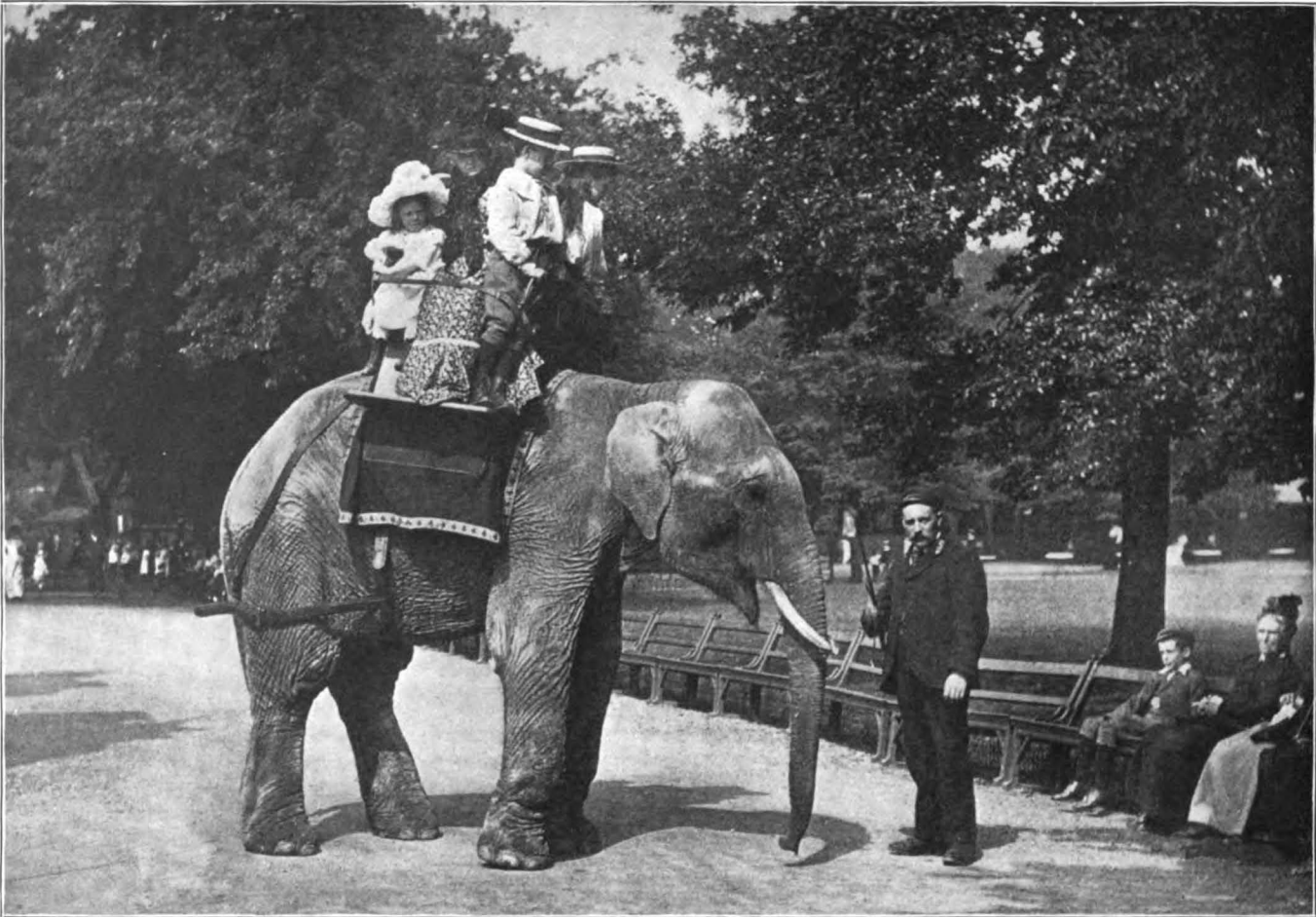




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ELEPHANT-RIDING IN THE ZOO PARK



THE LONDON ZOO

A STUDY IN ANIMAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Note:—The photographs which illustrate this article were made by Mr. W. P. Dando, the writer of the paper, who is a specialist of high rank in animal photography. He is a Fellow of the Zoological Society of London and a Director of the great Zoo, where he spends a large part of his time making observations and photographic studies of the animals.—EDITOR.

The idea of founding a zoological society in London was no doubt originated by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles. From the *Memoir* written by his widow, it appears that in 1816 Raffles "meditated the establishment" of a society on the principle of the *Jardin des Plantes* in Paris, which finally he succeeded in forming in 1826, under the title of The Zoological Society of London. From fifteen members and admissions of only four visitors in 1826, the society has grown to the present period when it has about three thousand members, five hundred fellows, a record of over forty-five thousand visitors in one day, and an income of £30,000 a year.

