

THE
B E A U T I E S
OF THE
C R E A T I O N;
OR, A NEW MORAL SYSTEM OF
NATURAL HISTORY:
IN FIVE VOLUMES:

Consisting of

QUADRUPEDS,	INSECTS,
BIRDS,	TREES AND FLOWERS,
FISHES AND REPTILES,	&c. &c.

Designed to inspire Youth with Humanity towards the
Brute Creation, and bring them early acquainted with
the wonderful Works of the Creator.

*Who can this field of miracles survey,
And not with Galen, all in rapture, say,
Behold a God! adore him, and obey!*

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THE RHINOCEROS.

THE length of this animal, from the extremity of the muzzle to the insertion of the tail, is usually twelve feet; and the circumference of its body is nearly equal to its length: its nose is armed with a formidable weapon, peculiar to this creature, being a very hard and solid horn, with which it defends itself from every adversary. The Tiger will rather attack the Elephant, whose trunk it can lay hold of, than the Rhinoceros, which it cannot face, without danger of having his bowels torn out. The body and limbs of the Rhinoceros are covered with a skin so hard and impenetrable, that he fears neither the claws of the Tiger, nor the more formidable proboscis of the Elephant; it will turn the edge of a scimitar, and even resist the force of a musket-ball.

THAT which Emanuel, king of Portugal, sent to the Pope, in the year 1513, destroyed the vessel in which they were transporting it.

LIKE the Hog, this animal is fond of wallowing in the mire. It is a solitary animal, loves moist and marshy grounds, and seldom quits the banks of rivers. It is found

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In Bengal, Siam, China, and other countries of Asia; in the isles of Java, Sumatra, Ceylon, &c. in Ethiopia, and the country as low as the Cape of Good Hope. The species is not numerous, and is much less diffused than that of the Elephant.

THE female produces but one at a time, and at considerable intervals. During the first month, the young Rhinoceros exceeds not the size of a large Dog. At the age of two years, the horn is not more than an inch long; at six years old, it is nine or ten inches long; and grows to the length of three feet and a half, and sometimes four feet. The horn is much esteemed by the natives as an antidote against poison, as well as a remedy for particular diseases.

THE Rhinoceros feeds on the grossest herbs, and prefers thistles and shrubs to soft or delicate pasturage. It is fond of the sugar-cane, and eats all kinds of grain.

FROM the peculiar construction of his eyes, the Rhinoceros can only see what is immediately before him.

When

When he pursues any object, he proceeds always in a direct line, overturning every obstruction. With the horn on his nose, he tears up trees, raises stones, and throws them behind him to a considerable distance. His sense of smelling is so exquisite, that the hunters are obliged to avoid being to windward of him. They follow him at a distance, and watch till he lies down to sleep: they then approach with great precaution, and discharge their muskets, all at once, into the lower part of the belly.

ITS flesh is eaten, and much relished, by the natives of India and Africa.