THE

YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR,

IN

NATURAL HISTORY.

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IN

NATURAL HISTORY;

IN SEVEN NUMBERS.

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Fig. 195

JOCKO

Fig. 196

SMALL GIBBON

THE

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IN

NATURAL HISTORY;

IN SIX NUMBERS.

EACH NO. CONTAINING TWENTY ILLUSTRATIONS.

NEW-YORK:—E. BLISS.

1832.

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NATURAL HISTORY.

THE JOCKO.

THE average height of this species of the Ape is from three to four feet. The body is covered with coarse red hairs. The forehead equals in height one half of the rest of the visage. The face is bluish. There are neither pouches in the cheeks, nor callosities on the posteriors.

The hinder thumbs are remarkably short. This celebrated ape resembles man more nearly than any other animal in the form of the head and the volume of the brain. He inhabits the most oriental countries only, as Malacca, Cochin China, and particularly the great Island of Borneo. He is gentle, easily tamed, and capable of attachment.

The hair of this animal is of a brownish red colour, and covers his back, arms, legs,

and the outside of his hands and feet. On the back it is in some places six inches long, and on his arms five. It is thinly scattered over his hands and feet, and is very short. It is directed downwards on the back, upper arm, and legs, and upwards on the fore arm. The face has no hair except on its sides, somewhat in the manner of whiskers, and a very thin beard. The shoulders, elbows, and knees, have fewer hairs than other parts of the arms and legs. The palms of the hands and feet are quite naked.

The prevailing colour of the animal's skin, when naked, or seen through the hair, is a bluish gray.

The chest is wide compared with the pelvis: the belly is very protuberant. The arms are long in proportion to the height of the animal, their span measuring full four feet seven inches and a half. The legs are short, compared with the arms.

The hands are long, compared with their width and with the human hand. The fingers are small and tapering: the thumb is very short, scarcely reaching to the first joint

of the fore finger. All the fingers have very perfect nails, of a blackish colour, and oval form, and exactly terminating with the extremities of the fingers. The feet are long, and resemble hands, in the palms, and in having fingers rather than toes, but have heels resembling the human. The great toes are very short, are set on at right angles to the feet close to the heel, and are entirely without nails.

THE GIBBON

Is a very extraordinay and remarkable creature. It is of different sizes, being from two to four feet high. It walks erect, is without a tail, has a face resembling that of a man, with a circle of bushy hair all around the visage ; its eyes are large and sunk in its head ; its face tanned, and its ears exactly proportioned. But that in which it chiefly differs from all others of the monkey tribe, is the extraordinary length of its arms, which,

when the animal stands erect, are long enough to reach the ground; so that it can walk upon all fours and yet keep its erect posture at the same time. This animal, next to the ourang outang and the ape, most nearly resembles mankind, not only in form but in gentle manners and tractable disposition. It is a native of the East Indies, and particularly found along the coast of Cormandel.

THE LARGE BABOON.

The Baboon, properly so called, is from three to four feet high, very strong built, with a thick body and limbs, and canine teeth much longer than those of men. It has large callosities behind, which are quite naked and red. Its tail is crooked and thick, and about seven or eight inches long. Its snout, for it can hardly be called a face, is long and thick, and on each side of its cheeks it has a pouch, into which, when satiated with eating, it puts the remainder of its provisions. It is covered

Fig. 196

LARGE BABOON

Fig. 197

MAGOT

with long, thick hair, of a reddish brown colour, and pretty uniform over the whole body. It walks more commonly upon all fours than upright, and its hands as well as its feet are armed with long sharp claws, instead of the broad round nails of the ape kind.

THE MAGOT.

This animal is generally known by the name of the Barbary Ape. It is about two feet and a half, or three feet high, in its erect posture; but the female is not so large as the male. It rather chooses to walk on all-fours, than erect. When it sleeps, it is always sitting. There are two very prominent callosities on its posteriors. It differs also from the Pithecos; first in the form of its snout, which is thicker and longer, like that of a dog; whereas the pithecos has a flat visage, like the human. Secondly, in having long canine teeth; instead of which the pithecos has them no longer in propor-

tion than those of a man. Thirdly, in its nails, which are neither so flat nor so round; and in short it is larger, and of a more sullen and untractable disposition than the other. It abounds in Barbary, and in the forests of India, Arabia, and Africa. In Barbary the trees are sometimes nearly covered with them.

