

the Krifis, beings who hold an intermediate state between God and man. As the stones representing these Krifis are taken away from relatives' graves, one might be justified in thinking they are defined by the happiness of men depends upon the good will or ill will of these Krifis, hence the many sacrifices made to them to keep them in good humor. There are good and bad Krifis as well as male and female ones. They say the Krifis cannot be seen but by the people with four eyes, the wizards, but they have representatives of them in their houses which consist of stones taken from the graves of relatives, never of strangers. These stones they call *am-baki*, the dead ones, the names or shades of the departed.

At the entrance to each village is a small thatched shrine at which sacrifices are made. The diamond snake, called *au-yaro* they sacrifice to a Krifi. The sacrifice is usually rice bread which is eaten by goats or ants, but occasionally a white rooster is sacrificed with much ceremony.

Some customs remind us very much of ancient Israel. Thus circumcision is practiced on both men and women, and any uncircumcised person is looked upon as unclean. At a certain time each year the Maranopo King, Bai Kobolo, with much ceremony, would take a jug of palm wine to the baboons, considered sacred, that lived near his town and later, accompanied by his headmen, make a pilgrimage to the top of Marampa Hill and there make a sacrifice to the Krifis for the good of the whole country. This bears a striking resemblance to the great day of Atonement. Other customs noted are found in Ex. 21:20 and Deut. 21:2; 22:15.

WIZARDS AND WITCHES.

The medicine man is one of the institutions of the country and affairs of importance are never undertaken without the benefit of his assistance, as to its being a lucky day, etc. The Timnis believe that by witchcraft people are able to turn themselves into animals, snakes, leopards, wild hogs, alligators, etc.

A certain deserted village on the river was always given a wide berth by the natives. The captain of our mission boat explained to me that it had been bewitched. Of an evening a resident would hear a knock at his door and on asking who was there the reply would be that a neighbor wanted to borrow some-