The amount of food required to feed the animals at "The Zoo," as the society's gardens in Regent Park are popularly called, is enormous. A *chef* at a first-class restaurant has not so many different tastes to cater for. It is astonishing to think that more than 1,338 tons of food, equalling about 3,000,000 pounds, are required annually to feed the animals. The provender amounts to 1,168,400 pounds; the fish, 35,000 pounds; the fresh meat killed at the society's abattoir, 916,400 pounds. Carrots alone work out at 173,550 pounds. The menu is made up of 59 varieties of food with "Liebig," 9,530 fowls' heads, and 35,000 eggs just thrown in by way of a luxury. These figures do not include the enormous amount of food given to the

animals by the visitors. Over five hundred "bags of food" is the average daily sale at the refreshment counters; and on a busy day twelve thousand buns, three thousand cakes, and thousands of rolls are purchased and taken away by the visitors, mostly for feeding the animals, while in addition tons of food are brought in from outside. I doubt if the feeding of the animals by the public is a privilege which should be allowed, as it is acknowledged by the society's officials that numbers of animals die annually through overfeeding by visitors with unsuitable food.

But it is my present purpose to describe and illustrate a few of the most popular and the rarer animals to be found in the society's menagerie, all the illustrations reproducing photographs from life.

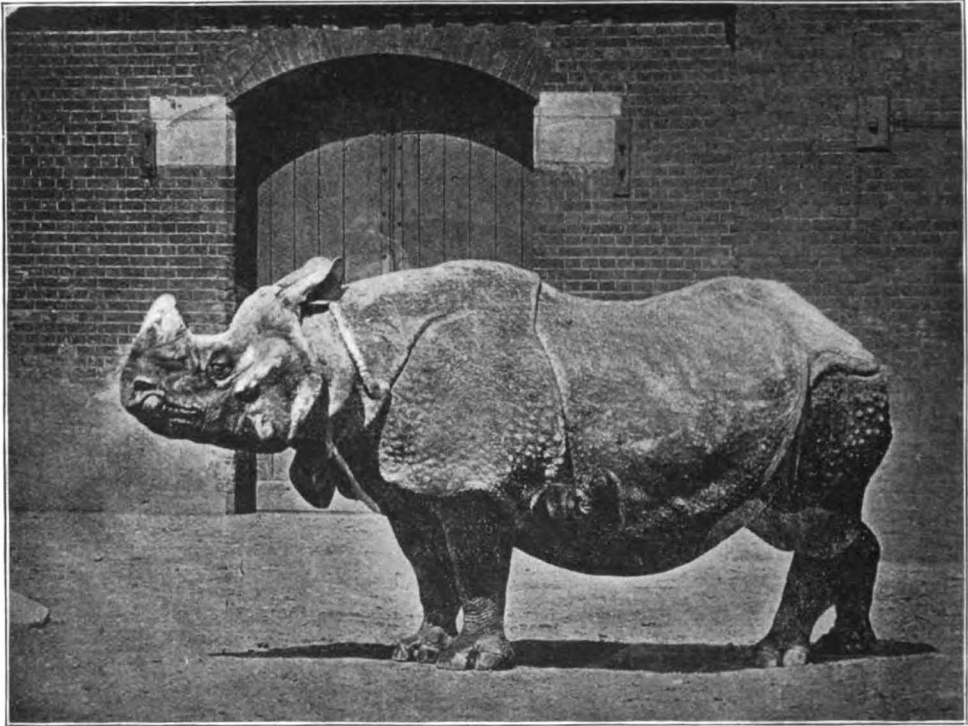
As proof of the care and attention given to animals at the Zoo, no better illustration can be afforded than Jim, the fine Indian rhinoceros which was presented to the society in 1864. Considering the enormous weight of this animal he is remarkably straight on his feet. Contrary to popular belief, the skin of the rhinoceros is not bullet-proof; in fact, it can be pierced easily with a pointed knife. There are five species of the rhinoceros—three Oriental and two African. The *Rhinoceros unicornis*, though known to the ancients, was seen for the first time by Europeans in 1513, when one was sent to the King of

Portugal from India. Although the appearance of these animals is clumsy, when necessary they can run with great swiftness, and in their wild state they show considerable ferocity when provoked.

