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OTA BENGA ATTACKS KEEPER.

Pygmy Tires to Use a Knife Following a Joke – Locked in a Cage.

Ota Benga let some of the savage nature of the African forest come out yesterday and tried to use a knife on one of the keepers at the Bronx Zoological Gardens.

The keepers were cleaning the monkey house, and Benga watched them. They were using a hose, and the stream of water filled him with amusement. One of the men turned the water upon him, and he seemed to think it a great joke. But in order to get the full benefit of the flood he decided to take his clothes off.

Visitors were coming, and it would not do to let him appear dressed like his pet chimpanzee. One of the keepers prevented him from shedding his raiment. He became greatly excited and rushed to his quarters. In a minute he was back, armed with an ugly looking knife that he had secreted among his belongings and made for one of the keepers, who saw him coming.

He tried to wrest the knife away, but did not succeed. It took two other men to subdue the little fellow and disarm him. Then as a punishment Ota was locked in a cage. He was released in the afternoon.