

COLOSSAL WHITE RHINOCEROS.

SPLENDID CAPTURE BY AN IRISHMAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Advices from South Africa just received at Eyrecourt, county Galway, a few miles from Banagher, announce that Mr Arthur Eyre, eldest son of the late well-known Colonel Eyre, has succeeded, after a prolonged and perilous chase, in capturing a colossal white rhinoceros, which is believed to be the last, or one of the last, of its species. It appears that a long time since Mr Cecil Rhodes was requisitioned by the authorities of the South African Museum to secure, if possible, a complete specimen of the very rare and nearly extinct white rhinoceros. Mr Rhodes promised to comply if it were possible, and every effort was made to secure the object in view but unsuccessfully, until Mr. Eyre, who was in the country, volunteered to try his skill. Setting out with a few native attendants he travelled on to a point seventy miles north of the Ayrshire Mine, (near Mount Dombo, on the Racontu River, Mashonaland. There he came across the spoor of a perfect specimen of the species he was in quest of, and of colossal dimensions. It proved to be the one that had long been spoken of as impossible of capture, and which was also believed to be the last of its kind. The intrepid Irishman with his single gun followed the spoor for three days, covering 50 miles of most difficult country, when he brought the grand quarry down at close quarters, and at imminent risk to his own life. Mr Harry Palk of the British South Africa Company, gives a description of the animal and the following measurements—“The height of this rhinoceros from the forefoot to the top of the hump is 6ft 4in, the length from nose to tail 13ft 8 in. ; length of large horn before skirt was removed, 2ft 11½ in ; ditto of small horn, 11½ in ; size of fore feet, 12in by 11in ; hind ditto, 11½ in by 9½.