

their waists, mostly a combination of the yellow and red *Pandanus* leaf strips and the black fibrous girdles of the fungus (*Rhizomorpha*). Most of them had also fringes of *Rhizomorpha* just below the knee, often with beads strung upon them. All had their bodies well covered with cocoanut oil, and their hair trimmed with great care.

By the time the first dance was over, there was a dense concourse of spectators round the Green. The missionary arrived, a table was set out under a tree opposite the chief's house, and three native teachers, two of them Tongan men, sat behind it to receive the money. The inhabitants of the various villages and smaller districts now advanced in separate troops, walking up in single file to the table and throwing down, each man or woman, their contributions upon it, with as loud a rattle as possible.

As each contribution fell, the three teachers and some of the members of a further large body of teachers from the college, who were squatting close by, shouted, "Vinaka, vinaka" (slowly), "Vinaka, vinaka, vinaka" (quickly), which means "good, good," or "hear, hear." Many bystanders joined in the applause. The money consisted of all sorts of silver coins, and a very few copper ones, and over £100 must have been collected in coin.

The people of the various villages, and the districts subject to their chiefs, spend many months in preparing dances for this yearly occasion, and they vie with one another in the splendour and perfection of the performance. As each band came up and made its contribution, a part or the whole of it at once proceeded to perform the prepared dance, and when this was over another party approached the table, and so on.

The people as they filed up to the table formed a wonderful spectacle. The girls were most of them without coverings to their breasts, but the upper parts of their bodies were literally running with cocoanut oil, and glistened in the sun. The men and boys were painted in all imaginable ways, with three colours, red, black, and blue. There were Wesleyans with face and body all red, others with them all blackened soot black, others with one half the face red, the other black. Some had the face red and the body black, and *vice versa*. Some were spotted all over with red and black. Some had black spectacles painted round the eyes. Some had a black forehead and red chin. Some were blue spotted, or striped on the face with blue, and so on to infinite variety. How amused John Wesley would have been if he could have seen his Fijian followers in such guise!

For many of the dances the men were most elaborately dressed. They were covered with festoons of the finest gauzy white tappa,