THE OISTIKI.

THE name of this animal is taken from the sound of its voice. It is smaller than the tamarin, being not above six inches long, and its tail more than double that length, which is annulated black and white, like the macaque. Its face is naked, and of a flesh colour. It has two very singular tufts of long white hair on the fore part of the ears, which although very large, cannot be seen by looking at the full face of this animal.

It is a great foe to cats. These animals, when young, have an ugly appearance,

Fig. 217

OISTIKI

218 *Fig.* *219*

MARIKINI MICO

having scarcely any hair on their bodies. They cling closely to the teats of their dam; and as they grow older, they fix themselves on her back or shoulders; when she is weary of carrying them, she releases herself by rubbing against the wall.

THE MARIKINA

Is sufficiently known by the vulgar name of the Small Lion Monkey. It is about eight inches long, and has a small tuft of hair at the end of the tail; its hair is tufted, long, soft, and glossy; the head is round; the face is brown; the eyes red; the ears round, naked, and concealed under the long hair which encompasses the face. This hair is of a bright red; that on the body and tail of a very pale yellow, approaching toward white. This animal has the same manners, the same vivacity, and the same inclination as other sagoins ,and seems to be of a more robust temperament.

THE MICO.

We owe the knowledge of this animal to M. de la Condamine, and shall therefore give this author's account of it, in his Voyage up the Amazon River. "The Mico which the governor of Para made me a present of, was the only one of its kind that had been seen in the country. The hair of its body was of the most beautiful silver colour, its tail glossy, and approaching to black. It had another more remarkable singularity; its ears, jaws, and snout were tinctured with so bright a vermilion as scarcely to be thought natural. I have had it a year; and it was alive at the time I was writing this account, almost within sight of the French coast, where I hoped to have brought it alive; but notwithstanding the continual precautions that I took to preserve it from the cold, the rigour of the season probably killed it."

Fig. 199

MANDRILL

Fig. 200

OUANDEROU

THE MANDRILL.

THIS Baboon, which also bears the name of the Ribbed-nosed Baboon, is an ugly, disgusting animal. It is found on the Gold Coast, and in other southern provinces of Africa, where the Negroes call it *Boggo*, and the Europeans *Mandrill*. This animal is the largest of the Baboon kind.

This animal is equally remarkable for its variety of colour, its singularity of appearance, its immense strength, and its unconquerable savageness. Under its projecting forehead, are too small and vivid eyes, situated so near to each other that their position alone gives to the physiognomy an air of ferocity. An enormous muzzle, indicative of the most brutal passions, terminates in a broad and rounded extremity of a fiery red colour, from which continually oozes a mucous humour. The cheeks, greatly swollen and deeply furrowed, are naked, and of a deep blue colour. A

narrow blood-coloured ridge extends down the middle of the face, and terminates in the nose. Round the neck the hair is very long. On the sides of the head it joins that at the top, and the whole terminates in a somewhat pointed form. Each hair of the body is annulated with black and yellow; so that the whole fur has a greenish brown hue.

THE WANDEROW.

The Wanderow is a baboon rather less than the former, with the body less compact and muscular, and the hinder parts seemingly more feeble. The tail is from seven to eight inches long; the muzzle is prominent, as in the rest of this kind; but what particularly distinguishes it, is a large long white head of hair, together with a monstrous white beard, coarse, rough, and descending; the colour of the rest of the body being brown or black. As to the rest, in its savage state, it is equally fierce with the others; but, with

Fig. 201

MAIMON

202 Fig. 203

MACAQUE AIGRETTE

a proper education, it seems more tractable than most of its kind, and is chiefly seen in the woods of Ceylon and Malabar.

THE MAIMON.

