RHINOCEROS HUNTING IN AFRICA

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NEXT to the elephant, the rhinoceros certainly takes precedence as the largest of forest creatures, and whilst the former is one of the most peaceable animals in existence, the black varieties of the latter are without exception the most morose and mischievously inclined. There are four distinct species known to exist in Africa, two of which, the borêtê and the keitloa, are black, whilst the mochocho and kobadoa are white, or rather of a colour more appreaching that than any other. The mochocho, or common two-horned square-nosed white rhinoceros; is the largest of the family, as it often exceeds eighteen feet in length, and next to it in size is the kobadoa, or long-horned white rhinoceros, which is frequently seen with a main horn exceeding four feet in length, whilst that of the mochocho seldom exceeding four feet in length, whilst that of the mochocho seldom exceeding four feet in length, whilst that of the mochocho seldom exceeding four feet in length, whilst may be a seldom longer than eight inches. The beast except when provided ex enumedad. The action can be a self-more discussion of fair flavour, and as this animal yields about two or three thousand pounds of meat, it is much sought after both by the colonists and the native tribes. The keitloa, or two-horned black rhinoceros, is less than either of the white varieties, but somewhat larger than the borèlè, and the horns are much longer than those of any other species, the posterior horn is much shorter than the anterior one, which the posterior horn is much shorter than the anterior one, which protected in the protection of the decidence of the former being innocent caters of grass that live in peace with all other animals, whilst the latter feed on young shoots, branches, and roots, which they dig up with their fore horns, and are the most quarrelsome and spireful brutes imaginable, attacking indiscriminately han or beast. As a rule, most of the deniz

and, swe-ping right and left with his huge horns, that gos in the direction he imagines his enemy to be, and commences the attack without the slightest provocation. Should the lion and the keitloa meet, the former allows the latter a wide berth, and the elephant generally yields the path to him rather than encounter such a formidable antagonist, although sometimes he is attacked by his quarrelsome adversary before he is aware of his presence, and then a terrific battle ensues, when the elephant, if he is a tusker, generally gets the best of it, although I have seen a whole herd of elephants put to flight by two black rhimoeros. Every African traveller who has been much in the bush has some strange story to tell of his rencondres with this general disturber of the peace, and the following incident, which happened to myself, is one of many instances in which this aggressive and malevolent animal has taken the initiative in the attack. I was hunting with Captain Stevenson and a Dutch farmer of the name of Van Jansen, on the Nylstroom, one of the many tributaries of the Limpopo river, when we came across a large herd of bulfalo, and had commenced operations by killing three of their number when we were informed by one of our Damara guides that two keitloa flat the horse to the rear, there to await our return, and it appears that two of their number, whilst in search of wild fruit, disturbed the keitloa, who were enjoying a snoose under the shade of a grove of kushshai trees. The rhimoeross were lying down on their sides, flast asleep, when first discovered, but awakened by the voices of the men, in the twinkling of an eye they were on their legs, and, undismayed by the shouting and a comple of shots fired at them, they charged the men furiously and obliged them to take refuge in trees, when first discovered, but awakened by the voices of the men, in the twinkling of an eye they were on their legs, and, undismayed by the shouting and a couple of shots fired at them, they charged the men furiously and obliged them to

