

hands and the breast as the best eating,* the Fijians especially preferred the flesh of the arm above the elbow, and that of the thigh.† Not more than five-and-twenty years ago, White residents are said to have joined the natives in their cannibal feasts at Ovalau, Fiji.‡

Whilst we were at Fiji, the burning question with the settlers was whether the group was to be annexed by Great Britain or not. The planters and all the store-keepers were eagerly hoping for the annexation, and many had staked their fortunes on the event. The missionaries, on the other hand, were praying in the best interests of the natives, as they viewed them, that the place might remain as it was. The result is well known; the Fijis are now British. Thackombau and his suite were taken to Sydney for a trip in a man-of-war, and they returned bringing the measles with them, by which about one third of the native population was at once swept off.

* E. Dieffenbach, "Travels in New Zealand," Vol. II., p. 129. London, J. Murray, 1843.

† C. Wilkes. "Narrative of U.S. Exploring Expedition," Vol. V., p. 101. New York, 1856.

‡ J. D'Ewcs, "China, Australia, and the Pacific Islands." p. 151. London, 1857.