



JINGO, THE YOUNG AFRICAN ELEPHANT, AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, LONDON, ENG.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S COLLECTION.

The stall in the Zoological Society's elephant-house rendered vacant by the departure of the much-lamented "Jumbo" has lately been filled by a miniature representative of the same species. "Jingo" as he has been named, in appropriate allusion to the circumstances now existing in the continent whence he came, is a young male African elephant, believed to be from three to four years of age, and measuring 4 ft. 2 in. in height. So far as can be ascertained, he is without defect internally and externally, not having even any holes or notches in his ears, without which a captive elephant is seldom to be found. Besides this, he is perfectly quiet and docile, and so soon as the wicker howdah which has been ordered for him is provided, will be ready to carry children about the Zoological Gardens, in the way of his larger brethren.

"Jingo" was purchased by the society of the well-known dealer in living animals, Mr. Carl Hagenbeck, of Hamburg, by whom he was imported about a year since from Upper Nubia. Every winter season for several years past large importations of living animals have taken place from this district, which is, in fact, the only accessible locality whence living African elephants can now be procured. In the South African colonies this huge animal may be said to be altogether extinct, with the exception of one herd still existing on the Knysna. But on the Atbara and Settite rivers, in Upper

Nubia, where Sir Samuel Baker performed his celebrated hunting exploits, the African elephant is still to be met with, though in yearly diminishing numbers. Captured here by the native Arab hunters, they are purchased by European agents, and walked to Suakim, whence steam transport readily conveys them to the ports of Europe. It will be understood that the younger animals only are selected for captivity, the older ones of both sexes being slaughtered for the sake of their ivory. "Jingo," whose portrait we now give, will, it is hoped, in process of time, attain something like the stature of "Jumbo," without developing any of his evil qualities.

Stories of venomous lizards are rife in all countries. In India the innocent house-geckos are commonly reported to be highly dangerous; and some of the Australian lizards bear an evil reputation, although their only fault lies in their extreme ugliness. But until recently it was held by naturalists that no known lizard had a really poisonous bite, although it would have been granted that some of the larger monitors and iguanas were quite capable of inflicting a serious wound with their jaws and teeth.

Of late years, however, it has been ascertained without doubt that a peculiar lizard found in the arid districts of Mexico and Arizona is really poisonous, and thus one exception has been established to the general proposition that "lizards are harmless creatures."