

As he spoke M. Pomereul turned to the darkest corner of the room, calling,

"Lipp-Lapp!"

Hearing its name, a strange creature came out of the shadow where it had been hidden. It stood upright and firmly on its feet, letting its arms hang down beside its lean body, and came towards its master.

It was a chimpanzee of the larger species, with intelligent face, mild dark eyes, and a broad wide-open mouth, which seemed about to speak. Lipp-Lapp's eyes gleamed with intelligence. He wore a robe of brocade, ornamented with pearls and gold, such as is seen in pictures of blacks by Italian masters. He had a bright colored turban on his head, and seemed very proud of his fine clothes. He had been brought from Java to M. Pomereul by a friend, and had soon learned, as many of his race have done, to perform various little domestic services. He could carry a tray of fruit, liqueur, or coffee with perfect safety, distribute the letters, and could besides understand almost any order given to him.

"Lipp-Lapp," said M. Pomereul, "take this statue and put it on Mlle. Sabine's mantelpiece."

The chimpanzee showed all his teeth in a broad grin; he seized the figure in his strong and dextrous arms, and went off in the direction of Mlle. Pomereul's apartments.

"My daughter is out," said Pomereul; "on her return she will find the statue, and can thank you this evening. You must dine with us, my boy."

Benedict only wrung M. Pomereul's hand, exchanged salutes with M. Nicols, who was coming in, and left the house radiant with joy.

M. Pomereul perceived at once that the countenance of his visitor was anxious and troubled. Unlike many