

was made for the north end of the island. Whilst the ship was off the coast of Great Ki Island several boats full of natives came off. The boats have been described by Wallace;¹ they are shaped like whale boats, and are constructed of planks fastened together with pegs and rattans. The crews used paddles with long blades pointed at the ends and with cross handles. They paddled in time to a chanted cadence identical with one used by the Fijians in their dances, "ē ai ō tum tum." At intervals the sound rose loud from the approaching boats as it was taken up in chorus. The chant was accompanied by a drum with a tense membrane on which two sounds were made by striking it slightly with the tips of the fingers or more violently with the palm of the hand, the sound reminding one that the course was tending towards India, for such a method of tomtom playing is not known in Melanesia or Polynesia, but is in vogue in Ceylon and India, especially by Tamil coolies.

The men, a boat-load of whom came on board, were like the Arroo Islanders, but for the most part more strongly built. They wore their hair long and loose, and had no ornaments; most of them wore only an apron of cloth. All of them were in the most horrible state of cutaneous disease, the skin being in a rough scurfy condition in many cases all over the body. Worse cases of vegetable itch could not occur. The disease is due to a parasitic fungus, and closely allied to or identical with *Pityriasis versicolor*. Dr. Crosbie, Staff-Surgeon of the Challenger, made a careful microscopical examination of it. The disease is widely spread in Melanesia and Polynesia.² The men kept constantly scratching themselves violently, and life can be scarcely bearable in Great Ki Island; yet the disease is one easily cured.

The men begged for all kinds of things, and especially spirits and tobacco. One of the boats had well-made pottery, nicely ornamented with patterns in red, for barter, but unfortunately no specimens were procured. The men, as did also the Malays at Dobbo, used a slight click with the tongue, accompanied by a very slow shaking of the head to express astonishment. At 1 P.M. the ship rounded the north end of Great Ki Island, and steered towards Little Ki Island.

The position of the north point of Great Ki Island (which is called Tanjong Burong) was made to be lat. 5° 16' 45" S., long. 133° 10' 45" E. It is a bluff point readily distinguished, and has on each side a small bay where probably anchorage may be found; there were a few huts in these bays. The northeast point of Great Ki Island is low and sandy, with a group of *Casuarina* trees; it lies S. 50° E., just over two miles from Tanjong Burong, and off the point are two small islets, the outermost of which is 40 feet high. From here the land trends to the southward for three miles, and then recedes to the westward, forming a small bay, on the south point of which (lat. 5° 24' S., long. 133° 11' E.) is the village of Ali Bandang, from which the land runs S. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. to a conspicuous point in lat. 5° 34' S., long. 133° 8' E. Between the northeast point

Malay Archipelago, vol. ii. pp. 183-186, London, 1869.

See Tilbury Fox, M.D., On the Tokelau Ringworm and its Fungus, *The Lancet*, p. 304, 1874.