escape, they gave vent to their spleen by tearing down the bushes in their path. Van Jansen, who had killed one buffalo and wounded a second with his heavy roah, now rejoined me, and we determined to follow up the spoor of the rhinoceros. Having carefully reloaded may big Daw rifle with a Jacobs' shell in the right barrel and a hardened three-ounce round-headed cylindrical bullet in the left, I left my companion an S-gauge double smooth-bore as a second gun, and, accompanied only by Nagoma carrying my spare rifle, we made tracks for the scene of the Damaras' discomiture. The fresh spoor was everywhere to be seen, but the trails crossed and recrossed each other so frequently that it was scarely possible to discover the actual line of retreat. We had followed the spoor some distance when we found it doubled back to a path of thick bash close to where we first took it up; and we were considering what the next move should be when, suddenly, our suspense was terminated in the most abrupt manner; for the male rhinoceros, with a fendish shrill snort, came tearing down at us with normal lowered and tail straight on end, closely followed by his mate. I sprang on one side so as to let them pass, but Van Jansen, who was also right in their line of charge, trusting to the efficiency of his heavy roah, stood his ground and coolly let drive when the huge brute was within half a dozen paces of him. Although the shot must have told severely at that short distance, it did not disable him or even stay his course for a second: he merely staggered from the shock, and swerved a little to one side as he passed me. I let drive and planted the shell just behind the near shoulder; when, almost instantaneously, every vital function in the whole frame of the antimal seemed to be checked, for he dropped in a heap, doubled up with his knees under him, at Van Jansen's feet. I had hardly public trigger when the widowed mate, cocking her head on one side a most knowing manner, with vicious rolling eleades as he approached. I alimed at the cen an Jansen, who had killed one buffalo and wounded a

the most extraordinary manner, she fell stone dead within a few yards of her spouse.

"Hondred dutien duteels! But this is not work for a man with a large family!" exclaimed the Dutchman, as soon as he had somewhat recovered his usual equanimity of mind; for although brave as a lion, his nerves were somewhat shaken at his narrow escape from impalement. "If it had not been for your lacky shot, that horn would have spoiled the seat of the biggest pair of breeches in Naquama land, I'll be bound," continued he as he measured the front horn, which was nearly six spans, or fifty-four inches, whilst the hinder one was somewhat less than a foot.

a foot.

On examination of the bull I found that the heavy bullet of Van Jansen's roah had ploughed up the forehead and entered the neck, but somewhat too high up to prove mortal, whilst the Jacobs' shell had administered behind the shoulder, busting in the region of the heart, had caused instantaneous death. Having assembled the people by a call from my hunting-horn, I cut off the horns, which are joined to a knob of bone attached by strong ligaments to the nose and firmly set in the skin, and returned to the marsh where we had killed the buffalo.

The engravings illustrate a trader's narrative of a rhinoceros hunt in Amatonga land, which is best given in his own words as told round the watch-fire-after a good day's buffalo hunting. "Buffaloes are dangerous at times, very dangerous, and most big game may be made to fight; but for a thorough going skellum (villain), commend me to a bichare bloack rhinoceros), who, when you wish to hunt him, it is more likely that he will hunt you. I remember once I and a mixed breed after-rider, part Kaffir, and part Hottentot, whom I often took with me on my trips, contrived to get a couple of bullets into a black rhinoceros, one of a pair which we came suddenly upon whilst riding through a bush path. Our quarry did not hesistate a moment to retaliate, but came down at a furious pace upon my people, who did not seem to know where to run. Charging among the discomforted earriers, the lepat over the nearest, who had presence of mind sufficient to throw himself flat upon the ground, and came blundering along, apparently undecided as to which they should attack first, when my horse, generally steady and reliable, gave a lond snort, and, leaping into the air, went plunging through the rough thorny bush. Jan, and actor-ider, galloped of down the bush-path, but I well knew could easily have distanced the rhinoceros, but we were among tangle and timber, and upon rough broken ground, and, worse than all, my horse was frightened, and a horse is never so useless as when he is frightened. Well, after a short time—what with ducking and dodging to avoid the trunks of trees and overhanging boughs, and my efforts to guide my horse so as to keep a-head of the game, who followed grunting and groannig in my tracks, hunting me as much as a blood-hound hunts a fox—I was beginning to feel uneasy, and anxious to bring matters to a crisis. The blood was flowing, I could see, from two bullet holes in the old bull, but as the wounds were not near a vital part, I knew they would not impede his progress, and prevent his doing mischief. Every now and The engravings illustrate a trader's narrative of a rhinoceros hunt

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## Correspondence.

