when loaded with their young, which cling to them. They are the prey of leopards and others of the feline race ; and of ſerpents, which purſue them to the ſummits of the trees, and ſwallow them entire. They are not carnivorous, but for miſchief’s ſake will rob the neſts of birds of the eggs and young. In the countries where they moſt abound, the ſagacity of the feathered tribe is more marvelouſly shown in their contrivances to fix the neſt beyond the reach of theſe invaders.

The simiæ being more numerous in their ſpecies than any other animals, and differing greatly in their ap­pearances, it ſeemed neceſſary to methodize and ſubdivide the genus. Accordingly Mr Ray firſt diſtributed them into three claſſes.

*Simiae,* Apes, ſuch as wanted tails.

*Cercopitheci,* Monkeys, ſuch as had tails.

*Papiones,* Baboons, thoſe with ſhort tails ; to distinguiſh them from the common monkeys, which have very long ones.

The principal marks by which the ſpecies of this ge­nus are diſtinguiſhable from each other, are derived, 1st, from the tail, which is either long, ſhort, or alto­gether wanting, or is ſtraight, or prehenſile ; 2dly, from the buttocks, which are naked, and furniſhed with callosities, or are covered with hair ; 3dly, from the nails, which are flat and rounded like those of man, or ſharp pointed like the claws of beaſts in general ; 4thly, from the preſence or abſence of a beard on the chin ; and, 5thly, from the cheeks being provided with, or wanting, pouches in their under parts. For greater convenience, the ſpecies of this genus, which are very numerous, are arranged under five ſubordinate divisions, conſidered as distinct genera by ſome authors, and not without reason. Three of theſe ſubdiviſions were adopt­ed by Linnaeus ; but Dr Gmelin, following Buffon, has added other two taken from the third diviſion of his great precursor. Theſe ſubdiviſions are the simi*ae, papiones, cercopitheci, ſapaji,* and *ſagoini.*

I. The Simiæ, or Apes. They have no tails. The viſage is flat ; the teeth, hands, fingers, feet, toes, and nails, reſemble thoſe of man, and they walk naturally erect. This diviſion includes the simiæ, or apes pro­perly ſo called, which are not found in America.

1. The chimpanzee, the ſimia troglodytes of Lin­naeus, common in the mountains of Sierra Leona, reſembles man more than the orang-outang. This animal was firſt brought to Europe in 1738, when it was ex­hibited as a snow in London. The following deſcription of one that was kept ſome months at the colony of Sierra Leona is given by Wadſtrom, in his Eſſay on Colonization @@\*. He was nearly two feet high ; but the full ſtature is nearly five feet. He was covered with black hair, long and thick on the back, but ſhort and thin on the breaſt and belly. His face was bare ; his hands and his head reſembled those of an old black man, except that the hair on his head was ſtraight. He ate, drank, slept, and sat at table, like a human being. At firſt he crept on all fours, on the outside of his hands ; but, when grown larger, he endeavoured to go erect, ſupporting himſelf by a ſtick. He was melan­choly, but always good natured.

2. The ſatyrus, orang-outang, or great ape, has a flat face, and a deformed reſemblance of the human ;

ears like thoſe of a man ; the hair on the head longer than on the body. The body and limbs are

covered with reddiſh and ſhaggy hair ; longeſt on the back, thinneſt on the fore-parts. The face and paws are swarthy ; the buttocks covered with hair. They inhabit the interior parts of Africa, the iſles of Suma­tra, Borneo, and Java. Are ſolitary, and live in the moſt desert places. They grow to the height of six feet ; have prodigious ſtrength, and will overpower the ſtrongeſt man. The old ones are ſhot with arrows, the young alone can be taken alive. They live entirely on fruits and nuts. They will attack and kill the ne­groes who wander in the woods ; will drive away the elephants, and beat them with their fills or pieces of wood ; and will throw ſtones at people that offend them. They ſleep in trees ; and make a fort oſ ſhelter from the inclemency of the weather. They are of a grave appearance and melancholy diſposition, and even when young not inclined to frolic. They go erect, and are vaſtly ſwift and agile. Theſe accounts are chiefly taken from Andrew Battel, an Engliſh ſailor, who was taken priſoner 1589, and lived many years in the inner parts of Congo ; his narrative is plain, and ſeems very authentic. It is preſerved in Purchas’s collection. Froger @@\* informs us, “ that thoſe along the banks of the river Ganges are larger and more miſchievous than in any part of Africa : the negroes dread them, and cannot travel alone in the country without running the hazard of being attacked by theſe animals, who often preſent them with a ſtick, and force them to fight. I have heard the Portugueſe ſay, that they have often ſeen them hoiſt up young girls, about ſeven or eight years old, into trees, and that they could not be wreſted from them without a great deal of difficulty. The moſt part of the negroes imagine them to be a foreign nation come to inhabit their country, and that they do not speak for fear of being compelled to work.” When taken young, they are capable of being tamed, and taught to perform many menial offices. Francis Pyrard @@\* relates, “ that in the province of Sierra Leona, there is a ſpecies ſo ſtrong limbed, and ſo induſtrious, that, when properly trained and fed, they work like ſervants ; that they generally walk on the two hind feet ; that they pound any ſubſtances in a mortar ; that they go to bring water from the river in ſmall pitchers, which they carry full on their heads. But when they arrive at the door, if the pitchers are not ſoon taken off, they allow them to fall ; and when they perceive the pitchers over­turned and broken, they weep and lament.” Father Jarric @@\*, quoted by Nieremberg, ſays the ſame thing, nearly in the same terms. With regard to the educa­tion of theſe animals, the teſtimony of Shoutten @@\* ac­cords with that of Pyrard. “ They are taken (he re­marks) with ſnares, taught to walk on their hind feet, and to uſe their fore feet as hands in performing diffe­rent operations, as rinsing glaſſes, carrying drink round the company, turning a ſpit, &c.” “ I saw at Java

(ſays Guat @@\*) a very extraordinary ape. It was a fe­male. She was very tall, and often walked erect on her hind feet. On theſe oceasions, ſhe concealed with her hands the parts which diſtinguiſh the ſex. Except the eye-brows, there was no hair on her face, which pretty much reſembled the groteſque ſemale faces I ſaw among the Hottentots at the Cape. She made her bed very neatly every day, lay upon her side, and covered herſelf with the bed cloaths. When her head ached, ſhe bound it up with a handkerchieſ ; and it was amusing to ſee

@@@\*[m] Descript. Historique du Royaume de Macacar, p. 51.

@@@\*[m] Voyages de Francois Pyrard, tom. ii. p. 331.

@@@\*[m] Eus. Nieremberg, Hist. Nat. Peregrin. lib. ix. cap. 45.

@@@\*[m] Voyages de Guat. Shout ten aux Indes Orientales.

@@@\*[m] Voyage de Fr. le Guat, tom. ii. p. 96.