

MONKEYS PETTED BY WOMEN.

SO MUCH IN FAVOR THAT PRICES ARE GOING UP.

The supply of Desirable Monkeys Not Equal to the Demand—Points in the Select Ion, Taming and Education of a Monkey—Good Qualities in the Beasts.

The monkey has gained such favor as a feminine pet that it is stated that the supply of desirable monkeys is not equal to the demand. Everywhere you meet the pet monkey just as you used to meet the pet pug dog.

Out of ermine muffs, carried by smartly dressed women along Fifth Avenue, hideous grinning little faces peep at you. From the fur and faces about the shoulders of

the affection of a dog the monkey possesses an almost human intelligence and can be made as companionable as a child. He is the most devoted little fellow in the world. He loves one person and that person alone for life. And then, too, he has such a sense of humor. When he does funny things he seems to know it. Lots of care? Well, yes, that is true. If you are going to follow the monkey fad it is advisable to learn the points of a monkey before you invest in one, or you will be likely to get a wild, untamable little animal on your hands. Even the dealers themselves cannot always tell just which of their monkeys will make good pets. The smallest monkeys are the greatest favorites. The marmoset, a little fellow from six to eight inches high, who can be conveniently carried about in a muff, a wrist bag or a coat pocket, and the ringtail,



THE MONKEY IN THE MUFF.

women driving in Central Park protrude round little bald heads with whiskered chins. Drop in on a friend and instead of the familiar bark of the poodle you will hear a queer, gurgling chatter and will find a diminutive beast sitting on his hind legs amid the silver of your friend's dressing table. It has been even alleged that monkeys have been found among the guests at dinners. To those who do not like monkeys the popularity of the beast seems more objectionable than any other recent fad. The horse fad, the dog fad, the cat fad, the automobile fad, the pingpong fad, the bridge fad, even the chameleon fad are more excusable to such people. Yet a certain amount of style attaches to the keeping of monkeys. To be able to talk monkey, just as people

just a size or two larger, are the two varieties most popular for pets. If you want a good marmoset you will have to pay a high price for him and to be able to select him with intelligence. Most monkeys are brought in by sailors of tramp trading vessels, who buy them in basket loads from the natives of South Africa and South America, and when they reach the dealer they are wild. It is at that point that the woman selects her pet. She should not be discouraged if the dealer shows her a snarling, ferocious little brute, who grins at her and shows his teeth in a horrible manner. She will find it much more satisfactory to tame a monkey herself than to buy a tame pet. A monkey loves but once, and it is just as well that his mistress be his one and only love. If you desire beauty, in a monkey get a marmoset. The marmoset is the prettiest

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A WOMAN'S PET.

once talked horse or dog, is a mark of being up to date. To be able to take up a strange monkey, look him over, and then calmly put him down and tell how old he is, where he came from, what are his habits and what his possibilities, is a part of one's social education. "It is impossible," said an importer of animals, "to import enough monkeys to fill the present demand. An installment of marmosets or ringtails no sooner reaches port than they are shipped to women all over the country who have ordered and paid for them in advance. Prices have gone up to the top notch and circus men simply cannot obtain a monkey."

of monkeys, being tiny, very hairy, and beautified by long, bushy, white whiskers or fans which stick out like a brush at either side of his face. But though the marmoset is fashionable and attractive he is the most difficult of all monkeys to tame. If you want a trick monkey, one that will be almost certain to turn out tame and affectionate, a young ringtail, a variety a size larger and a bit homelier than the marmoset, will be found most satisfactory. The ringtail is next to the chimpanzee in intelligence and is capable of being taught to act just like a little man. He walks about on his hind legs and uses his hands exactly like a human, and he is seldom or never disagreeable or cross. In selecting a monkey note these points: Do not buy a monkey whose fan is full and bushy and very beautiful unless he

