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 THE GIBBON,\* OR LONG-ARMED APE.
 

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THE Gibbon (*fig.* 196) always keeps itself erect, even when it walks on all four feet, its arms being as long as both its body and legs. We have seen one of these animals alive; it was but young, and not more than three feet high; we may therefore presume, that it had not attained its full size, and that when in a free state, it may grow to four feet. It has no appearance of any tail, and the character which evidently distinguishes it from all other apes, is the extraordinary length of its arms.

It

\* *Gibbon* is the name by which Mr. Dupleix sent us this animal from the East Indies. I thought at first that this was an Indian word, but in looking over the nomenclature of the monkey tribe, I found in a note of Dalechamp's upon Pliny, that Strabo has described the *cephus* by the word *Keipon*, from which, probably, *Guibon*, *Gibbon*, is derived. The passage of Pliny, with Dalechamp's note, is as follows: "Pompeii magni, primum ludi ostenderunt ex Ethiopia, quas vocant *cephos*\* quaedam pedes posteriores pedibus humanis & cruribus, priores manibus fuere similes; hoc animal postea Roma non vidit."

\* *Cephos*, *Strabo*, lib. xv. *Keipon* vocat esseque tradit facie satyro similem. Dal. Plin. Hist. Nat. lib. viii. cap. 19. Nota. The *cephus* of the Greeks, the *cephos* of Pliny, which is pronounced *kebus* and *kephus*, might very possibly take its origin from *koph*, or *kophin*, which is the name of an ape in the Hebrew and Chaldean.