PLATE XXVII.

1. **PHACOCHÆRUS AFRICANUS.—THE AFRICAN BOAR.**

   *Vlacke Vark* of the Cape Colonists. *Ingooloob* of the Matabili.

   **GENERIC CHARACTER.**—Height at the shoulder about two feet six inches. Skin reddish brown or earth colour, scantily beset with bristles. The top of the head, upper part of the neck, shoulders, and back, covered with long rigid bristles, rising in tufts, those on the cranium diverging like the radii of a circle. Long white whiskers under the canine teeth, which are very large, long, and directed upwards. Head extremely large, and muzzle very broad. A large fleshy wen behind each eye, and a prominent warty excrescence on each side of the snout behind the tusks. Ears bordered with strong hair. Eyes small and sinister, placed very high in the head, with black lashes and long brows, and a tuft of bristles behind them. Tail tufted with bristles, twenty inches in length, straight and thin like the lash of a whip. Loose accessory hoofs, and a piece of protuberant thick hard skin on the fore feet.

   Gregarious. Inhabits the plains and forests.

2. **REDUNCA ELEOTRAGUS.—THE REITBOK.**

   *Reitbok* of the Cape Colonists. *Ingallah* of the Matabili.

   **GENERIC CHARACTER.**—Adult male about two feet ten inches high at the shoulder, and four feet ten inches long. Form slender and elongated. Neck raking. Horns ten or twelve inches in length, placed above the eyes, and advanced beyond the plane of the face; divergent, and moulded by a bold and regular sweep to the segment of a circle, with the points hooked forward; wrinkled at the base, and annulated with obsolete rings in the middle. Ears six inches, tail ten inches long; the latter grey, tipped with white, remarkably bushy, and covered with a profusion of woolly hair. General colour of the coat ashy grey, tinged with ochre, in substance soft and silky, like that of the Kangaroo; beneath white. Hair of the throat white and flowing. Head, neck, and legs, usually tawny. A small muzzle, and imperfect suborbital opening.

   Female similar, but smaller, and hornless. **Mammæ** four. Solitary, or gregarious in small troops. Resides variously, but chiefly amongst long reeds.
CHAPTER XXVII.

THE AFRICAN BOAR, AND THE REITBOK.

"Whose eyeholes gaze with fire softed with blood,  
Whose neck shoots up a thickest thorny wood,  
Whose nostril hack a trench tipped with spout,  
And swells crested like a field of spume.  
Preh he his snout, he sniffs a glowing sound  
And purr he dozes and purr balanced the ground;  
For tusks with Indian elephants be drawn  
And Jove's own thunder from his mouth he drove."

