

red clay and sand scattered profusely about on each grassy slope. These singular structures, some of which were 10 or 12 feet in height, seemed of great strength and toughness: on breaking off a piece, they appeared to be honeycombed inside, the numerous galleries being then displayed. The ants themselves are of a pale brown colour, and about a quarter of an inch in length.

In my wanderings I came across some of the aborigines, houseless and homeless. They are poor wretched specimens, the lowest in the scale of humanity: their dwellings, if such they can be called, being formed by a few bushes, behind which they creep for shelter; dependent from day to day on what they can pick up for food, not even having arrived at the first and simplest form of civilisation; and, in like manner, destitute of all traces of religion, except, perhaps, a faint symptom of belief in a good and an evil spirit.

These people differ but very little from those of other parts of Australia. The septum of the nose is invariably perforated, and one of the front teeth usually knocked out. No clothing is at any time worn, and their ornaments are scanty. Their utensils are few in number, consisting merely of a few baskets made from the stems of a rush-like plant; while for drinking and cooking a large shell is used. Their weapons are clubs and spears, and throwing-sticks, with which they propel small spear-