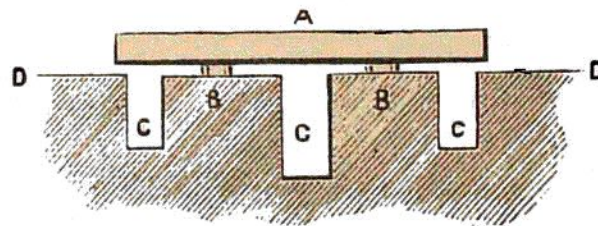


and were the terror of the Levuka people. The place was now entirely in ruins, the inhabitants having been made prisoners, and their town burnt by Thackombau. There remain now only the oblong mounds of earth on each of which formerly stood a house, and the ditch and bank of earth with which the village was fortified.

The place is used now as a convict station, and here a number of prisoners, mostly Kaivolos, or "devil men," from the hill tribes of the large island "Viti Levu," were undergoing their various terms of imprisonment. Eight Tongan soldiers and an old English drill-sergeant were sufficient to keep the convicts in subjection. The men were made to work at clearing the surrounding land, and planting sweet potatoes and yams; whilst they were at work, the Tongans mounted guard over them with loaded muskets, and though the opportunities in the thick bush seemed so great, they were said never to escape; they are very much afraid of the Tongans.

I was shown amongst the convicts one of the Burns' murderers, who was said to have been caught when dragging the body of a white woman by the hair through the bush, with a view to eating it. I put a few questions through an interpreter: the man protested that he had never eaten human flesh, and that he would have no desire to eat me if he had a chance. He had evidently learnt that this was the proper attitude to assume with regard to this question. I expected that he would have made no scruple in confessing to former cannibalism.

A drum was used at Livoni for summoning the prisoners, which was new to me in its construction: three cylindrical



SECTION OF FIJIAN LOG DRUM.

a Log; *bb* rests; *ccc* resonating holes;
d surface line of the ground.

holes a log of light *Hibiscus* wood was supported on two cross rests of rolled up palm-leaf mat, placed in the interspaces between the holes. The holes in the earth acted as resonators, and when the log was struck with a wooden mallet, a loud sound was produced as from the ordinary Fijian drum or "lali," which consists of a log hollowed out like a canoe; this was a rough substitute. The use of holes in the earth as resonators is remarkable.