

kipika" the nearest he can come to Pacific, as he knows neither the *s* nor *f* sound. "Glory" he would render Kololo.

We must not forget, however, that our own range of pronunciation is limited, and that we often fail, sometimes lamentably, in our attempt at foreign pronunciation.

The Samoans are somewhat better supplied with consonants, and their vocabulary is rich in the sound of *f*. The Tongan alphabet is similar to that of Samoa. Our word Christmas, the meaning of which has been made known in the South Sea Islands, suffers a peculiar transformation by the Tongan to meet his defects and peculiarities of speech. In trying to pronounce it he says,—Kalimasi,—which I fear Santa Claus would scarcely recognize.

The Maori must get along with the eight consonants *h*, *k*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *r*, *t*, and *w*; and all words must adapt themselves to be clothed from these and the vowels. New Zealand has perpetuated many of the Maori place-names in its geographical vocabulary; but it must be confessed that their meaning is sometimes not poetic.

Whence the light-colored Polynesian, what relationship does his language bear to any other? These are questions that have occupied the attention of many able men.

The philologist goes forth armed with vocabularies and structural forms. He attaches a thread to his starting point, so as not to lose himself, and then starts off for the quarry. He is led hither and thither, always on the scent, and whether he sets out from Hawaii or New Zealand, we eventually find him in Northwest India, whence spread the Aryans and to whom we are related. The old belief in connecting the Polynesians with the Malays has been abandoned. As one of the best Maori scholars, Mr. E. Tregear, and whom I have the pleasure of knowing personally, says in one of his writings, "For every Malay word traceable in the Maori vocabulary, the student can find twenty Polynesian words in the German dictionary."

Philology is undoubtedly a powerful weapon for attacking the problem of the migrations of a people, showing how a language was modified as it was slowly dragged along the route of migration. How it influenced other languages with which it came in contact, and in turn was influenced by them, must be considered. To