

BUSHMAN PAINTINGS

COPIED BY
M. HELEN TONGUE

WITH A PREFACE BY
HENRY BALFOUR

Plots 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

OXFORD
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS
1909

The cloaked figures in Plate XV, No. 102, are the least damaged part of a long procession of dressed-up men and women. Even from this pieces have been scraped away.

The circus-like picture (Plate XLIV, No. 78) was at the other end of the cave, also out of reach from the ground. I think the circles may possibly represent pools of water drawn without perspective. The lion, or leopard, and man are evidently jumping across, not through the ring by which they are.

Here we found the mangled remains of a drawing of archers, copied by M. Christol several years ago and published by him. But now that, too, is past tracing.

Any further exploration of the country-side for more caves was out of the question, as it was summer time, and thunder-storms came up almost every afternoon. The little Caledon, which was not low when we crossed, was reported to be steadily rising, so we dared not wait for further storms to make it impassable. As it was, we had some difficulty in getting back to Maseru.

CHIPPINGS

In the west corner of the Orange River Colony, six hours from Fauresmith, lies the little town of Luckhoff. This country is quite different from the Conquered Territory or Basutoland. It is regular Karroo-veld, with no grass, only the tiny, hardy plants called Karroo bush; no mountains to catch the clouds and feed the streams, only bare plains divided by the tiniest kopjes; no overhanging rock ledges with caves below, only bare, brown boulders on the hot veld. Across this scorching country the Orange River flows through a belt of green trees, the only cool and pleasant spot.

The Bushmen living in these parts could not paint, for they had no smooth and sheltered surface to work on. Instead, they have used the flat boulders and made a picture on the rock itself with a stone. Baviaan's Krantz, the property of the Orange River Farming Company, is in a sort of valley, twisting down to the river. The slightly raised land opposite the homestead is covered with such pictures on low stones. More are on a hillock by the river. The artist evidently sat on another stone. Perhaps he was waiting for game to pass to the water. There is no shelter of trees or rock, the sun blazes down on the place all day.

Plate XLVI, No. 81, is a rhinoceros. The outline is scraped out of the flat stone. The whole surface of the boulder is no bigger than

the picture. Indeed, in the chipped designs the artists generally seem to have used up the full space available.

Plate XLVI, No. 82. Near at hand is an ostrich entirely scraped out of the stone; the markings indicating feathers are chipped in the scraped-out surface.

Plate XLVI, No. 83. The buck with scraped outline has some slight resemblance to a bontebok or blesbok. It seems to be eating.

Plate XLVII, No. 84. This beast, with scraped outline and chipped markings, seems intended for a gnu or wildebeest; at least the thick tail, mane or hump on back and curved horns indicate that animal.

Plate XLVI, No. 85. The head and forequarters of a hartebeest found just in this condition; there was no room for more on the rock.

Plate XLVII, No. 86. The turned-back horns and slender hind-quarter of this outlined buck point to its being meant for a hartebeest.

Plate XLVIII, No. 87. This buck has a chipped outline and chipped markings. The dewlap and neck lines show it is meant for an eland. The heavy build and hump are also there. In Sclater and Thomas's book of Antelopes, p. 29, mention is made of 'some curious horns which were at first ascribed to a new and unknown Antelope, but are now generally admitted to be nothing more than abnormal horns of the cow eland'. This animal seems to have similar ones.

Plate XLIX, No. 88. These two, buck and ostrich, have scraped outlines and chipped markings which are for convenience coloured black here. The dewlap and neck markings are characteristic of the eland.

Plate XLIX, No. 89. This very elementary elephant entirely fills the surface of a rock, on which he is graven. Perhaps that accounts for his wonderful stature. The want of brain space reminds one of the picture of elephants from Catherine's Post.

Plate L, No. 90. A specially broad and flat stone bears these curious human figures. They certainly look like people of the stone age. One holds a club or knobkerry and a stick. But what the strange thing attached to him may be is not clear. A skin seems most probable. The other holds a stick and seems to be dragging something. The little elephant has evidently been drawn by the same or another artist, seated at the other side of the stone; hence the inverted position.

Plate XLVIII, No. 91. Here, too, was another long-horned eland, somewhat similar to Plate XLVIII, No. 87, of Baviaan's Krantz.

Plate XLVII, No. 92. This elephant is also scraped on sandstone. It is evidently seen in exact profile, so that each leg and tusk covers the other.

The neighbouring farm, Roodekop, owned by Mr. Weidemann, lies quite close to Baviaan's Krantz.

Plate LI, No. 93. Near the homestead is an oblong block of sandstone, on which the four elands are scraped. This is the most perfect piece

LIST OF PLATES

Note.—The two chromocolotypes are reduced to about one half; the coloured plates to a third of the size of the originals. The only exception is Plate VIII, No. 24, which is about a sixth of the size of the original.

Collotype I (No. 49). Elands, one drinking (shaded drawing). *Costello's Farm. Frontispiece.*

Collotype II (No. 33). Elands (shaded drawing). *Glengyle. Facing title.*

Photographs of the original paintings reproduced in Plates XVI, No. 26; XXVI, No. 40; XXIX, No. 44; XXXI, Nos. 48 and 50; and Collotype No. 1.

