of the sa

## ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

ADDITIONS TO THE MENAGERIE, REGENT'S PARK, FROM MAY 21 TO MAY 27.

Date.	Name.	Country.	How obtained.	Where located in the Gardens
May	1 Brown Capuchin	Cutana	Presented by Mr	Monkey
21	(Cebus fatuellus) &	Guiana	C. G. Frazer	House
	2 Hoary Snakes (Coro-		Presented by Mr J. E. Matcham	Reptile House
**	1 Crossed Snake (Psam- mophis crucifer)		Ditto	Ditto
**	1 Infernal Snake (Boodon		Ditto	Ditto
22	1 Brown Capuchin (Cebus fatuellus) 3		Presented by Miss F. Marryatt	House
**	1 Reindeer (Rangifer tarandus) ♀		Born in the Me- nagerie	Moose Inclosure
	1 Japanese Deer (Cervus sika) ♀		Ditto	Deer Paddocks
	1 Yellow-cheeked Ama- zon (Chrysotis autum- nalis)	Honduras	Deposited	Parrot House
**	2 Alligator Terrapins (Chelydra serpentina)	N. America	Ditto	Reptile House
28	1 White-bellied Sea Eagle (Haliaetus leu- cogaster)			Eagle Aviary
**	2 Wonga Wonga Pigeons (Leucosarcia picata)		Ditto	Western Aviary
24	2 Four-horned Antelopes (Tetraceros quadri-		Presented by Mr W. F. Sinclair	Gazelle Sheds
**	cornis) o o o stock Doves (Columba spas)		L A. Williams	Aviary
25	4 Common Swans (Cygnus olor)		Presented by Lord Braybrooke	
26	2 Jameson's Gulls (Larus novæ hollandiæ)	Australia	Presented by Sir Ferdinand von Mueller, K.C.M.G.	Eastern Aviary
27	2 Natterjack Toads (Bufo calamita)	Brit. Islands	Presented by Miss Peckham	Reptile House

NOTES AND QUERIES ON NATURAL HISTORY.

NOTES AND QUERIES ON NATURAL HISTORY.

GOLLAN' REFITES AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—Two
very the Goliath heetles have just been placed in the Insect House,
Zoological Gardens. They have been presented by Capt. A. L.
Mitchell, of Cullercoats, Northumberland.—A. T.

LENGTH OF ADDER.—Seeing your account of the two adders
killed near Aldershot measuring Zim, and a fraction each, I write to
say that Mr W. W. Eldes killed, at Biddender, Kent, some years ago an
are so much in excess of the average length of an adder, which arely
measures more than 20in, to 24in, that we venture to suggest that a
ringed snake must have been mistaken for it.—En.]

THE LOCO WEED.—I have read with interest the account of
"loco weed" in the review of "The Magazines" (Feld of May 14,
Magazine there referred to. The plant is common in some parts of

New Mexico. I believe the scientific name is Oxytropis Lambertians; it is not unlike the British O. Uralensis. I was shown a locced horse which was supposed to put his head down and take an imaginary trans a bluff about 100ft, above a dry river bed, and then to call the contract of the

right place and showed min the intrason wash.

If we have probably good enough yarn for a "tender foot."

C. A. H.

SPAING MIGRANTS IN NORTH YORKSHIRE.—Some of our nigenits are unusually scarce during the present season in the proper warbler, grass-hopper warbler, chiffond free print and pile and on warbler, grass-hopper warbler, chiffond free print and pile and on warbler, grass-hopper warbler, chiffond free print and pile and on warbler, grass-hopper warbler, chiffond free print and pile and on which, sadge warbler, willow wren, whitethroat, and sandpiper are fairly abundant. The hawfinch has again nested near here, and the eggs, like others we have observed during the past few years, are of the blueish type, as given in Heweston's work on eggs, plate 55, fig. 3. My attention was first called to the breeding of the hawfinch in this district by the capture of young birds in the garden nets, attended no doubt by the green peas. We have not heard the note of the landmil and cakes of frequently as taxand, owing probably to the excessively cold wather.

—JAMIS CARPER (Putton House, Malkann).

THRUSHES FEDING THEIR CAPTIVE YOUNG—Some days

so Irequently as usun, owing prountly to the excessively come weather —JAMIS CARTER (Burton House, Masham), ago a thresh's nest fell from a tree in the garden of a friend of mine, and house the state of the state

The NIGHTINGALE IN CARDIGAN-HILE.—On May 18 I heard, for the first time in Wales, a nightingale singing in some the control of the first time in Wales, a nightingale singing in some 10 a.m., and the weather at the time was warm and sunny, just after 10 a.m., and the weather at the time was warm and sunny, just after a shower. I heard it for half an hour, and saw it as well, and having been for years in England accustomed to its note and form, I could not be mistaken in its identity. If any of your readers have heard it so far westward in Wales, or even in the middle past of it, I should be glad to receive communications about this or any other observations of the control of the same of the control of t

have no recollection that this was verified by completent witnesses, Each reports might easily arise in many cases by mistaking for the sand in its song resembling it; but the former is easily distinguishable by the timbre of its voice and peculiar objurgatory note.—CAMBEIAN NATURALIST.

TWO CUCKOO'S EGGS IN ONE NEST.—While strolling over Ashtead Common, in Surrey, last Saturday, I noticed a hadgeeparrow dark intriedly out of a gorse bush a few feet away, and on looking dark intriedly out of a gorse bush a few feet away, and on looking out in the contract of the contr

WILD BIRDS PROTECTION.—In committee on the bill in the House of Commons for this purpose, Lord Crauborne intends to move to add to Cannes the words. The contract of the contr