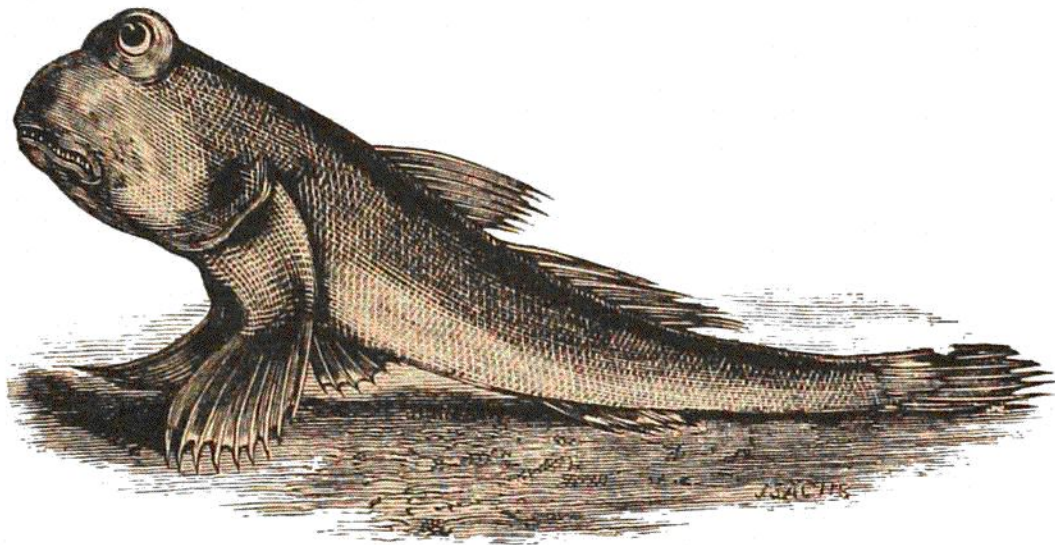


and roots. From what I have seen of its habits, I should expect that it would be drowned by long immersion in water. The Fijian species is *Periophthalmus Kolreuteri*. Dr. Günther, in his description of the genus, remarks: "These fishes are able to progress out of the water, on humid places, and to hunt after their prey, which consist of terrestrial insects," etc.*

The natives of Matuku were mostly regular Fijians, though there were some pure Tongans amongst them, immediately to be distinguished by their use of the forehead muscles in expression. No doubt there is also mixed blood in the island. The houses of the people were miserably dirty, and built on filthy black muddy flats close to the sea.



PERIOPHTHALMUS KOLREUTERI.

On land; in act of leaping.

I saw a boy make his way over a mangrove swamp, with remarkable rapidity, by crawling over the tops of the mangrove roots, and thus avoiding the mud below. The coast natives in parts of New Guinea are said to traverse the low swampy shore in just the same manner.

In dredging off Matuku Island, in 320 fathoms, on a coral bottom, some *Phorus*, *Turritella*, and a few other shells were brought up, as well as numerous specimens of the blind crustacean, *Polychetes*, and other animals, showing the fauna to be a true deep water one, and with these a living specimen of the Pearly Nautilus (*Nautilus pompilius*). This was the only specimen obtained during the voyage of this animal, so rarely seen in the living condition by any Naturalist.

The animal was very lively, though probably not so lively as

* Dr. A. Günther, "Brit. Mus. Cat., Fishes," Vol. III., p. 97.

[For a further account of *Periophthalmus* see S. J. Hickson, "A Naturalist in North Celebes," p. 30. London, John Murray, 1889.]