

shoals of Skipjacks (*Caranx*), as they pursue the smaller fish. The shores are inhabited by several species of Shore birds. I saw on the main island a scarlet and black Parrot or Cockatoo of some kind, which flew out of some high trees on the sea-shore, screaming loudly, like a Cockatoo. The bird was wary, and I could not get a shot at it. It reminded me at the time of the rare *Dasyptilus pequeti* of New Guinea; it was of about that size. Of Reptiles, there are two species of Turtle common here, *Chelone midas* and *C. imbricata*, the latter the source of the principal article of barter of the natives, tortoiseshell. In the swamp pools is a species of Crocodile, of which the natives are in great dread. There are also at least one species of Land and one of Sea Snakes (*Hydrophidæ*), and the natives showed themselves acquainted with the danger of handling Snakes. A Gecko and the small blue-tailed Lizard (*Euprepes cyanura*) are also present and abundant.

I was interested in watching the Skipjacks chase small shoals of young Gar-fish (*Belone*). The little Gar-fish, hotly pursued, dashed out of the water, and by violent lashing of their tails managed to keep themselves above the water in a nearly upright position for a distance of several yards, as they moved swiftly from the danger; their motion seemed a step towards that of the Flying-fish, their close allies.

The large Gar-fish, when startled, move along the surface of the water by a series of rapid bounds for thirty or forty yards at a time with astonishing rapidity, and are often to be seen dashing thus along when scared by a boat. I was told that in some of the Pacific Islands they not uncommonly cause the death of natives who, when wading in the water, are liable to have their naked bodies dangerously speared by the long sharp bony snouts of these fish. The fish merely bound blindly away from danger and strike such an obstacle haphazard, but their weight must render them very formidable to encounter in this manner.

The above account of the inhabitants of the Admiralty Islands is mostly reprinted from the "Journal of the Anthropological Institute" for May, 1877, where, in a paper on the "Admiralty Islanders," further details, and an account of the language are given.

Literature relating to the Admiralty Islands:—"An Account of a Voyage round the World in the years 1766, '67, '68, '69." By Philip Carteret, Esq., Commander of H.M. Sloop "Swallow." Hawkworth's Voyages. London, 1773, Vol. I.

Labillardière, "Relation du Voyage à la Recherche de La Perouse. 1791." Paris, an. VIII. T. I, p. 255.

The above translated by John Stockdale. London, 1800, Vol. I., p. 296.

"Voyage de D'Entrecasteaux à la Recherche de La Perouse." Rédigé par M. de Rossel. T. I, p. 131.