is perfectly tame. The whiskers of a young marmoset are always scant and delicate. If the whiskers of a monkey are fully grown the monkey is an old one and it is impossible to tame a marmoset unless you start his training at a very early age. Make the dealer brush up the hair of the monkey and show you his skin. If it is a bluish white, buy him. That is a sign of perfect health. If the skin is yellow do not invest your money, for you may be quite sure that the monkey has tuberculosis and will live but a short while in this climate. If the skin is black the monkey has blood poisoning and is already doomed. The skin coloring of a monkey is a sure sign of the state of his health. Do not buy a monkey whose teeth are black or yellow. A young monkey has tiny pointed white milk teeth like a baby's. When he is full grown he sheds these and gets a complete new set of black teeth. The important thing is not necessarily to get a tame monkey, but to get a young one and a healthy one; for given these two qualities you are tolerably sure of being able to raise and tame him. For a marmoset you may pay anywhere from \$5 to \$50, according to his age, the time of the year, the number in stock, the demand and the past education of the monkey. A perfectly tamed marmoset is so rare that you may have to give as much as \$40 or \$50 to secure one. A ringtail is worth about \$5 more than a marmoset of the same age and breeding and under the same conditions. After buying a monkey comes the important matter of caring for him. The little gentleman is of a very delicate constitution and only half acclimated. He is very sensitive to cold, and it is not only fashionable but humane to get him a good warm wardrobe. Coats he should have in plenty, and if you intend to introduce him in the monkey smart set they should include a smoking jacket, a pair of pajamas and a full dress as well as an afternoon frock coat. By wearing these he learns all sorts of cunning habits and becomes as civilized as clothes generally make a man. The monkey should be fed very carefully and kept in a warm room. Do not attempt to take him out until he has become thoroughly acclimated, and at first he should be carefully wrapped on such occasions, or just as you are beginning to find him companionable he may die of consumption or pneumonia, the disease which carries off half the pet monkeys nowadays. Milk, either natural or condensed, is his staple article of diet. Do not stuff him with sweets and keep him carefully away from your toilet soap, or he may get a soap jag—he is very fond of that article—which will and seriously. Bananas and peanuts, coconuts, white bread and occasionally a lump of sugar are all favorites upon his menu. You may get if you like have Jocko brought in when you are taking your morning coffee and allow him to sit opposite you in his smoking

jacket and enjoy his cup of warm milk. There is a great art in making friends with a monkey. He is a very sensitive creature, strong in his likes and his dislikes, an unfailing friend and a very disagreeable enemy. Approach him very quietly and gently at first. He hates nervous people who rush at him and make a great fuss over him. Do not attempt to win him with a smile. The sight of teeth always means to him a fight. It is best to put him in a cage and pay no attention to him for two or three days, except to hand him his food with a few gentle words in a low tone of voice, until he has become accustomed to you. Be sure to feed him yourself at first, for his first love is his last one, and the way to his heart is primarily through his stomach. Give him a warm bed to sleep in and either cover him or give him something soft and warm to cover himself with at night. In this way a young monkey may be tamed in a day or two. When you wish to take him out of his cage, open the door and hold out your hand. If he grasps it, do not pull him, but let him use his own discretion about coming out. In an hour he will be sitting contentedly on your shoulder and all the king's horses and all the king's men cannot coax him off until you tell him to go. When you have made good friends with him it is time to begin to teach him his tricks and his manners. There is no limit to the possibilities of his education. One New York woman has taught her monkey all the habits of a gentleman. He goes through with his own toilet like a martyr, washes his face and hands without attempting to eat the soap, manicures himself, dons the right clothes at the right hour, eats daintily with his fork, pretends to smoke his after dinner cigarette and goes to bed in a little iron bedstead, carefully pulling up the covers and resting his head gracefully on the pillow. Indeed a monkey, like a man, is what you make him. Afraid of a Comet. Muskoge correspondent Kansas City Star. The ignorant negroes throughout Indian Territory are greatly excited by the reported approach of a destructive comet. In many places they have quit work and are assembling nightly in churches and holding religious services. It is reported at Fort Gibson and at many other points along the Arkansas River where there are large negro settlements that the comet is the only thing talked about, and the negroes believe that the world is coming to an end. This condition has reached such proportions that the Times-Democrat, a local newspaper, telegraphed Prof. F. J. See of Mars Island, asking his opinion about the comet. His reply was: "The comet is a ghost of the air. It is going from the earth instead of toward it. There is no danger of contact." A great many Indiana have also become alarmed over the agitation. At Westville it is reported that meetings are being held nightly and prayers offered. These reports come from the smaller towns and rural communities.

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Mr. Burgess had most kindly sent back Government elephants for the luggage, and on their return proposed that we should take them on to the next post, Grik, where others could probably be hired from the natives. This we agreed to do, and on a clear sunny morning, which contrasted cheerfully with the previous downpour, set out with five elephants and a baby elephant accompanying its mother, writes J. C. Grey in Expedition Magazine, describing a journey through the Malay jungle; The jungle was at its best that morning; the foliage, from the refreshing rains, was of the most vivid green, and sparkling in the sun; on many trees and shrubs rich orchid-like flowers were in full bloom, while among them darted birds of all descriptions, surpassing in the brilliancy of their plumage and sweetness of note any that I have seen in other lands.