The Maimon is the last of the baboons, and in size rather approaches the monkey, being no larger than a cat. Its chief distinction, besides its prominent muzzle, like a baboon, is in the tail, which is about five or six inches long, and curled up like that of a hog; from which circumstance peculiar to this animal, our English naturalist gave it the name. It is a native of Sumatra, and does not well endure the rigours of our climate.

THE MACAQUE AND THE EGRET.

Of all the Apes, or Monkeys, with long tails, the Macaque approaches nearest the

Baboon; its body being short and compact, like that animal's; its head thick, its snout broad, its nose flat, its cheeks wrinkled; but it is bulkier and taller than most other Monkeys. It is also so extremely ugly, that it may well be looked upon as a smaller kind of the Baboon, if it did not differ in the tail, which is crooked, but longer and tufted; whereas that of the Baboon, in general, is extremely short. This species is a native of Congo, and other southern parts of Africa. It is numerous, and subject to many varieties with respect to its size, colour, and disposition of the hair. The body of that described by Hasselquist was more than two feet long; and those which we have seen were not above one foot and a half. That which we here term the *Egret*, because of the plume on its head, seems to be only a variety of the first, which it perfectly resembles, excepting the difference before mentioned, and some other slight varieties in the hair. Both of them are tractable and docile; but independent of the scent which they diffuse around them, they are so misshapen, and

even so hideous when they grimace, that we cannot look on them without horror and disgust. These Monkeys go in flocks. Bosman relates, that they take a melon in each hand, under their arms, and one in their mouths, which they go off with; if the pursuit is hot, they drop first that from under their arm, then that from their hand; and if it be continued, they at last let fall that which they had hitherto kept in their mouths. In other respects, says this traveller, they examine the melon beds carefully, and what does not please them they throw away, and tear up others; so that, by this nicety, they do exceedingly great injuries to many of the orchards and vineyards by their depredations.

THE MALBROUCK.

These animals are found in Bengal, where travellers inform us they plunder whole fields of grain, and plantations of sugar-canes;

and while one stands sentinel on a tree, the others load themselves with the booty. But if the owner of the field or plantation appear to interrupt their depredations, their faithful companion on the look out gives notice by crying out *houp*, *houp*, *houp*, which the rest perfectly understand; and all at once throwing down their plunder, which they hold in their left hands, they scamper off upon three legs, holding the remainder in their right, and save themselves from their pursuers by climbing up trees, where they have their general abode. The females, even loaded with their young ones, clasp them close to their breast, leap like the others from branch to branch, and escape with the rest. When it happens they cannot find any provision in the fields, they get on the tops of houses, and having pulled off the tiles, do great damage to the inside. They do not eat a single thing without smelling at it for a long time beforehand; and when they have satisfied their hunger, they put the remainder in the pouches on the sides of their cheeks for the next day: they destroy the nests of birds,

206 *Fig.* 207

MANGABEY CHINESE BONNET

204 *Fig.* 205

MALEROUK BLACK BANDED PAIAS

and never fail to throw the eggs on the ground when they want appetite or inclination to eat them.

The Malbrouck has pouches on each side of its cheeks, and callosities on its posteriors; its tail is very near as long as the body and head put together. The eyelids are of a fleshy, and the face of an ash colour; the ears are large, thin, and of a flesh colour; they have a list of grey hairs on them, like the mona; but in other parts are of a uni form colour, approaching towards a brown on the upper parts of the body, and toward a gray on the lower. It goes on all fours, and is about a foot or a foot and a half long from the snout to the insertion of the tail.

THE MANGABEY.

We have seen two of this kind of Monkey: both were sent to us by the denomination of *Madagascar Monkeys*. They are however, most probably, natives of the wes-

tern coast of Africa. They are easily distinguished by a very apparent character. The Mangabey has its eyelids naked, and of a striking whiteness. It has pouches on each side of its cheeks, and callosities on its posteriors. Its tail is as long as the head and body put together, and it has a prominent roll of hair over its eyes. Its snout is thick and long, its eyebrows rough and bristly, its ears black and almost naked; the hair of the upper parts of its body brown, and those below gray. There is a variety in this species, some being of a uniform colour, and others having a circle of white hair round the neck, and the form of a beard round their jaws. They walk on all fours, and are near a foot and a half long from the snout to the tail. From the peculiarity of their eyelids, they have the name of the White Eyelid Monkey.

