



"JIM": A FAVOURITE AT THE ZOO WHICH HAS JUST DIED

worth looking at. Managers, take notice, "The play, the play's the thing," even in the eyes of frail, frivolous woman.

Poor Old "Jimmy"

After a life of forty years' peace and contentment in the Elephant House at the Zoological Gardens, "Jimmy," the Indian rhinoceros, has succumbed to old age. He was presented to the Zoological Society by the late Mr. Arthur Grote, and arrived at the gardens in 1864, with a female which had been captured by the society's collectors. There being already a female Indian rhinoceros in the gardens, the latter animal was sent to the Jardin des Plantes at Paris, in exchange for an African elephant. "Jimmy" soon made himself at home in his new quarters, and at once became a favourite with the visitors to the gardens. "Jimmy's" life was uneventful until the summer of 1870, when, on being turned out into the yard with his consort, he endeavoured to uproot the strong iron railings with his snout. The undertaking, however, proved to be too much for him, for, after repeated attempts, he succeeded in wrenching off his horn. This apparently gave him intense pain, for he set to a-roaring most plaintively, and lost a considerable quantity of blood. To what age rhinoceroses attain in a wild state has not been and cannot well be ascertained, and whether they reach their full limit in a captive and necessarily somewhat artificial state is uncertain; but from the appearance of "Jimmy," and the worn condition of his teeth, it is probable that between fifty and sixty years is the span of a rhinoceros's life, although it has been stated that they live to a hundred. Altogether, five examples of the Indian rhinoceros have been exhibited in the "Zoo." The first was purchased for the sum of £1,050, and arrived in 1834. This individual died in 1849. The second specimen was purchased for £350 in 1850, and lived for twenty-three years. "Jimmy" and his mate bring up the number to four, and the fifth was presented to the society by the Rajah of Kuch Behar in 1886 and is still living in the gardens. The Indian rhinoceros at the present day is found only in Assam. It is the largest of all the rhinoceroses, and individuals have been killed measuring nearly six feet in height at the shoulders, and over ten feet in length of body. This species only bears one horn, and is known to naturalists as "rhinoceros unicornis." Our photograph is by the London Stereoscopic Company.