

March 19, 1872.

John Gould, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

The following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of February 1872 was read by the Secretary:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of February 1872 was 127, of which 6 were by birth, 24 by presentation, 92 by purchase, 2 by exchange, and 3 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period by death and removals was 121.

The principal arrival during the month was that of the female Hairy-eared Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros lasiotis*), which was announced to the Society at the last meeting\*.

This animal was captured in January 1868 near Chittagong, in the manner described in the following extract from a Calcutta newspaper:—

“The quiet station of Chittagong has been lately enlivened by the presence of a Rhinoceros. It appears that about a month ago some natives came into Chittagong and stated that a Rhinoceros had been found by them in a quicksand, and was quite exhausted with the efforts to release herself. They had attached two ropes to the animal's neck, and with the assistance of about 200 men dragged her out, and keeping her taut between two ropes they eventually made her fast to a tree. The next morning, however, they found the Rhinoceros so refreshed and making such efforts to free herself that they were frightened, and made application to the magistrate of Chittagong for protection. The same evening Captain Hood and Mr. H. W. Wickes started with eight Elephants to secure the prize, and after a march of about sixteen hours to the south of Chittagong they came up with the animal. She was then discovered to be a Sumatran Rhinoceros, rather more than four feet in height, with a smooth hairy skin somewhat like that of a Pig, and with two horns (one up high, almost between the eyes and small, the other rather larger and just above the nose), and the upper lip almost coming to a point and protruding a little.

“The Elephants at the first sight of the Rhinoceros were very much afraid and bolted one and all, but after some little exertion they were brought back and made to stand by. A rope was now with some trouble attached to the animal's hind leg and secured to an elephant; at this juncture the Rhinoceros roared, the Elephants again bolted; and had it not been for the rope slipping from the leg of the Rhino-

\* See *anteà*, p. 185, where it is spoken of as *R. sumatrensis*. But an example of the true *R. sumatrensis* from Malacca having been subsequently received (*v. infr.* P. Z. S. Nov. 1872), it became obvious that this Rhinoceros was quite distinct; and I have proposed to call it *R. lasiotis*.—P. L. S., Aug. 28, 1872.

ceros, that limb might have been pulled from the body. The Rhinoceros was, however, eventually secured with ropes between Elephants and marched into Chittagong in perfect health. Two large rivers had to be crossed:—first, the Sungoo river, where the animal was towed between Elephants, for she could not swim and could only just keep her head above water by paddling with the fore feet like a Pig; and secondly, the Kurnafoolie river, when the ordinary cattle ferry-boat was used. Thousands of natives thronged the march in, which occupied a few days, the temporary bamboo bridges on the Government road invariably falling in with the numbers collected thereon to watch the Rhinoceros crossing the stream below; and sometimes the procession was at least a mile in length. The ‘Begum,’ as the Rhinoceros has been named, is now free from all ropes and kept within a stockade enclosure, having therein a good bath excavated in the ground and a comfortable covered shed attached. She is already very tame, and will take plantain-leaves or chuppattees from the hand, and might almost be led about by a string.”

The fact of a Two-horned Rhinoceros being in captivity in Chittagong having become known to the Council of the Society, various endeavours were made to come to some arrangement with the owners for its acquisition for the Society’s Menagerie. These, however, never came to any definite result. Mr. William Jamrach being in Calcutta last November was more successful in his negotiations, and on his return to this country last month was fortunate enough to bring with him the animal in perfect health and condition.

This animal has been so well described by Dr. Anderson in his communication to the Society on this subject read on the 6th of February last (see *anteà*, p. 129), that I have but few particulars to add to what he has said.

The drawing by Mr. Keulemans now exhibited (Plate XXIII.) will give a good idea of its external appearance.

As far as I have been able to make out by examination of its mouth, there are at present no upper incisors, but a pair of lower incisors only, of which the right is furthest up. I suppose, therefore, that the upper incisors are not developed until late in life, as our animal must be at least six years old.

Some other animals of great interest were obtained from Mr. Jamrach along with this Rhinoceros, namely:—

1. A female of the Macaque recently described by Dr. Anderson as *Macacus brunneus* (see *anteà*, p. 203 and Plate XII.). Two other examples of this Monkey likewise arrived from Calcutta under Mr. Jamrach’s care—a male presented by Mr. Oscar Fraser, Assistant in the Indian Museum, Calcutta, and a female presented by Lieut. Burne.

We have now, therefore, in the Gardens three specimens of this Burmese Monkey, which is a species of great interest, and quite new to us. But, as I have already stated (*anteà*, p. 203), it seems to be the same species as that originally discovered by Diard in



J. G. Keuleman lith.

RHINOCEROS LASIOTIS, ♀

M & N Hanhart imp