Until lately Jingo, the tallest African elephant in captivity, was housed in the same building with Jim. Jingo was a grand specimen, which had been brought up at the Zoo from a "baby," twenty-two years ago, and stood nine feet seven inches high. Having about eight years

Kordofan, and were presented to the society by Colonel Mahon, the gallant soldier who relieved Mafeking. It will be observed that the legs of the animals curiously form the letter M, the initial of their generous donor. The other giraffe illustrated is a much taller animal.

Another of the big animals which attracts considerable notice is Guy Fawkes, the hippopotamus, born in the menagerie, November 5, 1872, her birthday suggesting a name for her from the celebrated would-



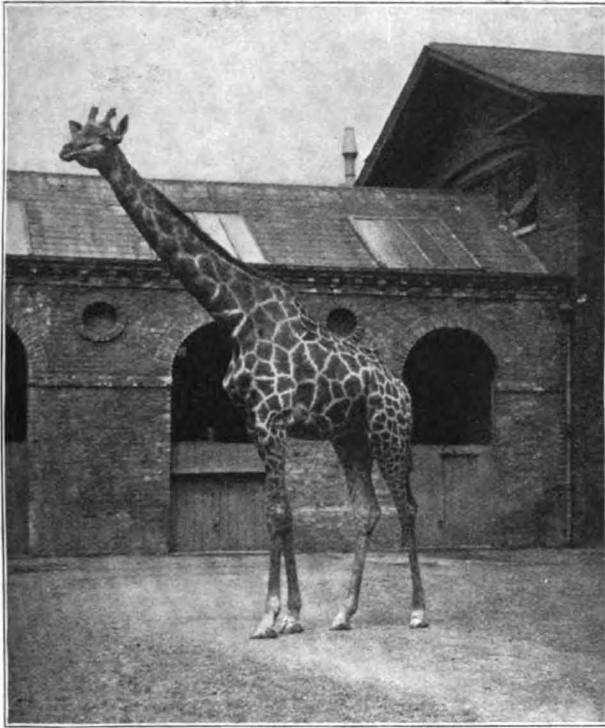
JIM, THE OLDEST INHABITANT

more to grow, Jingo gave every promise of reaching Jumbo's enormous height of over eleven feet. Mr. Bostock's purchase of Jingo, and the animal's death from seasickness—or, what is more likely, homesickness—are well-known events of recent occurrence.

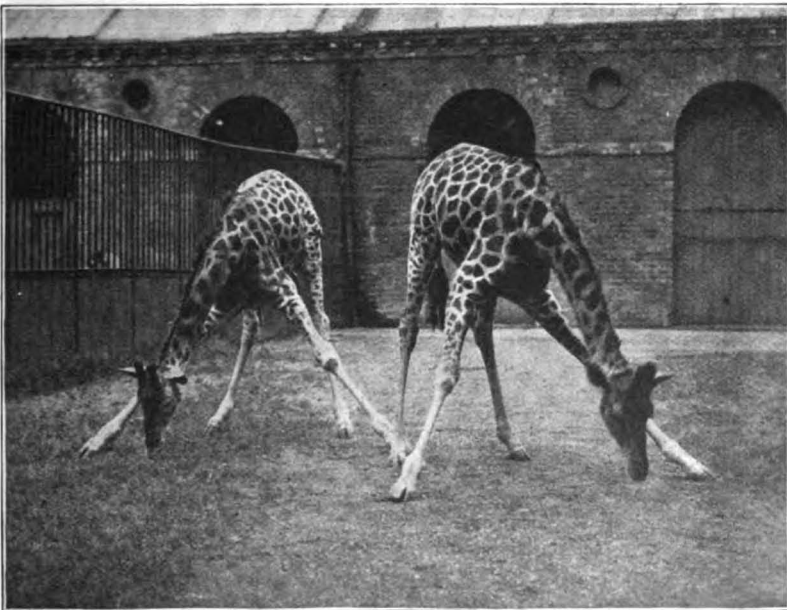
The giraffe house, at present, contains three very interesting specimens of these costly animals, which the society has purchased on more than one occasion for about £1000 each. The two giraffes which are illustrated together are from

be wrecker of Parliament. The animal is a very fine specimen, and is a great attraction during the summer months when she is let out into her outside quarters. These are provided with a tremendous tank holding about a million gallons of water, in which this enormous animal can totally submerge herself.

