

of study of the Polynesian race, is fast disappearing from the face of the earth.

The relentless law of Nature—the survival of the fittest—be it in the vegetable or animal kingdom, ever shows its supremacy. On the advent of the Maori, the huge Moa was still inhabiting the island but is now long extinct. This ostrich-like bird attained a height of 12 feet and many of its bones have been and are being found. A dwarf representative of the wingless class is still found in the kiwi or apteryx, the feathers of which are plaited into their pretty korowais or shoulder capes. The native fly has been superseded by our house-fly. One of the most singular cases in natural history, is that of the New Zealand bird, kea, which was strictly granivorous or vegetarian, we might say. However, shortly after the introduction of sheep and their increase into large flocks or mobs, as called there, the bird became carnivorous, and now knows to a nicety where to attack a lamb to get at the kidneys and kidney fat, which are the only parts eaten.

Thus slowly all forms of life are moulded by environments. Here I am reminded of what Sir James Hector said to me in Wellington. I had made some remark about the wind, when he added, that in time a new species of man would be developed in Wellington, the head would be differentiated by a ring projection, produced by the constant grabbing at the hat and pressing it down, to prevent it being blown away. Wellington is windy.

As I want to show quite a number of slides, I must draw my brief discourse of my visit to the South Seas to a close. Time does not permit to cross the ever restless Tasman Sea from New Zealand to Australia and linger in the island continent where I spent some months, too, observing; nor refer to enchanting Ceylon, nor to the experiences in Egypt, beholding 6,000 years of history at my feet when on the summit of the great pyramid.

When I had completed my work and journey, I had circumnavigated the globe, and no longer needed to rely on Magellan for proof of the rotundity of the earth.

Travelling the world over, and with eyes open, modifies one's views. In younger days one is so very cock-sure, one speaks ex cathedra, and is surrounded by a halo of superlatives, of which "best in the world" takes a most prominent place. The old