

power which has tamed these savages was a little missionary, with battered white tall hat and coat out at elbows, who stood beside us and who took no prominent part in the ceremonies, but yet had full sway over the whole, no dance having been prepared without his previous sanction.

There could be no doubt as to the amount of good which had been done to these people, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the Wesleyan Missionaries will be left unmolested to continue the work in which they have been so successful, and which they have begun and carried out often at the risk, in some instances with the loss, of their lives.

The men and children attending the meeting vied with one another in getting money to contribute, and were ready to sell anything they had almost for what we would give them. One boy pestered us to buy an old hen, and followed us about with the bird. Others sold us clubs and ornaments. The great wish was to have several pieces of silver to make a rattle on the table, and two sixpences were worth much more than a shilling, two shillings more than half-a-crown. Immediately the ceremony was over everything went up in value, and a good many articles, pressed on us before, were not now to be had at any price.

Amongst the crowd was an Albino Boy. He was perfectly white, his skin having a peculiar look, almost as if covered with a white powder, in places. His eyes appeared as if the iris were of a pale-grey colour. He hid his eyes either from the light or because of shyness. His parents said he could see perfectly. I could not examine him closely as he roared at the prospect. Albinos seem unusually common amongst Melanesians, and are constantly mentioned by travellers. Hence these savages, when first seeing Whites, no doubt often took them for a race of Albinos. I saw several hunch-backed dwarfs amongst the crowd.

We sailed from the Wai Levu, or Rewa River, to Kandavu, stopping at a small island on the way, to buy a pig and some fowls. A voyage in an open boat has many discomforts, especially when the boat is crowded. To manage to sleep six together in the confined space of the stern-sheets of a ship's barge was a difficult matter, especially as the available surface was rendered extremely irregular by the various articles necessarily stowed upon it, such as provision boxes and beer cases. We all slept with our shooting-boots on, to ensure mutual respect, as we lay packed like herrings in a barrel. On the whole the trip was pleasant enough, and the inconveniences as nothing compared with the interest of a visit to such places as Mbau and Viti Levu.