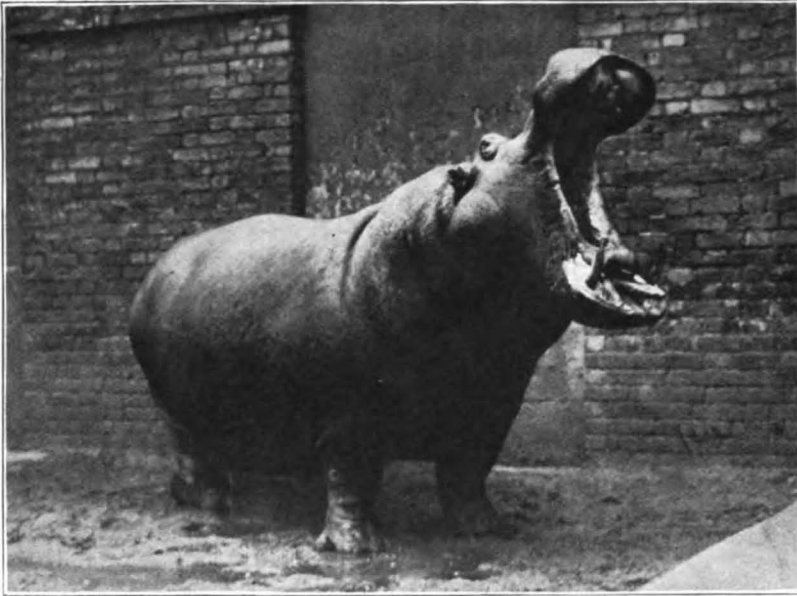
The King has always taken great interest in the Zoo. The record year for admission to the Zoo was the one in which His Majesty, then Prince of Wales, deposited the animals collected on his tour through



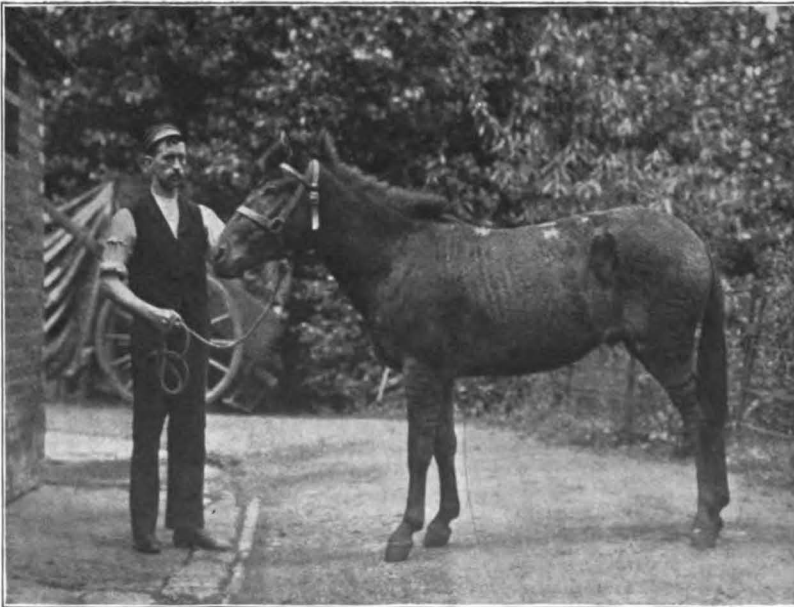
THE TALLEST GIRAFFE IN THE ZOO



GIRAFFES PRESENTED BY COLONEL MAHON



GUY FAWKES



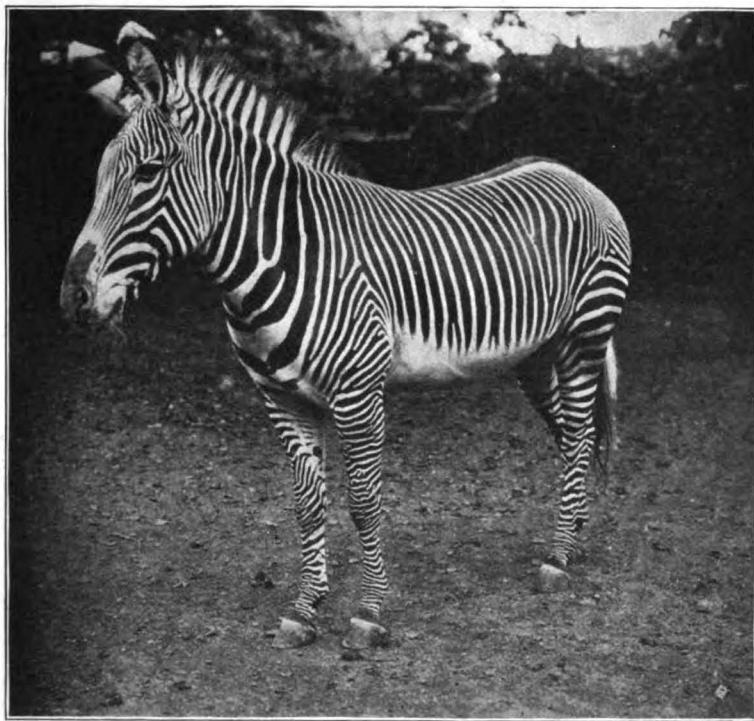
LORD KITCHENER'S HYBRID ZEBRA

India. The total number of visitors was 915,764, and the income for the year was £34,955.

