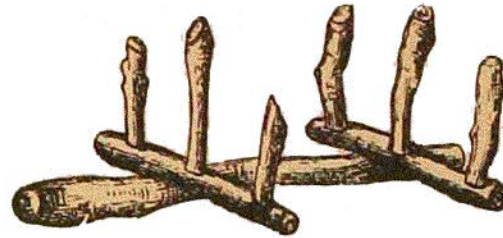


out the night together, sheltered from the rain by a small extinguisher-shaped erection, which looked as if one human body could not be forced into it, much less two. The temperature here at daybreak was 60° F., and the morning being cloudy, and the camp lying in a narrow gorge, it remained the same for an hour and a half after daybreak.

In the morning we descended again several hundred feet, and sent back to the hut and procured two young men, supposed to be practised mountaineers, and, as we thought, certain to know the way about every pass within four or five miles of their dwelling. One of them, as a proof of his knowledge, brought with him what I suppose is the most primitive form of a map. It was a thick stick of wood about a foot and a half long, with two short cross pieces on it at some distance from the ends, and on each of these cross pieces were set up three short uprights of wood. I give a figure of it from memory. The uprights represented mountain peaks, and the spaces between, the valleys.*



TAHITIAN MOUNTAIN MAP.

The new guide held his map in his hand and took long consultation with his brother, and then explained matters thoroughly to our former guides. He clutched the uprights one after another and dilated upon them, pointing out the peaks to which they corresponded. There seemed no doubt we had got hold of the right man at last.

The guides now lashed our small baggage on their backs, instead of on poles as before, since this mode of carriage was no longer practicable, owing to the steepness of the ascent, and we started up the face of an extremely steep-sided ridge, a spur of Orofena, the highest mountain of Tahiti. At the lower part, we pulled ourselves up by means of the trailing Screw-pine, which covered the ground with a tangled mass of its long serpentine stems so thickly, that as we climbed over it we did not reach the ground beneath by a yard or more.

Near the summit of the spur, the face of the ridge was almost perpendicular, and one of the men got up by the help

* In the Marshall Islands the natives used for long land voyages, between the different islands of the groups, primitive maps made of small sticks and small stones. They represented correctly the distances and directions of the several islands, the sizes of the stones showing the relative dimensions of the islands. Kommandant. Kap. Rötger. *Annalen der Hydrographie und maritimen Meteorologie*, 14 Jahrg., 1886. Heft V., pp. 196—207.