

The hand marks have evidently been made haphazard, just as the drawings. They are now often out of easy reach, the former floors of the caves having slipped away. They are grouped in all sorts of ways, and amongst them I saw one in which a finger was missing, the native having possibly had a finger cut off as a matter of ceremony. The figure of a whole man is said to exist thus executed, in Cowan Creek, close by.

Delightful though it was at Sydney to make so many friends amongst one's countrymen, after so long a voyage from home, and to enjoy their far-famed hospitality, one could not, as a naturalist, help feeling a lurking regret that matters were not still in the same condition as in the days of Captain Cook, and the colonists replaced by the race which they have ousted and destroyed, a race far more interesting and original from an anthropological point of view.

Whilst we were at Sydney, the ship's steam pinnace was constantly employed in dredging for Trigonia shells in Port Jackson. These shells, in shape very like cockles, are immediately known by their brilliant pearly lustre within, and curious complicated hinges. They vary very much in the tint of the nacre inside. Some are orange-tinted, others pink or purple, some without colour. The shells are worn very much by the ladies of Sydney, as earrings and other ornaments, being set in gold.

The shell is especially interesting to the naturalist, because it occurs fossil in secondary deposits in Europe, and was long supposed entirely a thing of the past, until discovered living in Sydney Harbour. Moreover, with it occurs in the harbour a most remarkable fish, the Port Jackson Shark (*Cestracion Philippi*) which is also closely allied to fish, remains of which are found in the deposits together with the Trigonias.

It was believed for some time that the modern Trigonias were very restricted in their distribution. A species occurs however at Cape York, and Mr. S. C. J. W. van Musschenbroek, Governor of Ternate in the Moluccas, told me that he had obtained specimens of the genus from the coast of Halmahera (Gilolo). A Port Jackson Shark is also found far away from Australia, in the Japanese seas, and at intermediate localities.