

The MALBROUCK*, and CHINESE-BONNET†.

THESE two monkeys seem to be of the same species, which, though different in some respects from that of the macaque, makes so near an approach to it, that we are doubtful whether the macaque, the egret, the malbrouck, and the Chinese-bonnet, are four varieties only, or permanent races, of the same species. As these animals produce not in our climate, we cannot ascertain the identity or diversity of their species, but must judge from the differences in their figure and external qualities. The macaque and the egret are so similar, that we presumed them to be one species. It is the same with the malbrouck and Chinese-bonnet. But, as the latter differ from the former more than they differ between themselves, we thought it best to separate them.

Our presumption, with regard to the diversity of these two species, is founded, 1. On the dif-

* The name of this animal in Bengal, its native country. *Cercopithecus primus* Clusii, p. 37. Clusius is wrong when he says, that this monkey's tail terminates in a tuft.

† Chinese monkey with a long smooth nose, of a whitish colour; hair on the crown of the head long, lying flat, and parted like that of a man; colour, a pale cinereous brown; *Pennant's Synops. of Zood. p. 117.*

Riilow's; Knox's Ceylon, p. 26.

ference in their figure; 2. On those of the colour and disposition of the hair; 3. On the different proportions in the skeletons of the two kinds; and, in fine, on the two former being natives of the southern regions of Africa, while the two latter are natives of Bengal. This last consideration is of equal weight with any of the others; for we have shown, that, in wild animals totally independent of man, the distance of climate is a pretty certain indication of remoteness of species. Besides, the malbrouck and Chinese-bonnet are not the only species or races of monkeys found in Bengal*. It appears, from the evidence of travellers, that there are four varieties; namely, white, black, red, and gray monkeys. They alledge that the black kind are most easily tamed. Those we saw were of a reddish gray colour, and appeared to be tame, and even docile.

'These animals,' travellers remark†, 'steal fruits, and particularly the sugar cane. One stands sentinel on a tree, while the others load themselves with the booty. If he perceives any person, he cries *boup, boup, boup*, with a

* The monkey of Calicut, with grayish hair, mentioned by Pyraud, should probably be referred to the malbrouck species. In this country, the killing of monkeys is prohibited. They are so importunate, troublesome, and numerous, that they do much damage. The inhabitants of the towns and villages are obliged to lattice their windows, to prevent the monkeys from entering their houses; *Voyage de Fr. Pyraud, tom. I. p. 427.*

† Voyages d'Inigo de Bervillas, p. 172.

‘loud and distinct voice. The moment this
 ‘signal is given, the whole troop throw down
 ‘the canes they held in their left hand, and run
 ‘off on three feet. When pursued hard, they
 ‘quit what they had in their right hand, and
 ‘save themselves by climbing trees, which are
 ‘the usual places of their abode. They leap
 ‘from tree to tree; and even the females,
 ‘though loaded with their young, which they
 ‘hold firmly, leap like the others; but they
 ‘sometimes fall. These animals are never more
 ‘than half-tamed, and always require a chain.
 ‘Even in their own country, they never pro-
 ‘duce, when in bondage: They require to be
 ‘at perfect freedom in the woods. When fruits
 ‘and succulent plants fail, they eat insects, and
 ‘sometimes descend to the margins of rivers,
 ‘and the sea-coast, to catch fishes and crabs.
 ‘They put their tail between the pincers of
 ‘the crab, and, whenever the pincers are closed,
 ‘they carry it quickly off, and eat it at their
 ‘leisure. They gather cocoa nuts, and are well
 ‘acquainted with the method of extracting the
 ‘juice for drink, and the kernel for food. They
 ‘likewise drink the *sari* that drops from the
 ‘*bamboos*, which they place on the tops of trees,
 ‘in order to extract the liquors; and they use
 ‘it occasionally. They are taken by means of
 ‘a cocoa nut, with a small hole made in it.
 ‘They put their paw into the hole with difficul-

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‘ty, because it is narrow; and the people who
 ‘are watching, seize them before they can dis-
 ‘engage themselves. In the provinces of India
 ‘inhabited by the Bramins, who kill no ani-
 ‘mals, the number of monkeys, which are high-
 ‘ly venerated, is almost infinite. They come
 ‘in troops into the cities, and enter the houses
 ‘at all times with perfect freedom; so that those
 ‘who sell provisions, and particularly fruits,
 ‘pot-herbs, &c. have much difficulty in prefer-
 ‘ring their commodities.’ In Amadabad, the
 capital of Guzarat, there are three hospitals for
 animals, where lame and sick monkeys, and even
 those who, without being diseased, choose to
 dwell there, are fed and cherished. Twice every
 week, the monkeys in the neighbourhood as-
 semble spontaneously in the streets of the city.
 They then mount upon the houses, each of which
 has a small terrace, or a flat roof, where they lie
 during the great heats. On these two days, the
 inhabitants fail not to lay upon these terraces
 rice, millet, sugar canes, and other fruits in their
 season; for, if these animals, by any accident,
 find not their provisions in the accustomed place,
 they break the tiles which cover the rest of the
 house, and commit great outrages. They never
 eat any thing, without thoroughly examining it;
 and, when full, they fill their cheek-pouches for
 another occasion. In places frequented by the
 monkeys, the birds dare not build their nests on

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the trees; for they never fail to destroy the nests, and dash the eggs on the ground*.

Neither the tiger nor other ferocious animals are the most formidable enemies to the monkeys; for they easily make their escape by their nimbleness, and by living on the tops of trees, where nothing but serpents have the art of surprising them. 'The apes,' a traveller remarks, 'are masters of the forests; for their dominion is not disputed either by the tiger or lion. The only animals they have to dread are the serpents, who make perpetual war upon them. Some of these serpents are of a prodigious size, and swallow an ape in a moment. Others are smaller, but more agile, and go in quest of the apes on the trees. . . . They watch the time when the apes sleep †, &c.

Distinctive Characters of these Species.

The malbrouck has cheek-pouches and callosities on his buttocks. The tail is nearly as long as both the body and head. The eyelids are flesh-coloured, and the face of a cinere-

* See les Voyages de la Boulaye le Gouz, p. 253. Relat. de Tavevot, tom. iii. p. 20. Voyage de Gemelli Careri, tom. v. p. 164. Le Recueil des Voyages qui ont servi à l'Etablissement de la Compagnie de Indes Orientales, tom. vii. p. 36. Voyage d'Orient de P. Philippe, p. 312. et Voyage de Tavernier, tom. iii. p. 64.

† Descrip. Historique de Matagar, p. 51.

Plate CCLXXIV.



MALBROUCK.



CHINESE BONNET.



A Bell-shaped.

CHINESE BONNET.

ous gray. The eyes and muzzle are large. The ears are large, thin, and flesh-coloured. He has a band of gray hair, like the mone or varied monkey; but the superior parts of his body are of a uniform yellowish brown colour, and the inferior are of a yellowish gray. He walks on four feet, and is about a foot and a half long from the point of the muzzle to the origin of the tail.

The Chinese-bonnet appears to be a variety of the malbrouck. They differ in the two following articles: In the former, the hair on the top of the head is disposed in the form of a flat bonnet, from which its name has been derived, and its tail is proportionally longer. The females of both these races are subject to a periodic evacuation.