Fig. 212

DOUC

211 Fig. 215

TALAPOIN SAI

THE CHINESE BONNET.

This animal derives its name from the circumstance of the hair on the upper part of the head diverging horizontally from a central point toward an imaginary circumference; thus looking not unlike the round bonnet of a Chinese. Its body is from twelve to fifteen inches long, and its tail quite as much. The whole of the face is hairless, and the forehead, which is strongly wrinkled, is nearly naked. The colour of the upper part of the body is a uniform yellowish gray; the under surface derives a bluish tinge from the skin, which has but a thin covering. Eastern Asia, is the native country of this species.

THE TALAPOIN

Is a pretty small animal; its name indicates it to be a native of Siam, and other

eastern provinces of Asia, but we cannot speak positively as to that point; however, it is certain it is a native of the Old Continent, and not found any where in the New, from the pouches on each side of its cheeks, and callosities on its posteriors, which characters neither belong to the sagions, nor sapajous, which are the only animals of the New World which we can compare with the Monkey.

THE DOUC.

Is the last among the class of animals called Apes, Baboons, and Monkeys. The Douc is the only Monkey which has hairy posteriors like the sapajou: it resembles it also by the flatness of the snout; but it is infinitely nearer the Monkey than the sapajou, by its long tail, and by other very essential characters. Its variegated skin seems to indicate the ambiguity of its nature, and at

the same time distinguishes its species in a very evident manner.

Its tail, though long, is not so long as its body and head put together; its face is covered with reddish down, with a white beard; the ears are naked, and of the same colour as the face; the lips brown, as are the orbits of the eyes; the colour of the hair is very bright, and variegated; it has a collar of a purple colour round its neck; its forehead, body, and arms, are white; its hind legs are of a red chesnut; it is black above the forehead and the upper part of the arms; the parts below the body are of an ash-colour; the tail is white as well as the bottom of the loins; it more frequently walks on two feet than on four; and it is three feet and a half or four feet high when it is upright.

THE SAI.

Of the Sai there are two kinds, which seem to make a variety in the species. The

hair of the first is of a deep brown; the hair of the second, which we have called the *White-throated Sai*, is white on the breast neck, ears, and jaws. Travellers have described these animals by the name of *Howlers*, from their plaintive moan. Others have called them *Musk Monkeys*, from their having, like the macaque, that peculiar smell. They belong to the sapajou family, as they have a holding tail: they have only two teats, and bring forth but one or two at a time. They are gentle, docile and so timorous, that their common cry, which resembles that of the cat, is dwindled down to a kind of sighing when they are threatened. Their food, in this climate, is principally snails and beetles, which they prefer before any other; but in their native country of Brazil, they chiefly live upon grain, and the wild fruit they pluck from trees, whence they very seldom descend till they have stripped their habitation of its treasure.

Fig. 209

MONA.

210 *Fig.* *108*

MUSTAX CALLITRIX

THE CALLITRIX.

Has got pouches on each side of its cheeks, and callosities on its posteriors: the tail is much longer than the whole body, and is terminated by a brush of yellow hair. Its head is small, its snout long, and its face and ears of a black colour, with some long yellow hairs on the cheeks; it has a narrow stripe instead of eyebrows, formed of long black hairs: above, it is of a fine olive green colour, with a little yellow mixed with it: and beneath, it is of a dirty white: it walks on all fours; and the length of its body, including its head, is about fifteen inches.

The Callitrix is found in Senegal, Mauritania, and the neighbouring islands.

THE MONA.

Is the most common of the Monkey tribe. The visage of this animal is of a brown

hue, with a white beard, mixed with yellow and a little black; the back is red and black; the belly and the hind parts of the thighs and legs whitish, though the fore parts of the two last areof a black colour: the tail is of an ash colour, marked with two white spots, one on each side, at its insertion. On its forehead the hair is of a gray colour, in the form of a crescent, and between the eyes and the ears is a black stripe, as there is from the ears, and shoulders, and arms.

