

QL 77
.P5 A3
1905
Copy 1

PRICE, FIFTEEN CENTS.

GUIDE TO THE GARDEN

OF THE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

OF PHILADELPHIA

(FAIRMOUNT PARK).



NINTH EDITION.

REVISED AND CORRECTED

1905.

By ARTHUR ERWIN BROWN,

Member of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the American
Philosophical Society, &c.,

SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY.



proboscis or trunk, are found at the present time in the warmer parts of Asia, in the islands of Borneo, Sumatra, and Ceylon, and also in central and southern Africa.

There are two species, differing very appreciably,—the INDIAN ELEPHANT (*Elephas indicus*) has a concave forehead, comparatively small ears, and has four nails developed on the hind feet, while the AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Elephas africanus*) has a rounder forehead, much larger ears, and has three nails on the hind foot instead of four. The pattern of the crowns of the molar teeth is also different. The incisor teeth, or tusks, as they are called, grow to an enormous size, but are rarely possessed by the female Indian elephant.

“BOLIVAR,” the large male in the collection, was presented to the Society by Mr. Adam Forepaugh on the twenty-fifth of December, 1888, and is probably the largest elephant in captivity, measuring nearly ten feet in height at the shoulder and weighing about ten thousand pounds. The other elephants at present in this building are “Empress,” purchased in 1876, at which time she was about three years old, and “Kaiserin,” presented in 1902. The last was probably born about 1898.

The elephant is in reality a smaller animal than is commonly supposed, careful measurements of large numbers in India showing that they average less than nine feet in height, and rarely exceed ten. They are believed to be fully grown at from twenty-five to thirty years of age. The ordinary life of the elephant is supposed to be about a hundred years, although in special cases they undoubtedly live much longer.

The fact is given, on the authority of Sir Emerson Tennent, that the British, after their capture of the Island of Ceylon, in 1799, had in their service an elephant which was proved by the records to have served the Dutch during the whole term of their occupancy,—something like a hundred and forty years.

The elephant lives wholly on vegetable diet.

THE INDIAN RHINOCEROS (*Rhinoceros unicornis*). There are five or six species of rhinoceros found in Africa and Asia, the distribution of the animal being almost identical with that of the elephant. All the species, with the exception of this and the Javan rhinoceros, have two horns, one immediately behind the other.

Quite a number of fossil rhinoceroses have been discovered

in the middle and later Tertiary, so that those now existing may be looked upon as the last of an expiring line, and they are, in fact, disappearing so rapidly that while some one of the African species is now and then available, it is doubtful if the Society will ever be able to replace "Pete," the huge male of the Indian species, who died in 1901, after spending twenty-seven years in the Garden.

The native country of the GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) is the central and eastern part of Africa, from about the tenth or fifteenth degree of north latitude almost to the Cape; but in most parts of this vast region they are now scarce, few, if any, being found south of Mashonaland. They are found in small herds, browsing on the branches of such trees as may be within their reach. Their long legs unfit them for feeding on the ground, as it is a work of much difficulty for the giraffe, by straddling its fore legs widely apart, to get its nose down to the level on which it stands.

It is a ruminant, closely related to the antelopes. The horns, or protuberances on the head, are never shed, but are composed of solid bone, covered with skin like the remainder of the skull.

As with the elephant, the height of the giraffe is much over-estimated in popular opinion; it probably does not average over sixteen feet. They are very delicate in constitution, and in our climate require the most careful attention.

Of late years few giraffes have been shipped from Africa, and at the present time they are costly luxuries in collections which possess them.

At present the Society does not possess a hippopotamus, which was formerly kept in this building, but it is hoped that this want may be supplied, and a special and suitable building be erected for their care.

There are two species of the animal, one of small size, found on the west coast of Africa, and the better known one (*Hippopotamus amphibius*)—the River-horse of the ancients—found in many of the African rivers. Being of great bulk, with disproportionately short legs, they are clumsy out of water, although they forage freely at night among the grain fields, where cultivation is carried on along the river banks, doing much damage, not only by the amount carried off in