Two Indian Hog-hunter, who has dimmed the lustre of his flashing spear blade in the heart's blood of many a venerable boar, cannot fail to be sorely disappointed in both the African varieties of the Genus Sus, to the more deserving whereof he is here respectfully introduced. Hicdonus to a surprising extent, but far inferior in pith to his Asiatic relative; slightly built, and of very insignificant stature, his chaps are armed with lancets which in many instances attain the most astounding dimensions; and four goodly sized fleshy protuberances, which resemble nodes or carbuncles, adorning his bewhiskered muzzle, he apes a Hottentot in physiognomy, and stands confessed a most unsightly swine! The wart-hog is extremely common in the interior, where early in the morning, or at eventide, after the sun had declined, large herds or sounders were daily to be seen, rooting in the open plain; and being possessed of a passing inquisitive disposition, the approach of our novel cavalcade often excited it to their own destruction, and to the supply of our larder with most sumptuous pork. Carrying their whip-like tails erect, and led by some unequally white-tusked patriarch, they were wont to approach within point blank range of our battery, and peer pryingly at our line of march, until the incontinent demise of one of the party by a gun shot wound, first made the survivors acquainted with the fatal effects of fire arms, and somewhat unpleasantly warned them that it was high time to decamp. Returning one drizzly morning from the banks of the Limpopo, with the spoils of three noble waterbucks packed upon my horse, I chanced upon a very large drove of the unclean beasts, feeding unconcernedly on the slope of a hill; and the sleet obscuring my rifle sights, I projected no fewer than three bullets at the diabolical looking boar without touching a bristle—the whole party, with a general grunt, scampering off after each discharge to a little distance—then wheeling about to show a menacing front, exalting their whip-lash tails at the same time, and screwing horrible faces at me. But the fourth missive tripped up the hoary general, and although shooting a pig may sound somewhat oddly in the sporting ears of my brother Nimrods, I must assure them that whilst we had no horses to spare, “the head of that ilk swine” proved a prize well worth the lead and gunpowder that had been expended on it. It most unfortunately happened, however, that the waggon which carried my hunting trophies was upset the very next day; and on sending back to the sporting ears of my brother Nimrods, I then wheeling about to show a menacing front, exalting their whip-lash tails at the same time, and screwing horrible faces at high time to decamp. Returning one drizzly morning from the banks of the Limpopo, with the spoils of three noble waterbucks packed upon my horse, I chanced upon a very large drove of the unclean beasts, feeding unconcernedly on the slope of a hill; and the sleet obscuring my rifle sights, I projected no fewer than three bullets at the diabolical looking boar without touching a bristle—the whole party, with a general grunt, scampering off after each discharge to a little distance—then wheeling about to show a menacing front, exalting their whip-lash tails at the same time, and screwing horrible faces at me. But the fourth missive tripped up the hoary general, and although shooting a pig may sound somewhat oddly in the sporting ears of my brother Nimrods, I must assure them that whilst we had no horses to spare, “the head of that ilk swine” proved a prize well worth the lead and gunpowder that had been expended on it. It most unfortunately happened, however, that the waggon which carried my hunting trophies was upset the very next day; and on sending back to the scene of the disaster so soon as the absence of this treasure was discovered, the lower jaw had disappeared, and the snout did his ancestors of yore, if the ancients are to be believed. By all who saw these trophies in the company they were invariably mistaken for the ivories of a zoomf, the best that I afterwards realized measuring less than half their length. Of these the finest belonged to a solitary fellow whose sinister red eyes had been fixed upon me at a moment when I fancied myself perfectly alone. Our camp was formed under the lee of the Cashan Mountains, in an extensive mimosa grove, that skirted the banks of a little rivulet over-grown with tangled flags and tassel grass; and a Reitbok, of which species no specimen had previously been obtained, having crossed our path in the morning, I long coaxed the Matabilj to accompany me for the purpose of beating up his quarters; but failing to overcome their laziness, I was fain at last to sally forth by myself. The buck being soon found, was slain of course, and his measure having been taken in the usual way, I proceeded to decapitate the victim, and looking suddenly up was startled to perceive the gentleman whose portrait adorns the cover of the book I could secure him. Arriving with his “tusked trophies” late in the afternoon at the waggon, it was with no small gratification that I witnessed the chagrin of the savages, who would have begrudged no labour to obtain a slice of the...
imagery of a romance, being suddenly brought into actual existence, realized those ideas of elegant and classic scenery which

panse, resembled a smooth translucent lake; and as its gentle waves glided past on their way to join the restless ocean,

flow only during the winter season. Specimens occurred throughout our route, chiefly to the eastward of the Colony, and in

obtained of its beauties, fully justifies the eulogies of Dr. Burchell. The alluring fancies of a fairy fiction, or the fascinating

their dishevelled tresses into the tide, which glistened under the last rays of the setting sun, seemed fain to follow—whilst at

Reitboks, who brook the presence of no adult of their own sex.

the western coast, where the attraction of water—a rare element in those barren regions—sometimes causes it to congregate

undation, whereof the traces on the shore gave ample evidence, reared their dilapidated arms in token of the resistless fury of

garoo, than does the fur of the adult Reitbok, whilst its horns were smaller, and not so much approximated in form to a

Rheebok or Nagor,*—and is usually met with on open rocky mountains, along the dry channels of upland streams. I killed

The foreground was occupied by the moveable wigwams of a clan of roving Corannas—men of lazy and pastoral habits,

wind, until lost altogether to the sight.

