

an iron pipe bowl 25 mm. deep has been neatly brazed. The hole at the bottom of this, after entering the back of the axe head, turns abruptly at right angles and passes into the wooden haft, which it traverses for its entire length. The method by which the hole has been pierced in the shaft is obvious; the latter has been split, and a semi-circular groove made in each fragment, and the two fitted together again.

The haft, which is 370 mm. long, has been ornamented with painted designs in red, green, brown, and black; a prominent feature being a fully-clad human figure standing in profile, with long flowing hair and a red feather set above the forehead.

Some time ago I showed the weapon to Professor Holmes, of Washington. He was much interested in it, and his remarks upon it ran, to the best of my recollection, as follows: "This tomahawk comes from the region of Lake Superior, and was

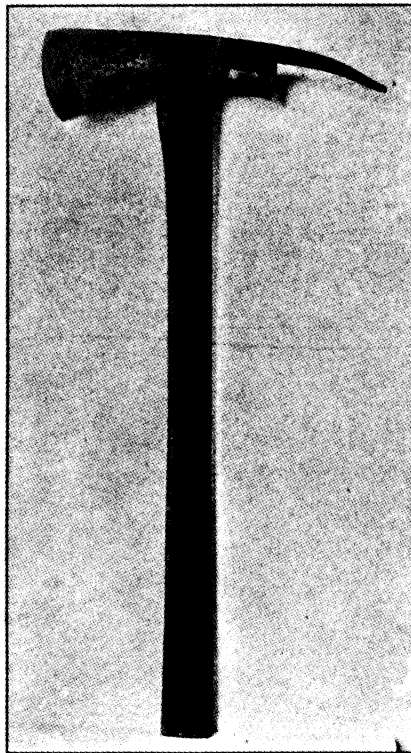


FIG. 1.

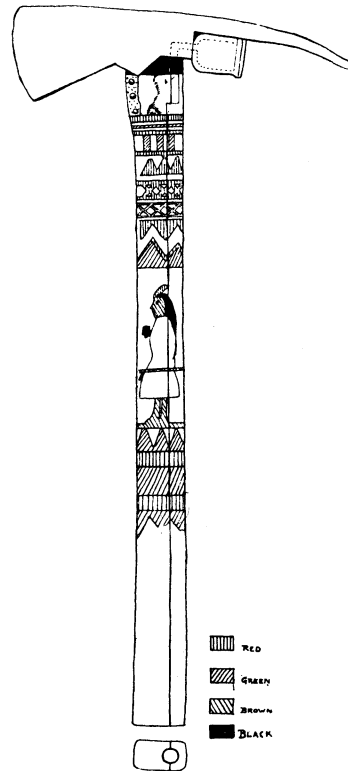


FIG. 2.

"probably decorated about 1750 by an Indian of the Algonquian tribe. The form of the pipe and hatchet in most cases determine whether they were sold to the Indian by a trader of English, Dutch, French, or Spanish nationality; but this type, provided with a spike as well as the pipe and hatchet, is unknown." Consequently the tomahawk is believed to be unique.

W. CREWDSON.

### Solomon Islands.

Parkinson.

#### Notes on Solomon Island Baskets and on Lord Howe's Group. 105

By R. Parkinson.

*Solomon Island Basket.*—In MAN, 1906, 46, a Solomon Island basket is described by Mr. Edge-Partington. I have found these baskets used on the east coast of northern Bougainville as well as on the northern end of Choiseul. The

tribes inhabiting the islands of Bougainville Straits communicate with the tribes in Bougainville and Choiseul, and hence the baskets occasionally are found there. I am not sure if they are manufactured in Choiseul or imported: but, in regard to Bougainville, I am sure that they are manufactured in the coastal villages as well as inland in that part of the east coast situated to the north of the Martin Islands.

Years ago I published in the Reports of the Royal Zoological and Anthropological-Ethnographical Museum, Dresden, Vol. VII, No. 6, 1898-99, a number of "Ethnographical Notes on the North-western Solomon Islands," of which the following is an extract:—

"In the village Toboroi on the east coast of Bougainville the inhabitants on my return from the mountain villages had prepared a feast; I do not mention it on account of its culinary accomplishments, but because I found the food served in plaited trays and baskets of a shape which I have not observed in any other part of Bougainville. Three characteristic shapes were represented. Circular dishes were used for serving boiled fish. These dishes had a circular bottom of 40-60 cm. in diameter



FIG. 1.—GRAVEYARD OF THE MEMBERS OF THE KING'S FAMILY (TU'U), LORD HOWE.

with an outward slanting rim, 10-15 cm. broad, perforated with 4-6 cm. triangular openings. This kind of flat dish was called a 'dara.' The second variety had a conical (funnel-shaped) form; the flat circular bottom was about 15 cm. in diameter, the upper diameter of the basket was about 60 cm. The sides were about 40 cm. high, slightly bent inward, and with four triangular openings a little below the rim. The bottom had a small square opening, most likely to drain off any fluids collecting in the basket. These vessels were called 'doado,' and were filled with boiled and roasted taro and yam. The triangular openings served as handles. The third variety, in the shape of handled baskets, were called 'koko.' I observed two kinds: some with a flat oval bottom, the rim pressed sideways and joined by a handle about 4 cm. broad and 20 cm. high; others consisted of a circular plate, the upper edges bent upwards and joined by a similar handle."

