

that he had eaten snake. Dr. Seemann, who made a natural history collection, deplored that a large snake that he wanted, or rather its skin, had to be served to the roko. Truly we are all slaves of habit and custom: "Use doth breed a habit in a man."

Sitting beside my landlady one evening under the trees, she suddenly brushed her head. I jumped up and asked "What's the matter?" "Oh, I thought a snake had dropped down from the tree." It was hut a twig." Small harmless snakes crawl about the trees in search of insects.

Outside of human flesh, which is practically a thing of the past, there is nothing revolting in the food of the South Sea Islanders. It may be remarked that although some of the early adventurers and missionaries gratified the palate of the Fijians, they were not enjoyed as much as their own people. As I was told, the white people tasted "salty." I was glad I was white.

Besides the fish from the sea, large turtles are caught too, for food; but the latter are reserved mostly for the king and aristocracy. The fishing is generally done by the women, with nets and they confine themselves to the proximity of the shore. A few act as drivers, splashing the water, while the others, always in pairs for holding a net, keep a sharp lookout for dipping and raising the net at the proper time.

In the old days, this was a very dangerous occupation for the women. It afforded a good opportunity for surprising, capturing and subsequently eating them, by a neighboring hostile tribe. I shall have something more to say about cannibals when the pictures are thrown on the screen.

It is scarcely necessary to mention that all the South Sea Islanders are expert swimmers and divers, and their endurance in the sea when overtaken by misfortune borders on the incredible. The shores and mouths of rivers are all infested with sharks, the terrors of the sea, and the cause of my non-enjoyment of sea-bathing.

There was a church being built in Fiji, during my stay, by native labor. It fell to the lot of women and girls to provide material for the lime. Coral was used for this purpose, and girls would dive into the briny deep and break off branches of the coral forest. It has happened that an arm or foot was left behind, torn