

imported labourers, concerning whom so much has been written.

About Viti there is an abundance of large Fruit-Pigeons, of the pigeons with purple heads, identical with those of Tongatabu (*Ptilinopus porphyraceus*); also of the "Kula" (*Domicella solitaria*), and the "Kaka" (*Platycercus splendens*). The Kaka attacks the sugar-canes, and does considerable damage. There are some huge fig-trees at Viti, with the typical plank-like roots and compound stems. Here also grow one or two cocoanut-trees, which are rarities so far up the river, for at the inland villages along the river there are no cocoanut-trees, and a regular trade is carried on by the natives in bringing the nuts up the river from the coast, in canoes, to barter them with the inland people.

The Black Rat and Norway Rat are abundant at Viti, and there is also a native Field Mouse, according to Mr. Storck, but I could not procure one in our short available time. I do not know whether a field-mouse is known from Fiji. A large freshwater Prawn is common, and is caught for eating by the Fijian women, and in their baskets I saw also an Eel (*Murana*).

A red stratified sandstone, with a slight inclination of its strata, is exposed in section opposite Mr. Storck's house. It is said to contain no fossils. An exactly similar rock is exposed at various spots for several miles down the river.

On the way down the river, the barge constantly grounded on shoals, our pilot, Joe, knowing nothing of the upper part of the river. We had to strip our clothes off constantly and jump overboard to shove the boat over the shallows, but at last it stuck fast, and had to remain in that condition till the tide came up and turned again. Joe, the pilot, cautioned us about jumping over into the water, as he said there were sharks. A shark, about three feet long, is common as far up as Mr. Storck's plantation, and large sharks are believed to be common in the lower parts of the stream, and are mentioned in Jackson's Narrative, in the appendix to Capt. Erskine's "Islands of the Western Pacific," as often taking down natives in the neighbourhood of Rewa. At Nadawa, however, Mr. Page had never seen one, and I saw women there constantly standing up to their necks in the water, collecting freshwater clams (*Unio*), evidently without fear.

The Shark of the Wai Levu is *Carcharias gangeticus*, found also in the Tigris at Bagdad, 350 miles distant in a straight line from the sea, where it attains a length of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet. It is common in large rivers in India. It breeds in fresh water in Viti Levu, inhabiting a lake shut off from the sea by a cataract.*

* "Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist.," Ser. 4, Vol. IV., No. 79, July 1874, p. 36.