

glutinous semi-fluid masses, made of taro and cocoanut, and flavoured with molasses. The puddings are kept done up in a bag of banana leaf, and are very nasty, though specially prepared as a luxury on this occasion. The chief showed us two clubs, family heirlooms, which had killed a large number of illustrious enemies; but since, as he told us, they are always kept very carefully oiled, just as we oil our cricket bats, there was no hair or remains of blood or brains about them.

It was past noon before the people began to assemble in considerable numbers, and seat themselves on the banks and rising ground, commanding a view of the dancing-place. The dancing was begun by the body of young men which I had before seen at Bureta, in Ovalau, practising the same dance for this grand occasion.

There were about 80 men in this company. A party stood together in the centre and kept up a sort of chant, one of their number beating time with two sticks upon a small bar of light wood, which was held by the hands of another. The remainder danced round to the chorus in a ring, but every now and then changes between members of the ring and chorus took place. One of the chants I took down as "Rāihī vāl sāl sātē ā dūmn." The last sound was uttered with a peculiar lingering humming sound. The words chanted usually have no meaning, corresponding to our fal la la, and similar sounds.

The chant was commenced always as a solo, the chorus joining in after the first few notes. Combined with the music, with excellent effect at various stages of the dance, was the loud clapping of hands, which was done in most perfect time, the claps of all the dancers and chorus sounding as one. Two kinds of claps were used, one with the hands hollowed, and the other with them flat. The two sounds thus produced served further to diversify the effect, and there was also added a loud shrill cry used in some of the figures just before their conclusion, and uttered by one performer only, which came in very well.

The dancing consisted in most varied motions of the head, arms, body, and legs, the same motions exactly being gone through by every member of the circle in most perfect time. At one time the head and shoulders were bent forward, and the hands swung clapping together, at the same time short side steps were made, carrying the performers round in the circle. Then a half-squatting position was suddenly assumed, and the head was thrown first on to one shoulder, then the other. Then the performers would move on again, and stretch their arms out with a fixed gaze, as if shooting with the bow. The motions were none of them very quick, and none very fantastic.

The men wore fringes of various kinds, hanging from round