## THE NATURALIST.

#### BURCHELL'S RHINOCEROS.

GREAT INTEREST has been excited amongst zoologists by the Cristian in London of the perfect skeletoms and akins of the most egipantic of the chineceroses registric of the thinecerose registric of the thinecerose registric of the chinecerose registric of the chinecerose registric of the scale yas R. simus, and popularly, though erroneously, as the white rhineceros. The specimens were both obtained by Mr Coryndon, who states the species had not been seen or heard of since 1892, when Mr Ayre and himself came across several specimens, two of which were shot. When Mr Coryndon described the shooting of these specimens in the Field of May 20, 1839, he received a commission to appear to the state of the specimens and the state of the specimens are received a commission of Mashon-land, where he thought the species would be found, he discovered to his great delight the spoor of the R. simus, which is easily distinguished from that of the common black species, K. bicornis. To quote his own description, as given in the African Review:

of Mashonaland, where he thought the species would be found, he discovered to his great delight the spoor of the R. simus, which is easily distinguished from that of the common black species, R. bicornis. To quote his own description, as given in the African Review:

Suddenly I descried, lying down under a rise, facing me, and about a mild off, two great black things which I knew to be white rhimoer. The wind up behind them. They lay a tout 160 yards from the level some thick bush, as the between them and the bush was a patch of long grass, fortunately left behind them. They lay a tout 160 yards from the level some thick bush, the between them and the bush was a patch of long grass, fortunately left behind the grass. My difficulty, of course, was finding the two rhimos the strength of the part of th

had sixty-sive boys alogether, and of these no less than thirty-sibe bones and hides. The upper jaw all-ne was a good load for one.

Burchell's, or the square-monthed thinoceros, is very absurdly termed the white rhinoceros for its dirty, dark slaty colour is even deeper than that of the better known Africant cult to account for this mismore, nathough it has been suggested that, as the animal is more lecustrine in its habits, it may have been seen by the dried must or clay, which gave it a lighter colour; and hence its name. It is by far the largest of the whole group, and is undouttedly the heaviest of all the exception of the elephant. It differs from the other species in having a square upper lip; that of the ordinary African rhimoceros is pointed and presume the strength of the species of the strength of the species in having a square upper lip enables it readily to obtain. It is only found in Africa couth of the Zambesi river, and of late years has become extremely scarce—in fact, its extinctin camon the engrange of the who heads reproduced from Mr Coryndon's own drawing, which he has most obligingly lent for the purpose. The broad, square upper lip; some bin. from side to side, is readily distinguished, and is remarkably distinct from the pointed, prehensile with the second of the standard of the st

two horm.

Some exceedingly long taper horns were exhibited by Mr P. L.
Schater at a meeting of the Acological Society last year, which have
given rise to a suspicion of the existence of another species. This
matter will, however, be p'o'tably set at rest, as Mr Coryndon departs
next week far a two years to our of exploration to the north of the
great lake Tanganyika. During this period he purposes to collect not

only for the museum of Mr Walter Rothschild, but also for the national collection.

Now that Mr selous has resigned active exploration, the mantle of this mighty hunter could hardly fall on more worthy shoulders.

W. B. TROETMEIR.

#### WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT (1880) AMENDMENT

WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT (1880) AMENDMENT.

ON Wednesday aftermoon the second reading of this bill was moved by Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P., who pointed out that it differed from a bill on the same subject which the House of Commons passed through all its stages last year, in that certain amendments made therein in the House of Lords are incorporated as alternative to the original provisions. Under the bill as it is now presented county councils are empowered to apply for an order (1) for the prohibition of taking eggs within spesified areas; (2) for the abilition of any act of the council are selected to briefs, (5) for the abilition of any act of the council and the edge of briefs, or original Act to the said schedule. The following is the full text:

A Bill to AMEN IN WILD READ PROPERTOR ACT, 1880.

hird not included in the schedule of the original Act to the said schedule. The following is the full text:

A BILL TO ANKEN THE WILD BIRDS PROTECTION ACT, 1880.

