

thing or have something returned that had been borrowed. The voice of the neighbor would be imitated by the witch and the man would open the door to hand out the article and he would never return. Finally the people left the place altogether and made a town across the river.

When anything happens to a man, such as sickness or an accident, or the destruction of his crops by wild animals, the witch doctor is called in to find out what enemy hath done this. After a day or two's drumming and incantations near the village, he proceeds to the village and "names" the people who are guilty. As the headman the witch doctor and the aggrieved party have each to get a share in the fines inflicted, it is always people who have property themselves or whose people have property who are thus named. They usually plead guilty, for if they deny it they are put to death until they confess.

Near Maghili a man had his crop ravaged by wild hogs and one of the accused men denied his guilt, so he was flogged severely several times, and persisting in his denial, they spread-eagled him to bent down saplings, over a fire of chaff and red peppers.

CHARMS OR AMULETS.

Charms or amulets are worn by everybody to protect them from evil and bring them good luck. These run from beads to elaborate phylacteries made of leather by the Mohammed priests. Inside the door of each hut is a bottle with only the mouth protruding, and it contains a gree-gree of some kind to prevent ill-luck. The women frequently use egg shells pressed one into the other and a strip of bamboo pushed down through them and fastened into the thatch to keep out witches. The finger nails of a friend or lock of his hair is powerful "medicine" against all kinds of evil, and red rags, feathers and snake-skin are greatly prized.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

There are at least three of these, two for men and one for women. The name of the women's society is An bondo, and they exercise a kind of a maternal oversight over the girls and young women. The men's principal society is the Poro Society or Am-poro. In many sections of the country the Poro men are as much