In general, the disposition of the Monkey is much more tractable than the baboon, and not so sullen as the ape: it is extravagantly spirited, but not ferocious, being docile through fear. The Mona is, in particular susceptible of education, and even attached to those persons who take care of it. The Mona is about a foot and a half in length.

THE MUSTAX

Seems to be a native of the same country as the macaque. It is, probably, the same

animal as the Guinea travellers call *White Nose*, from its upper lip being of a white colour, whereas all the rest of its face is of a deep blue. It seems to be one of the most beautiful of the Monkey kind.

The Mustax has pouches on each side of its cheeks, and callosities on its posteriors. The tail is much longer than the head and body together. Its face is of a deep blue, with a great and broad white mark in the shape of a chevron under the nose, which is naked. There is only a slight edging of black hair both on the upper and under lip. Its body is short and compact. There are two thick tufts of hair of a bright yellow colour below the ears, and another tuft of bristly hair upon the head; the hair of the body is of a greenish cast, and the breast and belly of an ash colour. It walks on all fours, and is about a foot long.

THE COQUALLIN.

THIS animal has been known by the name of the *Orange-coloured Squirrel.* It is, however, not a squirrel, although sufficiently resembling it by the shape of the tail; for it not only differs by many external characters, but also by its nature and manners.

The Coquallin is much larger than the squirrel; it is a beautiful animal, and very remarkable for its colour, its belly being of a fine yellow, and its head as well as body varied with white, black, brown, and orange; it covers its back with its tail, like the squirrel, but has not, like that animal, small brushes of hair at the tips of the ears: it never climbs up any trees, but dwells in the hollows and under the roots of trees, like the garden squirrel. In such places, it builds its nest, and rears up its young; it likewise stores its little habitation with corn and fruit, to feed on during the winter; it is a jealous

and cunning animal and so exceedingly wild, that it is impossible to be tamed.

The Coquallin is only found in the southern parts of America; the white and orange coloured squirrels of the East indies are much smaller, and their colours uniform. These are true squirrels, which climb up trees, and produce their young on them; while the Coquallin, and the American suisse, burrow under ground, like rabbits, and have no other affinity with the squirrel, than a resemblance in the external form.

THE PHALANGER.

These animals vary in the colour of the hair; some species are about the size of a small rabbit, or a very large rat, and are remarkable for the excessive length of their tail, snout, and the form of their teeth, which alone is sufficient to distinguish the Phalanger from the marmose, the surikat, the rat, and every other species of animals to which

it may be supposed to relate. The Fox Phalanger, to which White gives the name of the Vulpine Opossum, is more than three feet and a half in length. The Dwarf Phalanger, on the contrary, which is found on an island near Van Dieman's Land, is not larger than a mouse.

THE AGOUTA.

The Agouta is about the size of the rabbit, and has a head very much resembling it, except that the ears are very short in comparison. It resembles the rabbit also in the arched form of its back, in the hind legs being longer than the fore, and in having four great cutting teeth, two above and two below; but then it differs in the nature of its hair, which is not soft and downy as in the rabbit, but hard and bristly like that of a sucking pig, and of a reddish brown colour. It differs also in the tail, which is even shorter than in the rabbit, and entirely destitute of

Fig. 98

AGOUTA

96 Fig. 97

BROWN COATI BLACK D°

hair. Lastly it differs in the number of its toes, having but three on the hinder feet, whereas the rabbit has five. All these distinctions, however, do not countervail against its general form, which resembles that of a rabbit, and most travellers have called it by that name.

