

**Francisca, the Mexican dwarf.**

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### **FRANCISCA, *the Mexican Dwarf.***

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"I saw," says the editor of *Le Globe*, (a Paris Journal; December 1829) "in Paris, a Mexican Dwarf, who, at 17 years of age, was only twenty-seven inches and a half high. She was born of an Indian mother of a pure race, in the province of Zocateces, on the estate of Donna Josefa Z——o; and came to France in the suite of that lady, towards whom she discharged all the functions of a *fille-de-chambre*. She laced her, dressed her hair, took care of her linen, and moreover, executed with great skill every kind of embroidery. In the course of a few months, listening to the servants of the hotel, she learned French enough to understand what was said, to ask for what she wanted, and even to talk, which also seemed necessary to her. She had great volubility in conversation; and several of her pleasant sallies were repeated to me. Nevertheless, her capacity did not appear to me to be above that of a child of eight years old. Her head was of the same size as that of a child of eight years old, whom I saw near her. Her features had nothing in them disagreeable; but were strongly marked with the American character. Her hands and arms were very well formed, as were also her feet and legs. Her hips were rather large, which made her see-saw in walking, but did not prevent her from running with rapidity. They wished to teach the little Francisca to read; but, as that occupation did not please her, she soon found the means of getting rid of it, by complaining of head-ach or tooth-ach, whenever she saw the book preparing."