[The fact of the insertion of any letter in these columns does not no sarily imply our concurrence in the views of the writers, nor car hold ourselves responsible for any opinions that may be expretherein.]

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DRAMATIC READERS.

To the Editor of The ILCURATER SOLUTION AND DAMATIC NEWS.

"Speak scholarly and wisely."—SHARSPARE.

SIR.—Every man, in a more of less degree, imagines himself a clever reader. Commencing with "penny readings" (as they have been delusively called), and appropriating to himself the laughter and applause of the audience, which, intended really for the author, have somehow been pocketed by his, for the time being, representative, his confidence increases with each appearance, and he very probably displays less taste. We will pressme that he has a nice appearance, and has a five of those "little nothings" which go so far to make up the evening party man, has tolerably faint ideas of Bellew, Charles Dickens, or some other celebrated reader, and has been induced to appear at an "entertainment given &c. &c." He chooses one of the most difficult pieces he can lay his hands upon, and as every one of the audience has come with the intention of being thoroughly delighted, it is rather easy to produce a pleasing effect. The young reader is congratulated upon his performance, and henceforth he considers himself a remarkable man. Lessons in cloution are considered unnecessary; even to be rid of provincialism and every-day manuncisms in out attempted; therefore we are intudated with a set of people who bore us into consul, and have the conscience to take money at the doors in exchange for which they give a third and fourth rate article. They read first as they would at the domestic fireside, with book in land, with no modulation of voice or play of feature; the subject lappens to be good perhaps, and the reader bows himself off the platform without so much as an acknowledgment of the author for the part of th

There are very few, even amongst professionals, who understand or can practise the art of reading solus, unless after a great deal of practice, having, in the first place, a peculiar aptitude for that kind of thing. An actor may be excellent in one line, but out of it he may be lost entirely, whereas a reader must be versatile, or its audience, which are the power of retaining the fixed attention of his audience, having no extraneous effect of scenery or costume and accessories to assist his illustrations. If, then, a professional has so much to learn, what must we think of the presumption of an amateur who strikes upon the platform with the greatest assurance and calls the sibilation (as it is too frequently) a Dramatic Reading? But we will leave the anateur for more cultivated quality. We must soar to those classic heights which are meant only for the professional reader, and in which he alone can produce corresponding effects. But to try to be a professional reader is no mean essay. He must remember that on him and him only is the concentrated interest of an assemblage to be centred, and every word, every gesture, every pose, must be well studied, and, being originally adapted by nature for his vocation, he must be cluated thoroughly up to the pitch of excellence desired. "All public speaking and reading must be a little heightened above ordinary nature, the passes being longer and more frequent, the tones stronger, the action more forcible, and the expression more highly coloured." "The greater number of auditors being at a distance, it must have stronger touches and greater light and shade than would be correct or necessary for a near hearing and view alone." Study and practice, as in most other things, can alone make a

highly coloured." "The greater number of auditors being at a distance, it must have stronger touches and greater light and shade than would be correct or necessary for a near hearing and view alone." "

Study and practice, as in most other things, can alone make a successful reader. But he must possess advantages of voice and figure before he undertakes the former, otherwise his time will be thrown away. There are so-called professors of elecution who may persuade many young devotees to embark money and time on that which will never be of any use to them, and these charlatans extract large fees while teaching false elecutionary principles. The pre-payment of these people is a direct imposition, and should be discouraged. As in vocalists, more of art and less of nature, and vice verse, is continually met with, and in very, very few we get both combined. The necessity for a reader to come before us in a correct form is an eccessary for the mental welfare of the public who pay for admission to hear him as for a tutor who takes the responsibility of teaching manners and morals to the rising generation. And it, should be borne in mind that a third or fourth rate actor should have no place in such a case, as, probably, with a deficient education to start with, with mannerisms acquired by the sets of people has played before, and with a style of speaking more fitted to the "gaff" than to the drawing-room, he is perhaps the very last to whom the training of a pupil should be confided. If that pupil should be intended for the profession of a reader, there should be more care at the commencement, i.e. in the formation of his organ for ultimate cultivation and study, than for almost any other profession. The responsibilities of a tutor are great, but the responsibilities of the guardian to whom is entrusted the duty of discovering the tutor are greater. That discovery well made, time and practice must do the rest. A good reader, there should be more care at the commencement, i.e. in the formation of his organ for ultimate