(No. 69). Signs, meaning unknown. *Haco, p. 48.*

(No. 70). Monkey and buck and sign. *Haco, p. 48.*

Maps showing the places in which the Bushman paintings reproduced in this work were found, p. 52.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Plate I, No. 1. | } | Continuous picture of wavy lines, spots, ox and men with thong, vultures, rhebucks, elands, oxen, lion, duicker. <i>Zuurfontein.</i> |
| Plate II, Nos. 2, 3. | | |
| Plate III, No. 4. | | |
| No. 5. | | Three Kaffirs with spears, two jackals, a rhinoceros, an elephant. <i>Zandfontein.</i> |
| Plate IV, No. 6. | | Hippopotamus charging into trap, natives with spears. <i>Zandfontein.</i> |
| Plate V, No. 7. | | Black and white ox, buck, natives. |
| Plate VI, No. 8. | | Spotted one-horned buck in water surrounded by fish. The buck are probably imaginary animals. <i>Clarksdale.</i> |
| | | No. 16. Men with blue jackets, sheep. <i>Catherine's Post.</i> |
| Plate VII, No. 9. | | Leopard springing on ox. <i>Buffelsfontein.</i> |
| | | No. 10. Eland, two fringed aprons. <i>Buffelsfontein.</i> |
| | | No. 12. Vulture eating dead buck. <i>Buffelsfontein.</i> |
| | | No. 13. Bucks. <i>Buffelsfontein.</i> |
| Plate VIII, No. 11. | | Baboons. <i>Buffelsfontein.</i> |
| | | No. 23. Transformation of man into frog, illustrating a Bushman folk tale. <i>Mount Victory.</i> |
| | | No. 24. Elephant. <i>Dordrecht Commonage.</i> |
| | | No. 104. Men shooting at each other with arrows. <i>Modderpoort.</i> |
| Plate IX, No. 14. | | Sheep, oxen and herdsmen. <i>Catherine's Post.</i> |
| Plate X, No. 15. | | Monsters attacking Bushmen. <i>Catherine's Post.</i> |
| | | No. 19. Elephants and Baboon. <i>Catherine's Post.</i> |
| Plate XI, Nos. 17, 18. | | Elands, rhebucks, oxen (continuous picture). <i>Catherine's Post.</i> |
| Plate XII, No. 20. | | Soldiers on barricade, natives in karosses, partly rubbed out. <i>Greenvale.</i> |
| Plate XIII, No. 21. | | Native, apparently smoking. <i>Greenvale.</i> |

- Plate XXXVIII, No. 65. Snake, baboons. *Sonnebloem*.
- Plate XXXIX, No. 67. Bucks falling into pit used for trapping game. *Mooi Vlake*.
- Plate XL, No. 71. Rain falling into pool, frog figure and human figures, rain-making. *Advance Post*.
- No. 75. Man and women. *Advance Post*.
- No. 77. Children chased by the Mantis, illustrating a Bushman folk tale. *Advance Post*.
- Plate XLI, No. 72. Foreshortened elands, men with headdresses, bows and arrows. *Advance Post*.
- No. 79. White cranes. *Theko's Village*.
- Plate XLII, No. 73. Foreshortened buck, mystic figure drawn by men under skins. *Advance Post*.
- No. 76. Lion chasing man. *Advance Post*.
- Plate XLIII, No. 74. Tall men in animal disguises; possibly sorcerers. Men with animals' heads with noses bleeding from dancing. *Advance Post*.
- Plate XLIV, No. 78. Leopard chasing man across circles, possibly pits or pools. *Theko's Village*.
- Plate XLV, No. 80. Birds. *Theko's Village*.
- Plate XLVI, No. 81. Rhinoceros. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 82. Ostrich. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 83. Wildebeest or Gnu. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 85. Hartebeest. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- Plate XLVII, No. 84. Bontebuck. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 86. Hartebeest. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 92. Elephant. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- Plate XLVIII, No. 87. Eland. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 91. Eland. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- Plate XLIX, No. 88. Ostrich and eland. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- No. 89. Elephant. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- Plate L, No. 90. Men dragging thongs or skins; elephant. *Baviaan's Krantz*.
- Plate LI, No. 93. Elands. *Roodekop*.
- No. 98. Quagga. *Jonasfontein*.
- No. 99. Rhinoceros. *Jonasfontein*.
- Plate LII, No. 94. Ostrich. *Roodekop*.
- No. 96. Giraffe. *Roodekop*.
- Plate LIII, No. 95. Ostrich and rhinoceros. *Roodekop*.
- No. 97. Elephant. *Roodekop*.
- Plate LIV. No. 105. Two bucks and sign (meaning unknown.) *Baviaan's Krantz*.



CAVE AT REBEL'S KLOOF

Photographed by Mr. Costello



CAVE AT REBEL'S KLOOF

Photographed by Mr. Costello