The beautiful zebras are the admiration of all visitors to the Zoo. The animal shown in the illustration was originally kept at Windsor, and was presented to the late Queen Victoria by Emperor Menelik, who at the same time gave a pair to President Grévy, of France, after whom this species is named. The King last year presented this beautiful creature to the Zoo with two other Grévys, and these three,

on all four legs and also on the loins, and the "gridiron" markings extend upwards from the root of the tail. These are the only characteristics of the zebra which are noticeable, the great mane of the zebra being lacking, as are other prominent features.

At the Zoo the wild Indian swine, presented by the King, attract much interest. They are now fully established there. Since the herd of swine, which the King used to keep at Windsor, was abolished, many litters have been seen at the Zoo.

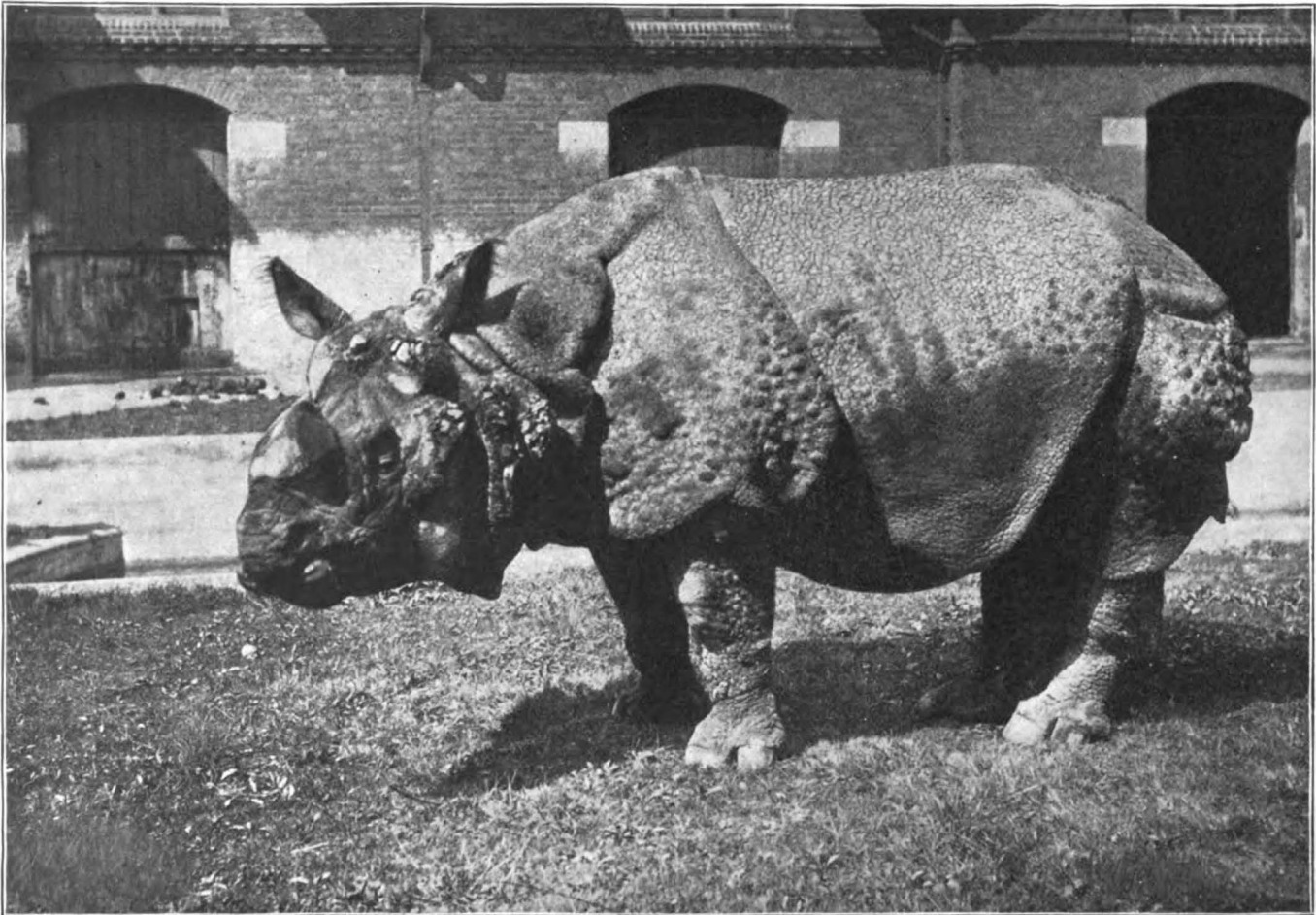


GREVY ZEBRA PRESENTED BY THE KING

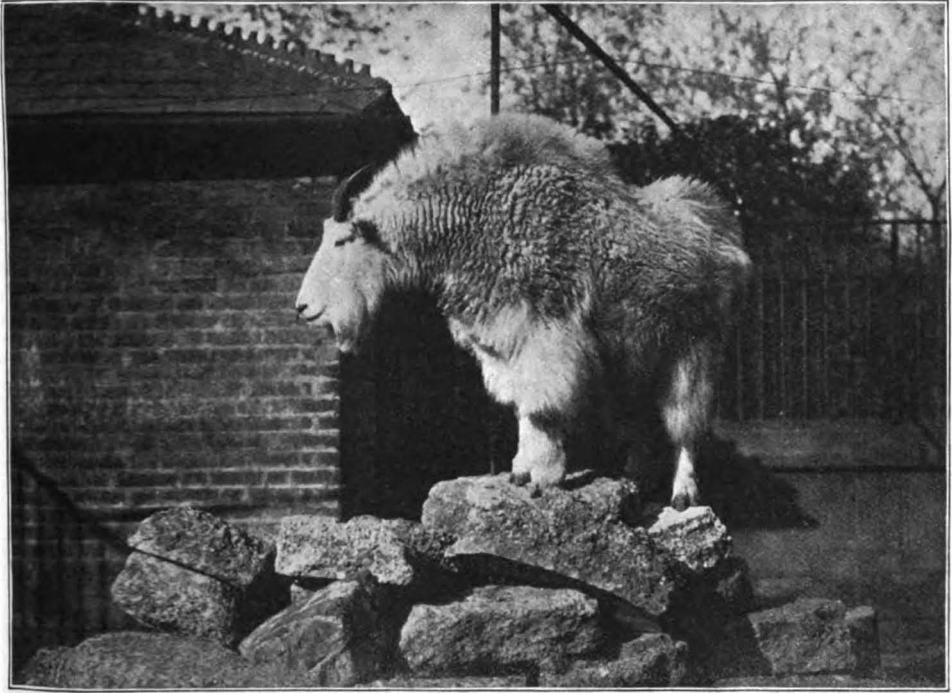
excepting one owned by the Duke of Bedford, are the only specimens in captivity. All four are females.

A most interesting animal at the Zoo is the hybrid zebra, a cross between a stallion horse and a Burchell zebra mare. This unique animal was sent over to the King by Lord Kitchener, who discovered it among the remounts placed at the General's disposal during the Transvaal war. The animal is very savage and wild, no doubt through want of proper exercise. The zebra markings are distinctly visible

All the wild swine, with perhaps one exception, are marked lengthwise with stripes when born; and, curious to relate, although domesticated pigs show no signs of these markings, when they revert to the wild state, as they have done in South America and Africa, the young are generally striped when born. The Indian wild swine are very savage if cornered, and will "go for" anything—man, horses, elephants—even though severely wounded. The boars weigh about 270 pounds each, and are very ferocious.