The material used in manufacturing these baskets is the dried stem or stalk of a certain kind of fern; it is very pliable and strong, and when new has a fine brown,

glossy colour. The same material is used in Choiseul, but baskets from there are never as big as the baskets I have described from Bougainville. Basketwork manufactured in the same way and of the same material is also found in the Baining Mountains of the Gazelle Peninsula, New Britain, and in the Admiralty Islands, as well as on certain parts of the coast of New Britain to the west of the Willaumez Peninsula.

*Lord Howe's Group.*—Mr. Woodford has on several occasions published short notes on the Lord Howe's Group islanders in MAN. I should like to draw the attention of those readers, who take an interest in these isolated Polynesians, to my notes on the "Ethnography of the Ongtong Java (Lord Howe's Group) and Tasman Islands" in *Internat. Archiv für Ethnographie*, Vol. X, 1897, and to Dr. G. Thilenius' *Ethnographische Ergebnisse aus Melanesien*, Halle, 1901. The ethnographical features of the islanders are in both works treated at considerable length, and the elaborate tattooing of the men and women shown in several drawings; the traditions of the islanders are also treated in some detail, and through these it can be proved that the inhabi-



FIG. 2.—GRAVEYARD OF THE COMMON PEOPLE (MAIUA), LORD HOWE.

tants descend from emigrants who arrived many years ago from the Ellice Group, from the Gilbert Islands, and from islands to the north (Carolines?). Slight traces of Melanesian descent are also to be noticed. Not later than twelve years ago several canoes from the Gilbert Islands arrived in Tasman (Nukumann), and in a quarrel arising about one of the castaway women the then king of Nukumann, Pule, was stabbed to death by one of the Gilbert islanders. Some years before a trading schooner from New Britain took several castaways from Sikaiana, who had arrived at Lord Howe, back to their home. The Sikaiana natives are frequent visitors to Lord Howe, usually returning home in their own canoes as soon as the weather is favourable. The Lord Howe islanders occasionally are cast away to the islands of the Solomon Group, and during my voyages amongst the islands, covering a period of about twenty-five years, I have found remnants of them on the east coast of Buka, on the north-east end of Bougainville, and in Choiseul. The present head priest of Marken, or Mortlock Islands, is a Lord Howe

man who drifted there about forty years ago. The graveyards of Lord Howe are a characteristic feature of the island, and the above photographs taken a few years ago should prove of interest. The high tombstone is erected over the grave of the late king, Uila.

R. PARKINSON.

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REVIEWS.

Torres Straits.

Ray.

*Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits. Vol. III., Linguistics.* By Sidney H. Ray. Cambridge: University Press, 1907. Pp. viii + 528. 29 × 22 cm. Price 30s. **106**

When in 1898 the great Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits was undertaken all students of Oceanic philology were highly satisfied on hearing that Mr. Sidney H. Ray, the renowned discoverer of the "Papuan languages," had consented to deal with the linguistic part of the work of the Expedition. After the Expedition was finished they awaited with some impatience the publication of the results of his researches, which they could not but believe to be of the greatest weight and interest. Although some years have passed away in the meantime, these results have lost nothing of their value—no other works on the languages of this region having been published—and it is therefore with great enjoyment that we have received them in book form.

We heartily congratulate Mr. Sidney H. Ray on having at length succeeded in seeing his studies published in such a monumental form as the Reports of the Cambridge Expedition present and as their value fully deserves. We believe that this volume is one of the most important of the whole series of the Reports of the Cambridge Expedition. To understand this judgment one must take into consideration that by his discovery of the Papuan languages, *i.e.*, languages not connected with the Austronesian (Malayo-Polynesian), Mr. Sidney H. Ray has put the first stone to a firm and solid theorisation not only of the languages, but also of the races of the Pacific in general (see my *Fr. Müller's Theorie über die Melanesier*), and of these highly interesting languages we here receive for the first time a full and adequate account.

The manner in which Mr. Sidney H. Ray presents to the reader the results of his researches could not easily be surpassed in scientific exactness and prudent sobriety. There is nothing fantastic nor rash; full references are given for all statements, and Mr. Ray has not been tempted into torturing his evidence to fit his theories. The whole work bears the character of perfect reliability, and students may confidently extract from it all kinds of information about those languages they require.

It is a very rich material that Mr. Ray has been able to collect. With regard to the Papuan languages there are two detailed grammars and vocabularies, also texts of the Mabuig and the Miriam language in Torres Straits, then a grammar of the Kiwai language of the Fly River, a grammar of the Toaripi language spoken at the eastern end of the Gulf of Papua, a grammar of the Koita language spoken in the central district, grammar notes and short sketches of quite a number of other languages, and at the end a comprehensive comparative vocabulary of all the Papuan languages of British New Guinea.

In order to compare the Papuan languages with those of Australia, all that has been published of the languages of the Cape York Peninsula has been added, and we are thus provided with very useful materials not otherwise easily available for general scholars.

The Melanesian languages of British New Guinea have been handled in a more compendious and comparative manner, which is perfectly justified by the relative uniformity of these languages. In separate chapters the author treats of the phonology,