

esting to learn if any readers of this Journal have noticed the occurrence of the sore, in any other locality and can give information as to its cause.

P. R. KEMP.

January, 1914.

[This curious sore upon the necks of Sambar is not unknown. Major Evans in his book, *Big Game Shooting in Upper Burma* (1910) speaks of it, and states positively that it occurs in all Sambar and at all times (presumably in Burma and India). He considers it to be of parasitic origin. It does not appear to be found upon animals in captivity.—Eds.]

No. III.—A CASE OF TRIPLETS IN AN ELEPHANT.

The case of an elephant giving birth to triplets, has, I believe, never yet been known, so I think the following instance should be recorded.

There is no note of the date of impregnation. The elephant was first reported in calf in October 1912, when she would be evidently well on in pregnancy, and on October 27th of the following year gave birth to three male calves, of which one was still-born and the other two only survived until November 8th and 9th, respectively. Everything was done to bring them up, but the mother would not look after them and kicked them off whenever they came to suckle. If let loose she would run away from them.

Of the calves born alive, one was normal and one very small. Me Hean, the mother, is 7ft 4 ins. in height and is a young elephant probably about 25 years old. She has never to my knowledge calved before.

Triplets are entirely unknown in the writer's experience and Lt. Col. Evans, the Indian Government expert, quotes no instance of even twins in his standard work *Elephants and their Diseases*. I believe, however, the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation had a case of twins in Muang Prae district a year or two ago.

D. F. MACFIE.

CHIENGMAI, December 18th, 1913.

No. IV. DISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN ANIMALS IN SIAM.

I should like to ask through your columns for information on the following points, some of which I feel sure must be known to members of the Society up-country.

1. What is the eastern range of the Gaur or Sladang. (*Bos gaurus*) the Gayal (*B. frontalis*) and the Banting (*B. sondaicus*)?

To which of the two last does the Siamese name $\overset{\sim}{\text{ก}}\overset{\text{๑}}{\text{ก}}\overset{\text{๑}}{\text{ก}}$ refer, as there seems to be some doubt on the matter.

2. Blanford, in the *Fauna of British India*, states that the young of Sambar are never spotted at any time of their existence.

whereas the young of Barking Deer are spotted. My own experience reverses this entirely, and I believe, in the Malay Sambár, it is now recognised that the young are spotted, though at what age they lose their spots is uncertain.

3. Has the Brow-Antlered Deer a spotted coat at certain seasons? Have any heads been obtained with a greater antler measurement than 54 inches, the biggest given by Blanford? As regards Sambar heads, the skull of the Siamese form is as big as, or perhaps bigger than, the Indian, but the horns of the Siamese are much shorter, though the circumference at the butt or above the first tine is frequently as great as the Indian.

4. Messrs Yates and Rogers, of the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, have reported a black species of Wild Dog. Has anyone else ever met with this animal, and have specimens ever been obtained? Where do the (red) Wild Dog (*Cyon rutilans*) go in the dry season? I have observed that they chase the Sambar down to the cultivation at the beginning of the rains in May and June; at other seasons I never see them.

5. Nothing is generally known as to whether the two species of Rhinoceros occur east of the Menam Chow Phraya, and the northern limit of the Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*, Siamese "Samset") is uncertain.

K. G. GAIRDNER.

February, 1914.

No. V.—BREEDING OF THE PAINTED SNIPE.

It is not surprising to find that the Painted Snipe (*Rostratula capensis*) or "Painter" breeds within the limits of the ordinary Bangkok shooting grounds, as it has been recorded from Calcutta and also from Burma, but as far as I am aware it has not been recorded from Siam, and more particularly from Bangkok. During the last rains I have had two clutches of eggs and two young birds brought to me. The first clutch of four eggs was found on the 6th July, and had been laid about a week. The second nest, also of four eggs, was found on the 11th August, and these eggs had been laid fully ten days. The first young bird was caught by Mr. McBeth and sent to me on the 18th September; it was nearly fully fledged and could rise about two feet from the ground but could not fly. The other young bird was caught about ten miles below Paknampho on the 3rd October, and was fully fledged.

It was interesting to note, in these young birds, the curious display by which this species seeks to terrorize an enemy, and which has been described by Finn in *How to know the Indian Waders*. When