ANOTHER BIG FELLOW IN THE ZOO



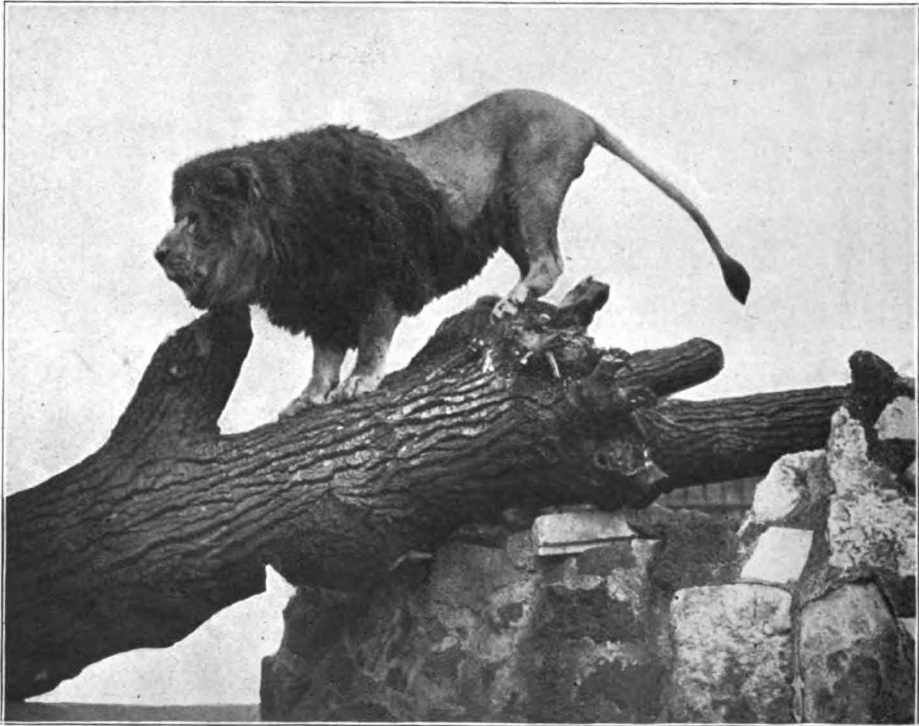
ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT



INDIAN WILD SWINE

We are proud that we have a very fine specimen of the Rocky Mountain goat at the Zoo, the only one in Europe ever brought over alive. The specimen in the Philadelphia collection, I understand, is not as fine as the one at our Zoo. These animals are solitary in their habits. They are about as large as full-sized sheep, and have long white hair, well suited to harmonize with their snowy surroundings. The hair, which is very abundant around the throat and neck, stands erect like a mane down

Of all the animals at the Zoo the marsupials hold the record for being "born in the menagerie." My photograph of the wallaby with young shows the head of the young one protruding from the pouch, with which all the native animals of Australia are provided. I can find no reliable testimony as to how the young are placed in the pouch after their premature birth. And no information on this subject is forthcoming from any of the keepers at the Zoo, although for years they have been close



SULTAN

the centre of the back. These goats range all through the Rocky Mountains, and it is with the utmost difficulty that hunters reach their haunts, as they usually inhabit the most inaccessible places. Although they have the credit of being extremely agile among their native mountains, the lazy and stiff manner with which the specimen at the Zoo hobbles about on the very poor imitation of rocks with which it is provided, gives the impression that they are very dull and stupid animals.

observers and have had exceptional facilities; not one of them knows how or when the transition takes place.

The lion house contains some very fine specimens, two only of which can be shown. Sultan and his companion Mona were photographed upon the tree trunk which is placed inside the spacious den. Another splendid lion is Duke, a very handsome animal captured by Grogan and Sharp, those plucky explorers and authors who made the first journey in Africa from

south to north. This fine specimen was brought to the Zoo as a cub in September, 1898, and is another example of the care and attention given to any animals deposited in the society's gardens.

The ape house at the Zoo, built at the cost of £7000, and opened to the public last year, is quite a new departure in the housing of apes and monkeys. The main feature of this edifice is the entire separation of the part appropriated to the public from that in which the anthropoid apes are

to handle and talk to Mickie, the pet chimpanzee, and to see him go through his performance of taking the keys out of his keeper's pocket, selecting the right one, and proceeding to unlock the door of his cage—never by any chance offering to put the key in upside down. Mickie can make O and X with a pencil on a slate; he plays at guessing which hand the larger piece of apple is in; he sits up, with a basin and spoon, and eats as rationally as any "grown up"; and does things which seem



