

THE
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
BEASTS,

Which are to be met with

In the FOUR Quarters of the GLOBE.

BY CHARLEY COLUMBUS.

EMBELLISHED WITH PICTURES.

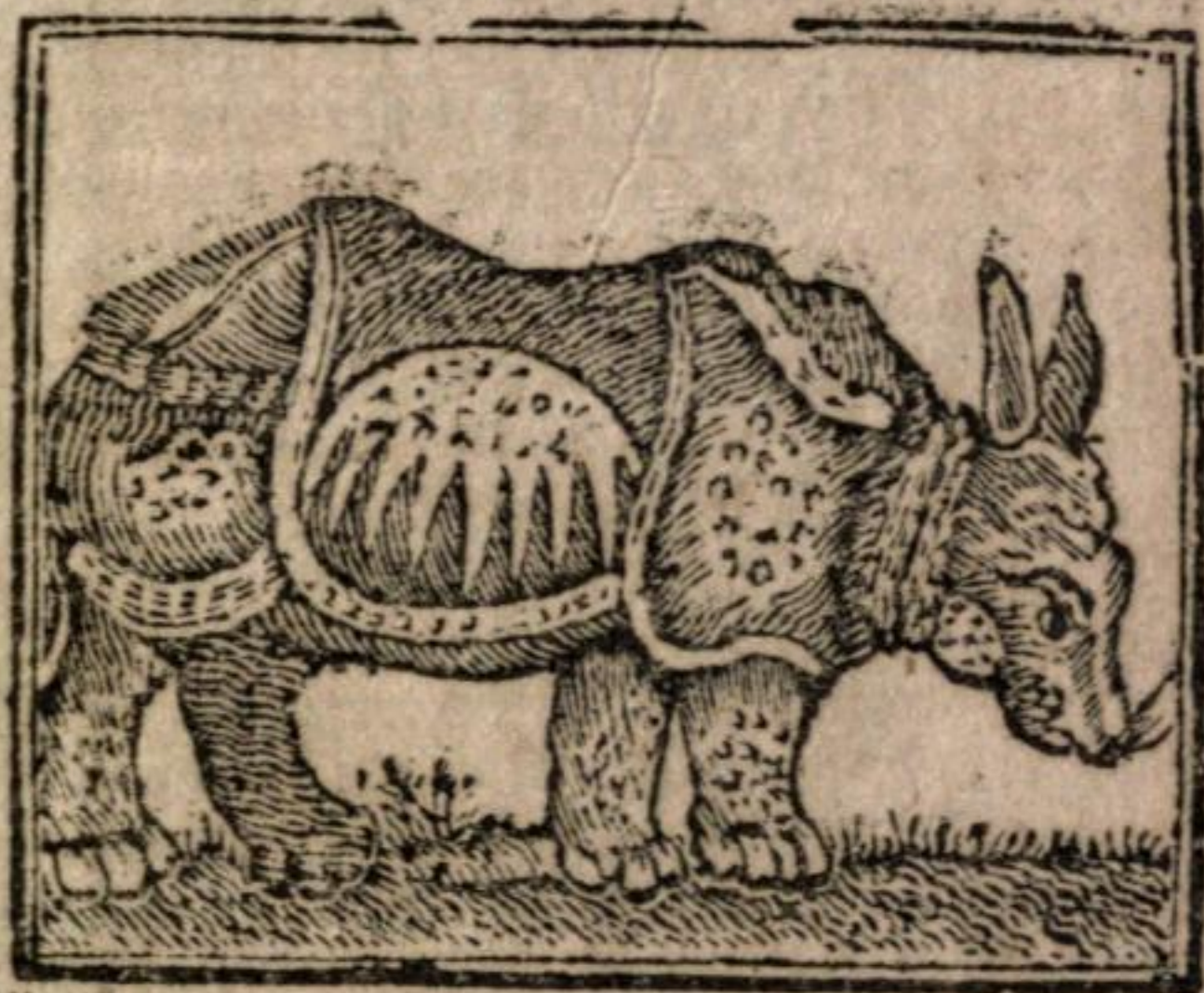
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THE
NATURAL HISTORY
OF
FOURFOOTED BEASTS.

The RHINOCEROS, or UNICORN.



THE Rhinoceros is sometimes called
the Unicorn, from his having one
horn only, growing out of his nose, or
snout.

snout. He is nearly as big as an elephant, though his legs are somewhat shorter. The snout seems designed to turn up the earth, in order to find out the roots of plants. The eyes are small, and placed forward on each side of the head, and it has large ears which stand erect. The whole animal is covered with a thick rough chapped skin, of an ash colour, with plaits and folds in all such parts as are necessary to allow the creature motion, falling one over another backwards.

The tail has a few black hairs at the end, and there are also a few scattering hairs on the ears; but on the other parts there are none. The back is hollow, and the belly sinks down pretty much. The feet are round behind, and the hoofs are forward, which are divided into three parts on each foot; but they have two little hoofs on the hinder part of the foot as we see in cows, deer, and sheep.

He rolls himself in the dirt like a hog, and the old ones are so strong they will toss up a large bull, as was seen in the amphitheatre at Rome.

Rhinoceroses

Rhinoceroses are chiefly to be met within the East Indies; there is another kind with two horns, which are natives of Africa; and may be seen in plenty at the Cape of Good Hope.

When he pursues his prey, he always runs in a right line, overturning whatever lies in his way, for scarce any thing will stop his progress, or make him turn aside. With the horn on his nose he roots up trees, and lifts up the stones which oppose his passage, casting them at a great distance behind him.

He very rarely attacks mankind, unless provoked, or meets a person with a red garment. When he attacks a man, he lays hold of the middle of his body, and throws him over his head with such force, that he is almost always killed, with the fall; this done, he comes and licks him, and his tongue is so rough and hard, that it brings off the flesh from the bones. He likewise serves other animals in the same manner after he has killed them. When he is seen running along it is pretty easy to avoid him, because he cannot turn about very readily.

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