For the traveller in Southern Africa, it is in some respects a fortunate circumstance that rivers of any magnitude are

of such extremely rare occurrence; since he who may never have essayed their passage with a lumbering ox-waggon, and its

to doubt whether the imaginary species may not be made up of younger individuals, driven forth into

but owing to the shy and secluded habits of the animal, it was not often seen, nor is it in fact anywhere so common as on

the eastern sky began to assume the ruddy tints of morning, bright Cynthia, by whom the whole night had been

Our transit to the opposite side, although attended with no common labour, was highly diverting—the depth of the current oblige us over night to construct within each vehicle, an elevated platform whereon to place the baggage. Awaking early, I had watched the gradual approach of Aurora, from her first announcement by the long heraldic boom of the beetle; and as the eastern sky began to assume the ruddy tints of morning, bright Cynthia, by whom the whole night had been illuminated, fading slowly away, 'bid her diminished horse.' A single bird then chirruped from his sylvan perch among the matted foliage of the delicate acacias; and upon the first appearance of faint traces of sunlight, a multitude of others commencing their matin song, charmed the ear with their soft enlivening notes. Our whole camp was immediately in motion, and

"The glorious stream
That late between its banks reposed to glide
Bith wide sent forth its waters, and o'er plain
And valley, like a great from his bed
Rises with watery$vil awes uperity spread."

Our


* Rederos Lehrer.
It was many months afterwards, on our exit from the game preserves of the Amasanbo tyrant, that we crossed the Liwana, one of the principal arms of the Garreep, a little above the scene annexed. Forming the southern limit of the territory to which he lays claim, it rises in a lofty range nearly opposite to the Bay of Delagoa, and like a great artery, traversing the continent from east to west, discharges its waters, after a course of one thousand miles, into the Atlantic Ocean. Long shall I remember the joy with which the reappearance of this formidable obstacle to advance was hailed by our little band. Deserted by guides, escort, and interpreter, we were shaping our lone course through an unknown wilderness, the recent scene of bloody strife between the king and emigrant bearers, looking with hourly increasing anxiety for the friendly stream which should place us beyond the outposts of the contending parties in a position of comparative safety. Our compass was the tortuous Chamapes, a silver thread winding betwixt fringes of sighing bulrushes, and traversing verdant meadows upon which great droves of the Impudo were grazing like tame cattle. In constant expectation of an attack from the plumed and kilted warriors, we pressed on by forced marches, leaving numbers of our tall-born oxen to perish by the way side—the eviscerous sun setting upon us the second day while one waggon was fast locked in a quagmire, whence, with the assistance of spades and pickaxes, it was at length extricated by double purchase, at the expense of a treke wonse wrought of

"the wild half-a-twelvemeter."  

To replace this essential piece of furniture, a tax was forthwith levied upon a herd of Elands that were expired in the neighbourhood, several having already suffered, although at too great a distance to admit of their spoils being brought in. A few minutes sufficed to reduce two drogoal subjects to submission; and having been made to carry their own skins to the waggon-boxes whence they had been earnestly gazing, and cracked their long whips with increased energy. The patient oxen broke into a trot—the object upon which all eyes were riveted became better and better defined—our friendly pilot stream increased rapidly in breadth, and as the sun disappeared once again below the horizon, we were standing on the试点 of an immense pile, wherein the victims were there dispatched. Piet had in the mean time slain a sow from his couch box, and we then drew up in a strong position before an old stone enclosure, the rear of which was fortified by an isolated tumulus, when Andries the Bold confidently predicting some coming evil, Cour de Lion voluntarily perched himself upon the summit of this eminence, and during the whole night maintained a weary vigil.