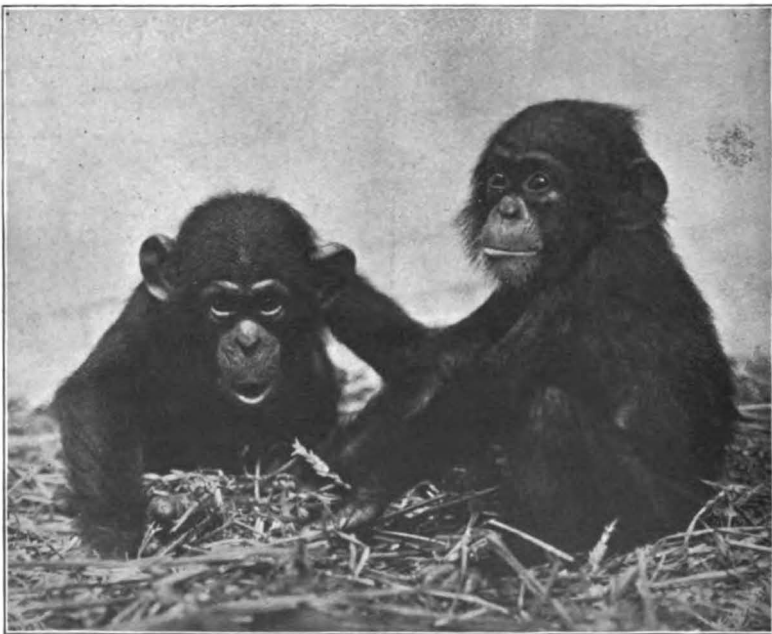
MONA

lodged. An extra thick plate glass screen forms the division and runs the entire length and height of the spacious building. Up to the present time the new scheme has proved most successful, as an even temperature can be kept up in the animals' quarters no matter what the outside temperature is; and this is not varied by the constant opening and shutting of doors. The public, that used to feed and handle the favorites in their old quarters, was at first greatly disappointed at not being able

to point to reason as much as to instinct. But the plate glass screen has stopped Mickie's attraction as one of the most intelligent apes in captivity. There were two other chimpanzees in the ape house which were exceedingly amusing, for, although quite young, their blows, measured movements and actions, were extremely ludicrous, and served again to point to a power of reasoning, or to an instinct far and away beyond anything exhibited by the more agile-tailed monkeys. This pair of comic duelists were



WALLABY WITH YOUNG

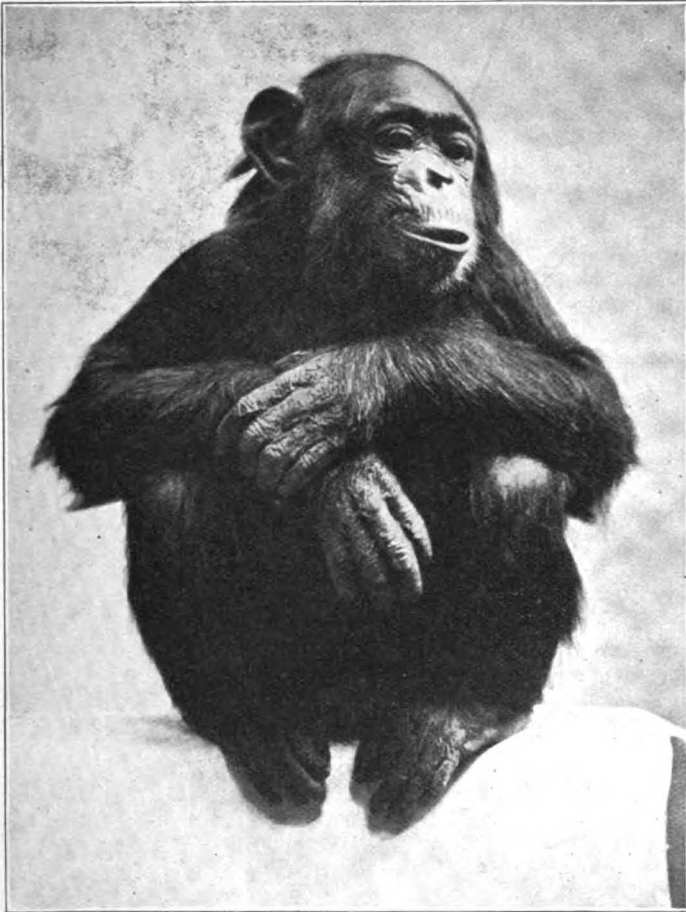


JIM AND SUSAN

named Jim and Susan. Poor Susan (who is represented on the right of the illustration) died suddenly, and poor little Jim has to do a comic turn all by himself.

The new ape house also had as an inhabitant a proboscis-monkey (*Nestor notabilis*) which was the first specimen ever seen alive in Europe. It was a weakly creature when it arrived and did not live

Borneo apes do not live long in captivity, and adult specimens are very difficult to obtain. Two fine ones were lost at the Zoo within twelve months, and the society has not been able to replace them. The ape house also contains specimens of the silvery gibbon and a hoolock, both very rare and very healthy. In our Zoo, also, there is a splendid collection of birds and



MICKIE

many weeks. It was no doubt the rarest monkey ever seen in captivity, and it proved beyond doubt the gross exaggeration of the drawings illustrating this monkey that are found in most of the works on natural history, and the errors that were performed in setting up some of the stuffed specimens seen in natural history museums.

Ourang-outangs have been well represented at the Zoo, but unfortunately the

reptiles. The exhibit of birds is generally recognized as the largest and finest in the world.