

cover his body fairly well, a part of the year at least, against the elements.

Fortunately New Zealand produces a native plant, that we call flax. *Phormium tenax* the botanists call it, which readily adapts itself for the preparation of a fibre and by plaiting into various forms of so-called mats, is used for covering the body, principally the shoulders, and loins.

Their houses, too, are more substantial than those of the tropics. The vocation of the Maori was fighting, as the British learned to their cost. A peculiar habit evolved by this warlike spirit was the protrusion of the tongue. This was practised from early youth with the object of looking terrible, when sticking out the tongue to an inordinate and abnormal length. The extended tongue is almost invariably seen in their carvings of the human figure. It may be remarked, too, that in all such carvings, only three instead of four fingers are shown. This pertained especially to their tiki, or revered token, made of green-stone or jade, and worn around the neck. The explanation of showing only three instead of the four fingers is, that it therefore represented no particular person, and any insult offered to the image, need consequently not be resented as a personal affront.

The old Maori was a cannibal too, but not like the Fijian, who was the cannibal *par excellence*. I visited the Bay of Islands, en route to the cable station, where the first settlement by missionaries was made. New Zealand was first under the control of New South Wales, the oldest colony in Australia. The Governor at Sydney appointed the missionary a magistrate, and on the two Maori chiefs living on the same bay, he conferred the same dignity and tried to impress upon them the importance of the office. As the Governor afterwards said, he made the two magistrates, so that they wouldn't eat the third.

When I got to New Zealand, I felt more at home on account of the surroundings, especially by the sight of evergreens. Wellington, the capital, situate about midway in the islands, is in latitude south corresponding to that north, between Chicago and New York. Here I met and was entertained by the venerable Sir James Hector, the Nestor of all scientific work in New Zealand, and who nearly 50 years ago explored with Capt. Palliser our