The third day was fast drawing to a close, after merciless applications of the whipcord and double thong had enabled us with some further loss to achieve twenty-five miles. The blue mountain range now on our left, in which the river was known to rise, had gradually assumed a deeper and deeper tint; and as we advanced over the broad bosom of the trackless plain like ships through the ocean, was fast developing its rugged character. At length, lifting up our eyes, we behold before us afar off, a long dark streak of harrow bushes stretching parallel to the horizon, and clearly marking the course of the waters of which we were in search. Shouts of exultation burst from the lips of the Hottentots, as they sprang nimbly from the waggon-boxes whence they had been earnestly gazing, and cracked their long whips with increased energy. The patient oxen broke into a trot—the object upon which all eyes were riveted became better and better defined—our friendly pilot stream increased rapidly in breadth, and as the sun disappeared once again below the horizon, we were standing on the试点 of an immense pile, wherein the victims were there dispatched. Piet had in the mean time slain a sow from his couch box, and we then drew up in a strong position before an old stone enclosure, the rear of which was fortified by an isolated tumulus, when Andries the Bold confidently predicting some coming evil, Cour de Lion voluntarily perched himself upon the summit of this eminence, and during the whole night maintained a weary vigil.

The darkness of evening had already stolen over the distant mountains, and the harsh voice of the roosting pintado awoke from the shadowy fringe of Childeen willows, that best enshrouded over the opposite shore. The river was absolutely turren

"Whistles here and there, in every a vented land,   
Streald their huge horns, and ships along the strand,"

nor, until we had set the example in person, could our perverse followers be induced to suspend hostilities against them, in order to construct a thorn fence for the better security of the cattle. Numerous lions had been disturbed by our arrival, and together with their wild music we were serenaded during the drenching and dismal night that followed, by the bellowing of crocodiles, accompanied by loud noises produced by the slamming together of several huge pair of jaws— broad sheets of lightning, completing the gloomy terrors by which we were surrounded. No sooner had the morning broke, than Andries started on horseback in quest of a ford, the rest of the Hottentots sallying forth with unusual alacrity to seek the oxen, which had burst out of the pound; and all but one having by the most unlooked for good fortune been recovered, we moved down the river, the waters of which had risen upwards of a foot since the preceding evening. Crossing many perilous ravines, we became at length alarmed at the prospected non-appearances of our scout, and had just determined to send back in search of him, when he rejoined us, triumphantly bearing the teeth of a sea-cow, whilst extracting which for his own private advantage, he had unfortunately suffered us, his honoured employers, to overshoot by several miles what he was pleased to term an admirable 'drift.' Upon retracing our steps with some difficulty

"along the wild and winerued shore,"

to this ford of promise, we had the gratification of finding the current more than waist deep, the banks accretive, and the bed
strewed with large blocks of granite; but having first taken the precaution of sending a horseman repeatedly across, to ascertain the soundings, it was finally resolved to attempt the passage.

After much violent bumping, the leading waggon by a miracle reached the opposite side without any material damage, nor so its consort. Owing to some mismanagement on the part of the driver, the reckless "omnibus" deviating from the track when about half way over, became so firmly jammed between two masses of rock, that although every one stripped to the skin, and "applied his shoulder to the wheel," three hours were provokingly passed in abortive attempts to extricate it. Whips, shin-bones, and new trek-towes, were alike fruitlessly broken, and fresh oxen repeatedly yoked, without the smallest advantage; and the river rising rapidly every instant, we had almost despaired of saving our property, when cracks and yells followed by the simultaneous struggling of twenty-four of our sturdiest beasts, were responded by the grating of a wheel. An interval of intense anxiety succeeded. One after another the fore and hind nave on the same side rose slowly above the surface of the water, and the fall of the slanting vehicle appeared inevitable. To our joy, a sudden jerk restored it tottering to the perpendicular—pair after pair of the long string of oxen obtained their footing on the bank, once again the whips resounded cheerily in the hollow, and the dripping van emerged in safety from the flood. Another hour then passed away before the wayward flock of sheep could be reclaimed. These stubborn animals having in the first instance been only forced into the stream by dint of much pelting and persecution, had been carried down a considerable distance by the current, and whilst all hands were engaged in extricating the waggon, had strayed as a matter of course into the thick grove. At length however every thing was ready; and the Hottentots, little dreaming of the distance that still divided them from their beloved gin shop, huzzaed and fired a salute as they turned their backs upon the waters of the "yellow river," and upon the execrated dominions of his beer-drinking Majesty.