FRONTAL HORN ON ACERATHERIUM INCISIVUM.

RELATION OF THIS TYPE TO ELASMOTHERIUM.

In the classical collection of the Museum of Darmstadt there are the two type skulls of Aceratherium incisivum, Kaup, which have hardly been disturbed since the death of that distinguished paleontologist. Through the kindness of Professor G. Richard Lepsius, the writer was recently enabled to carefully examine these skulls, which are in a fragile condition. A slight rugosity was observed upon the frontal bones just behind their junction with the nasals, and a very careful examination demonstrated to both Professor Lepsius and the writer the undoubted presence of a rudimentary frontal horn in this typical hornless type. Even more distinctive proof of the existence of a horn is afforded by the characteristic convergence towards the center of the rugosity of a number of small grooves which indicate the course of the blood vessels which supplied the horn. The support of a horn is further indicated by a distinct swelling of the skull above the orbits which is observed with especial distinctness in the profile view. This swelling will probably be found to consist of a thickening of the frontals at this point.

This discovery is of the very greatest interest. In the first place it practically removes this typical Aceratherium from the group to which it has given its name and places it among the Rhinoceroses. Second,
9 (214)

Science 9 (214), 161-192.

ARTICLE TOOLS
http://science.sciencemag.org/content/9/214.citation

PERMISSIONS
http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions

Use of this article is subject to the Terms of Service