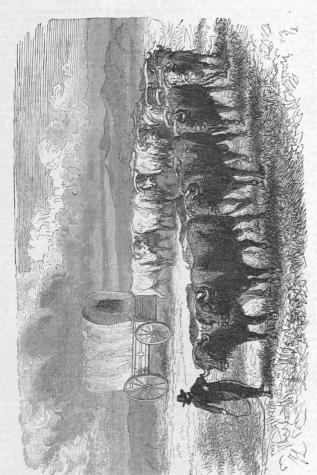
Latest Betting.

EBOR HANDICAP (run Wednesday, August 26). Wednesday, August 2014 to 1 agst Inveresk
14 to 1 — Louise
14 to 1 — Crusader
14 to 1 — Conundrum
20 to 1 — Charles
25 to 1 — Benedictine
25 to 1 — Daniel
25 to 1 — Polonaise 4 to 1 agst Blantyre
5 to 1 — Chivalrons
6 to 1 — Falkland
7 to 1 — Dalham
10 to 1 — Owton
10 to 1 — Agglethorpe
10 to 1 — Nectar
14 to 1 — Freeman ST. LEGER. S.
5 to 2 agst George Frederick
5 to 2 — Apology
6 to 1 — Atlantic
10 to 1 — Leolinus
15 to 1 — Trent
20 to 1 — Lady Patricia 100 to 1
100 to 1 Novateur Daniel Selsea Bill Blantyre
King of Tyne
Dukedom
Farnsfield
Vincent Trent Lady Patricia Glenalmond Scamp Feu d'Amour Reverberation cossais omahawk Boulet Sir W. Wallace Warren Point Kidbrook to 4 on George Frederick | StrTING. |
to 4 on George Frederick | 4 to 1 to 4 — Apology | 5 to 1 to 4 agest Alantic | 5 to 1 — Leolinus | 5 to 1 t any other. 4 to 1 agst Trent
5 to 1 — Scamp
5 to 1 — Lady Patricia
5 to 1 — Glenalmond 40 to 1 agst Pirate 50 to 1 — Gleneagle 66 to 1 ag THE CESAREWITCH. t Hessleder THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE. 50 to 1 agst Novateur 50 to 1 — Khedive 50 to 1 — Newry agst any other.

THE LIVERPOOL AUTUMN CUP. \* Smith, On Elecution.



THE COUP DE GRÂCE.



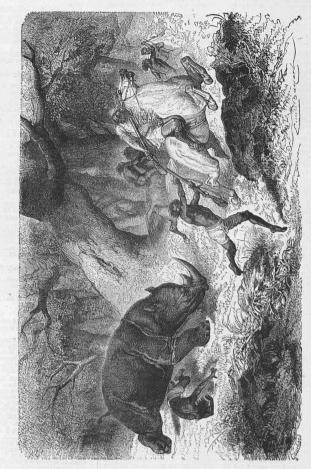
OUR HOME IN THE BUSH.



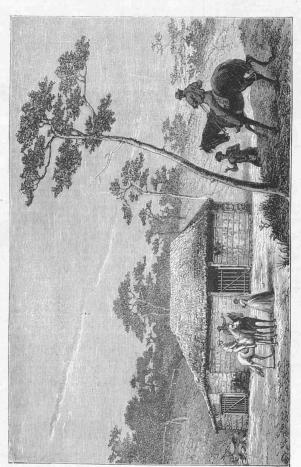


RHINOCEROS HUNTING IN CENTRAL AFRICA.





THE HAUNT OF THE "BORRLE."



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