

again is the cry raised :—"The Cockatoo-man is sulky!"—and should death not follow, to him alone is the recovery due, for his wrath has passed away. In like manner, the Sun, Moon, and Stars, are all the handiwork of the Cockatoo-man. Night by night does he ascend from this, his terrestrial dwelling place, to hold a glorious banquet on the moon, whose phases are accounted for by these nocturnal expeditions and feasts. They are continued, according to native belief, until the whole is demolished, but one small piece, which is allowed to remain and again expand to its original dimensions, when the feasting is once more resumed.

All the individuals of this tribe are supposed to possess these attributes in a greater or less degree; but some few are endowed with powers of a still more extensive and controlling range than others, and they are therefore flattered and sought after by the surrounding tribes, upon all occasions of danger and great sickness. The gravity with which these medicine men go through their incantations, and the implicit faith in which those operated on appear to submit themselves to the tender mercies of the operator, is ludicrous in the extreme. The patient, in all probability, is suffering from internal pain, or is possibly in the last stage of exhaustion. Jahnac has been put into him by the Cockatoo-man—and the Cockatoo-man alone can get him out. He is therefore sought after, without reference to distance or trouble, and brought (sometimes many days journey) to administer relief to the afflicted.

The Cockatoo-man approaches, and, gravely gazing on the sick man, begins to probe with his knuckles, to find the exact spot where lies the pain. Having determined this, he commences to rub down or shampoo the body, from the part affected, towards one of the extremities, either the feet, the hands, the head, or the ears—his object being to force Jahnac out at one of these points. During the operation, he frequently blows upon his fingers with great solemnity, as if to disperse the infection of the evil one. Suddenly ceasing his rubbing and seizing the patient by the hair of his head, or back of the neck, he treats him to a most energetic shaking; and thus he proceeds, with alternate rubbing, and blowing and shaking, until Jahnac is forced out of the afflicted one, and appears in the hand of the operator, in the shape of a small piece of wood or quartz. The cure being thus satisfactorily performed, this bit of wood or stone is handed over to the individual from whom it was extracted, and by whom it is cherished ever afterwards as an object of peculiar value.

Such are the wonderful powers supposed to be possessed by these men, and, to those who believe all that they have credit for, innumer-