

The DOUC*, or Cochin-China Monkey.

THE douc is the last of that class of animals which we have called *apes*, *baboons*, and *monkeys*. Without being precisely any of these three kinds, he participates of each. He is allied to the monkeys by the length of his tail, to the baboons by his size, and to the apes by his flat face. He seems, by a particular character, to form the shade between the monkeys and sapajous: In these two tribes of animals, the monkeys are distinguished by naked buttocks, and all the sapajous have these parts covered with hair: Of all the monkeys the douc alone has hair on the buttocks, like the sapajous. He resembles them also in the flatness of the muzzle; but, upon the whole, he has much more affinity to

* The name of this animal in Cochin-China. It is called *ffou* in Madagascar.

Cochin-China monkey, with a short flatish face, bordered on each side by long hairs of a yellowish white colour; on the neck a collar of purplish brown; the lower part of the arms, thighs, and tail, are white; the upper part of the arms and thighs black; the back, belly, and sides, gray, tinged with yellow: Above the root of the tail is a spot of white, which extends, beneath, as far as the lower part of the belly and part of the thighs: The feet are black, and the buttocks covered with hair. This is a very large species, about four feet long, from the nose to the tail; but the tail not so long; *Pennant's Symplic. of Zood. p. 119.*

Cercopithecus cinereus, *genis longis pilis ex albo flavicantibus oblitis, torque ex castaneo purpurascens.* Le grand singe de la Cochin-Chine; *Briffon. Zood. p. 146.*

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the monkeys than to the sapajous, from which he differs by his tail not being prehensile, and by other essential characters. Besides, the interval which separates the two tribes is immense; for the douc and all the monkeys belong to the Old Continent, and all the sapajous are natives of the New World. It may likewise be remarked, that, as the douc, like the monkeys, has a long tail, but has no callosities on the buttocks, he forms the shade between the orang-outangs and monkeys; as the gibbon does on another account, having no tail, like the orang-outangs, but, like the monkeys, having callosities on the buttocks. Independent of these general relations, the douc has peculiar characters which render him distinguishable, at first sight, from the apes, baboons, monkeys, and sapajous. His robe, which is variegated with many colours, seems to indicate the ambiguity of his nature, and distinguishes his species in a conspicuous manner. Round his neck there is a collar of a purplish blue colour. A white beard surrounds his cheeks. His lips are black, and he has a black ring round his eyes. His face and ears are red, the top of his head and body gray, the breast and belly yellow. His legs are white below and black above. His tail is white, with a large spot of the same colour on his loins. The feet are black, with several shades of different colours.

This animal, which I was assured came from Cochin-China, is likewise found in Madagascar; and it is the same with what Flacourt mentions, under the name of *sifac*, in the following terms: 'In Madagascar, there is another species of white monkey, with a tawny collar, which frequently walks on the two hind legs. It has a white tail, and two tawny spots on the flanks. It is larger than the *vari* (maucauco), and smaller than the *varicossi* (vari). This species is called *sifac*, and feeds upon beans. It is very frequent about Andrivoura, Dambourlomb, and Ranafoulehy *.' The tawny collar, the white tail, and the spots on the flanks, indicate, in the clearest manner, that the *sifac* of Madagascar is the same species with the douc of Cochin-China.

Travellers assure us, that, in the stomachs of the large apes in the southern provinces of Asia, bezoars are found of a superior quality to those of the goats and gazelles. These large apes are the ouanderou and the douc; and, of course, to them the production of the bezoars must be referred. It is alleged, that the bezoars of the ape are always round, while the other kinds are of different figures †.

Distinction

* Voyage de Flacourt, p. 153.

† As the apes, as well as the goats, eat the buds of certain shrubs, bezoar stones are produced in their bellies. They are often found in the excrements which they discharge when flying

Plate CCLXXXII.



A. Hall's design

DOUC.

Distinctive Characters of this Species.

The douc has no callosities on the buttocks, but is every where covered with hair. His tail is not so long as his body and head. His face is covered with a reddish down. The ears are naked, and of the same colour with the face. The lips, as well as the orbits of the eyes, are brown. The colours of the hair are vivid and various. He has a purplish brown collar round his neck. He has white on his front, head, body, arms, legs, &c. and a kind of yellowish white beard. The top of the front and the upper part of the arms are black. The under parts of the body are of a cinereous gray and a whitish yellow colour. The tail and under part of the loins are white. He walks as often on two as on four feet. When erect, he is three and a half or four feet high. It is uncertain whether the females of this species be subject to the menstrual discharge.

flying from danger. These stones are dearer and more esteemed than any other kind: They are likewise round, and have more powerful virtues. One grain of this bezoar has been found to have an equal effect with two of that produced by the goats; *Descrip. Hist. de Macassar*, p. 51. *Nata*. From comparing this passage with that of Knox, related in the article *causidatus*, it appears, that the quanderous feed upon the buds of trees, and, of course, most commonly produce bezoars.