

thus the name spread as synonymous with native of the South Sea Islands, and as such has been adopted in the English language.

But we must hurry on. West of Tonga or the Friendly Isles as formerly called, lies the Fiji group, containing some of the largest islands in the Pacific proper, outside of New Zealand. Viti and Vanua Levu are each about a hundred miles long. Here we meet a different race, dark-skinned, and having kinky black hair, but not woolly as that of the Papuans. The principal island, Viti Levu, is about as far south of the equator as Jamaica is north. From Fiji westward towards New Guinea we find only the dark-skinned races in the islands, while eastward the islands are occupied by Polynesians.

I arrived in Fiji in May, which is one of the autumn months in the southern hemisphere. My first impression was that I had landed in Dr. Saunders hothouse at the Experimental Farm; the oppressive, warm, moisture-laden atmosphere, where one smells the soil and the rank vegetation, almost overcame me. I began to perspire and in six weeks lost 20 pounds,—that is in weight. As my coming had been cabled, quarters had been secured for me. Immediately the first night I saw big things, like birds, flying about my domicile. I asked what they were,—cock-roaches was the answer. However, I had no fear, as I was too heavy to be carried away. When about retiring in a bed canopied with mosquito netting, I saw a spider fully six inches across in the netting. I promptly took aim and killed the arachnid. In the morning I informed the landlady of the incident. She thereupon told me I had done wrong, saying it was not only a harmless creature but useful for eating mosquitoes. Thus my Fijian lore began to take form. The next discovery that I made was that my leather boots that were black the night before, were now green, covered with mould, a small herbarium of the lower vegetable organisms. There is some compensation however, for the common scarlet hibiscus flower and the leaves of the shrub or tree are very efficacious for blacking boots. Of course I had to discard my tweed suit, and donned the white flannel coat and trousers I had brought with me. But these, too, were too warm for one horn and brought up where the Great Bear rides high in the heavens. So I provided myself with white cotton garments. There was too