As this animal differs in form, it differs still more in habitudes and disposition. As it has the hair of a hog, so also it has its voraciousness. It eats indiscriminately of all things; and, when satiated, hides the remainder like the dog or the fox, for a future occasion. It takes a pleasure in gnawing and spoiling every thing it comes near. When irritated, its hair stands erect along the back, and, like the rabbit, it strikes the ground violently with its hind feet. It does not dig a hole in the ground, but burrows in the hollows of trees. Its ordinary food consists of the roots of the country, potatoes and yams, and such fruits as fall from the trees in autumn. It uses its forepaws like the squirrel, to carry its food to its mouth: and as its hind feet are longer than the fore, it

runs very swiftly upon plain ground or up a hill, but upon a descent it is in danger of falling. Its sight is excellent, and its hearing equals that of any other animal; whenever it is whistled to, it stops to hearken.

THE COATI.

This animal, is very different from the racoon; its body and neck, head and nose, are of a lengthened form; its upper jaw is an inch, or an inch and a half longer than the lower one; and its snout, which is moveable in every direction, turns up at the point. The eyes of the Coati are also smaller than the eyes of the racoon, and are surrounded by three white spots; its hair is longer and coarser, its legs are shorter, and its feet longer; but, like the racoon, its tail is diversified with rings, alternately black and fulvous; and to all its feet there are five claws.

This animal has a practice of eating its

own tail, which, when not mutilated, is longer than its body, and which it generally rears aloft, and can move with ease in any direction.

From this circumstance one general inference may be drawn ; namely, that in those parts which are elongated to a great degree, and of which the extremities are consequently very remote from the seat of the senses, from the centre of feeling, that feeling must be weak, and the more so, the greater the distance and the smaller the part.

As for the Coati in other respects, it is an animal of prey, which subsists on flesh and blood, which, like the fox, destroys small animals and poultry, hunts for the nests of little birds, and devours their eggs ; and it is probable from this comformity of disposition that some authors have considered the Coati as a species of small fox. It inhabits the woods of South America. In pursuit of its prey, it climbs trees with much agility. When tamed, which it easily is, it is fond of being caressed, but does not become much attached to its owner.

THE OPOSSUM.

THE Opossum is found in North and South America; it is of the size of a small cat. Its head resembles that of the fox. The eyes are little, round, clear, lively, and placed upright; the ears are long, broad, and transparent, like those of the rat kind; its tail also increases the similitude, being round, long, a little hairy in the beginning, but quite naked toward the end. The fore-legs are short, being about three inches long, while those behind are about four. The feet are like hands, each having five toes or fingers with white crooked nails, and rather longer behind than before. But it is particular in this animal, that the thumb on the hinder-legs wants a nail; whereas the fingers are furnished with clawed nails as usual.

But that which distinguishes this animal from all others, and what has excited the wonder of mankind for more than two cen-

132 Fig. 129

MARINE OPOSSUM PACA.

131 Fig. 130

VIRGINIAN OPOSSUM MALE AND FEMALE

turies, is the extraordinary conformation of its belly, as it is found to have a false womb, into which the young, when brought forth in the usual manner, creep, and continue for some days longer, to lodge and suckle securely. This bag, if we may so call it, being one of the most extraordinary things in natural history, requires a more minute description. Under the belly of the female is a kind of slit or opening, of about three inches long; this opening is composed of a skin, which makes a bag internally, that is covered on the inside with hair, and in this bag are the teats of the female; and into it the young, when brought forth, retire, either to suckle or to escape from danger.

The Opossum, when on the ground, is a slow, helpless animal; the formation of its hands are alone sufficient to show its incapacity of running with any degree of swiftness; but to counterbalance this inconvenience, it climbs trees with great ease and expedition. It chiefly subsists upon birds; and hides among the leaves of trees, to seize them by surprise. It often also hangs by the tail, which is long

and muscular; and, in this situation, for hours together, with the head downwards, it keeps watching for its prey. If any lesser animal, which it is able to overcome, passes underneath, it drops upon it with deadly aim, and quickly devours it. By means of its tail, the opossum also slings from one tree to another, hunts insects, escapes its pursuers, and provides for its safety. It seems to be a creature that lives upon vegetables, as well as animal substances, roots, sugar-canes, the bark, and even the leaves of trees. It is easily tamed, but it is a disagreeable domestic, as well from its stupidity and figure, as its scent which, however fragrant in small quantities, fails not to be ungrateful when copiously supplied.

The youth's instructor in natural history.

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