

"A PRICE ON HIS NOSE"



THE GREAT INDIAN RHINOCEROS

This picture, which we consider to be the most striking of all Mr. Bengt Berg's series of photographs which are being reproduced serially in the "Field," shows one of the most rarely seen animals in the world to-day. It has practically never been photographed in the wild, and Mr. Berg secured this picture in the Bengal Rhino Reserve. This old bull can be seen sniffing some unpleasant smell with his little eye glittering, and a bit of grass hanging from the corner of his mouth like a cigarette. The photograph also clearly shows his protective armour, and the mud on his forelegs. These rhino were once common all over India as far as Peshavar, and in the battle between Barbar and Sikandar 80 of them served in the front line. To-day they are nearly extinct, as they have been poached ruthlessly from machans near the rhino tracks, and their horns are smuggled out of the country and sold, largely in China, to be ground down into a powder, which is considered a powerful aphrodisiac. This trade has now been brought to a standstill, and with the support of the Bengal Government, Mr. A. J. Milroy and Mr. E. O. Shebbare, of the Indian Forest Service, have created a sanctuary for them in Northern Bengal. It is calculated that there are some hundred rhino left in Bengal and Assam and a fair number still in existence in Nepal.

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