WHEREAS IS IS a specified to provide for the better protection of certain species of wild birds in the United Kingdom: Be it therefore canced by the control of the Lord's Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may for all purposes be cited as the Wild Bird's Protection of the Lord's Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may for all purposes be cited as the Wild Bird's Protection Act, 1880 (hereimafter referred to as "the principal Act"), except as the principal Act "J", except as the principal Act "J", except as the principal Act", and the principal Act "J", except as a special control of the principal Act "J", except as a principal act and the principal Act "J", except as a principal act and the principal Act "J", except as any place or paces within that county ; or gift in any pace or paces within that county; or gift in any pace or paces and principal Act and any special and of will birds ever in any pace or years in any place or paces, or otherwise, the particular species of wild birds to which it is proposed that any prohibition in the order is to apply, and the principal Act shall apply within that county, or any pact or parts thereof, to any species of wild bird not county, or any pact or parts thereof, to any species of wild bird not county, or any pact or parts thereof, to any species of wild bird not included in the schedule of this Act, and on the making of such order that Act shall apply accordingly.

4. (1) The council of an administrative county and in every year gift within their county of the principal Act shall apply accordingly.

4. (1) The council of an administrative county and in every year gift within their county of the parts and the part of

Castellain, jun.); 7th, Richmond Park (A. H. Macpherson); 9th, New Forest (W. A. Fox); 9th, Sibton, Yoxford (T. M. Wcod); 12th, Chelmsford (C. Smoothy); 6th, Elstead (S. A. CKCAF.—April 3, Chelmsford (C. Smoothy); 6th, Elstead (S. A.



circulating in or near that place; (b) by fixing notices of the order in complexons spots within and near each place in which the order operates; the connection of the public.

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### ARRIVAL OF SUMMER BIRDS.

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This under mentioned dates are not to be regarded as the earliest which hear moted this year, two previous lists having already appeared the moted they say, two previous lists having already appeared the property of the property of the property of the control of the property of

# NOTES AND QUERIES.

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HOOPOE IN KENT.—A fine repetimen of the hoopoe was shot by the keeper here this shot by the keeper here this believes (A. 1917). The keeper believes (A. 1917) and the state of th

Act respected?—ED.]

HUMMING-BRD HAWK-MOTH.—I saw a fine specimen of this moth while walking through my sister's ovehard house, at Timber hurst. The gardener and I attempted to catch it, but it was much too active for us. I have never seen one so early in this part of the country, although it is not uncommon later in the year, when the weather is warmer. Our weather has been abnormally but, hence the appearance of Macrogless stellatarum.—O. O. Whillary (Bridge Hall, Bury, Lanc shire).

(Bridge Hall, Bury, Lance shire).

MORTALTY AMONGST SEAFOWL.—I have been trying to account for the very large number of čead razor-bils and little anks which have been washed ashore on this (the Fife) coast during the last month or two. Within a distance of about a quarter of a mile between Crail and Anstruther, no fewer than twenty-four pecimens were cast up, in all stages of decomposition. Can they have succumbed to the very violent gales we have experienced this season? FORTUNE (Barsmuir, Crail, N.B.). (The circumstance —A.D. FORTUNE (Barsmuir, Crail, N.B.). (The circumstance — Can Decedent's Craim time to time we receive reports of large numbers of guillemots, razor-bills, and puttins being washed ashore after rough weather at sea.—ED.)

weather at eas.—En.]

OTTER AWAY FROM WATER.—I read with great interest Mr
Durham's letter on an otter being found away from the water. This
is by no means so very uncommon, as during a long experience of
otter hunting I have frequently found them lying out in woods some
idiatance from the river, and nour mountainous districts in Comberland they constantly go right away from the rivers and lakes and lie
breeding season, instinct, no doubt, teaching them that their young
are asfer there than close to the river, where they are liable to be
swept away by sudden floods. I know one case very similar to that
Mr Durham describes, where two otters were lying up in a dry drain
miles away there or otters, here are many other things they feed
upon.—H. W. CLIFF (Calcot, Reading).

upon.—H. W. CEIT (Catox, Reaming).

HERON NESTING ON THE FARRE ISLANDS.—It: interest some of your readers to know that a pair of herons ne methis spring among the boulder stones on the east end of the o Wideopens. The nest was about 3ft. 6in. in diameter, and was posed of bleached stokes gathered from the timer Wideopens.