ANNUAL REPORT

OF

BRITISH NEW GUINEA,

FROM

1ST JULY, 1896, TO 30TH JUNE, 1897;

WITH

APPENDICES.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND.

No. 23.—1897.
# ANNUAL REPORT, 1896-97.

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APPENDICES.
BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

ANNUAL REPORT.

British New Guinea,
17th January, 1898.

My LORD,—I have the honour to submit the usual Annual Report for the year ending 30th June, 1897. The arrangement of subjects is generally the same as that of previous years.

LEGISLATION.

1. Ordinance No. IV. of 1896 was passed after it was found that the mineral osmiridium occurs in traces round the eastern spurs of Mount Scratchley and in the valley of the Chirima. It became advisable to extend to prospectors for this metal the same privileges as are given to prospectors for gold. The ordinance does this by including the metals of the platinum group under the term "gold" in the goldfields laws in force in the colony.

Ordinance No. V. of 1896 appropriates for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1897, the sum of £15,000, the ordinary amount available for a period of twelve months under the arrangement between the Imperial Government and the contributing colonies, as well as the sums required for the maintenance of the s.s. "Merrie England."

Ordinance No. VI. of 1896 appropriates a special sum of £1,000 for the purchase and preliminary survey of blocks of land to be set apart for the encouragement of European settlement. The three contributing colonies agreed that this sum should be provided from the accumulated and undivided revenue collected in the Possession.

Ordinance No. I. of 1897 was passed to impose a license on firearms. This measure was very unpopular, principally because there is not such a license in the neighbouring colonies. It would have been difficult to carry out in some parts of the colony under the circumstances, and it has lately been repealed.

Ordinance No. II. of 1897 makes certain amendments to "The Native Labour Ordinance of 1892." It has been the policy of the Government to relax or remove restrictions on the employment of native labourers in proportion as the advancing pacification of the country has made this possible. This law permits of natives being taken for engagement before any officer in a settled district qualified to deal with labour contracts. By a Proclamation issued on the 4th February the whole of the southern coast of the colony, from its boundary on the west as far as Samarai, was declared to be a settled labour district under the Ordinance; the effect of which is that labourers, recruited, for example, in Oraugerie Bay, or in the western portion of the Gulf of Papua, may be taken before a magistrate at Port Moresby for engagement, thus avoiding the considerable time and trouble that would be required in taking them to Samarai or Daru.

The same law also renders it compulsory on an engaged native, under liability to imprisonment, to perform the duties he has undertaken.

Ordinance No. III. of 1897 amended the Customs Ordinance in so far that the duty on spirits was raised by it from 12s. to 14s. a gallon.

Ordinance No. IV. of 1897 amends the Pearl-shell and Bêche-de-mer Fishery Ordinance of 1894, by prohibiting the fishing of or dealing in pearl-shell of less dimensions than five inches. This law was necessary to bring restrictions in the Possession into conformity with those applied in Queensland waters. Certain exceptional cases are dealt with similarly in the two colonies.
VI.

ORDINANCE No. V. of 1897 amends the Gold Fields Act in force in the Possession by enabling the Administrator-in-Council to extend the term during which Asiatic or African aliens shall not be admitted upon such a field. This brings the mining law of the Possession into unison with the law on the same point in Queensland.

2. During the year only one Regulation was passed by the Native Regulation Board, dealing with native carriers for Government. This Regulation, subject to certain precautionary measures to guard against abuse or oppression, makes it obligatory on such natives as are fit to act as carriers, to serve once a year in that capacity, if called upon to do so. Carriers are to be fed by the Government, and to receive such pay as may from time to time be determined by the Administrator.

3. Certain Proclamations were issued having the force of law. By a Proclamation made on the 5th August the removal of any cattle, horses, sheep, goats, dogs, or pigs from the Island of Sudest to any other island or district in the Possession is prohibited.

This was rendered necessary by the thoughtless introduction into Sudest of cattle affected by ticks.

Owing to the reported existence of smallpox in German New Guinea, that territory was, by a Proclamation made in August, declared to be an infected place under the quarantine law of British New Guinea.

By a Proclamation made in March the introduction of cattle, horses, or mules into the Possession from any place in Queensland south of “the tick boundary” is permitted under certain restrictions. By a Proclamation issued in June, 1896, the introduction of such animals from Queensland had been absolutely prohibited.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

4. The staff for the administration of justice remained practically the same as in the preceding year.

The subjoined tables of cases dealt with by the several courts have been prepared by His Honour F. P. Winter, C.M.G., Chief Judicial Officer:—

MATTERS DEALT WITH JUDICIALLY DURING THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1897.

CENTRAL COURT.

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

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<th>Persons Committed—how Disposed of</th>
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<td>17 Central District</td>
<td>... ... ... ...</td>
<td>13 tried 4 discharged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Eastern District</td>
<td>... ... ... ...</td>
<td>12 tried 10 committal quashed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Western District</td>
<td>... ... ... ...</td>
<td>21 tried 1 discharged 1 sent back to magistrate 2 awaiting trial.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Total 64</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Number of Persons Committed for Trial: 64
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Persons Tried</th>
<th>Offence Charged</th>
<th>Result of Trial</th>
<th>Sentence</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 murder, 1 abusing girl under ten</td>
<td>guilty of manslaughter, 1 not guilty</td>
<td>1 year's imprisonment with hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 wounding with intent, &amp;c.</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 assault, 2 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 murder, 2 assault</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3 murder, 1 arson, 1 indecent assault</td>
<td>2 guilty of murder, 1 guilty of manslaughter, 1 guilty of arson, 1 guilty of indecent assault</td>
<td>2 death, 1 one year's, 1 four months', 1 six months' imprisonment with hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 brawny</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 abusing girl under ten</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 wounding with intent, &amp;c.</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 murder</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 murder</td>
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<td>...</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Breaking pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 murder, 1 manslaughter, 1 rape, 1 indecent assault, 1 abusing girl under ten, 1 wounding</td>
<td>4 guilty of manslaughter, 1 not guilty of rape, 13 guilty 1 not guilty of indecent assault, 1 guilty of abusing girl under ten years of age, 1 guilty of wounding</td>
<td>4 one year's imprisonment with hard labour, 2 two years' imprisonment with hard labour, 2 six months' imprisonment with hard labour, 1 eighty months' imprisonment with hard labour, 1 three years' penal servitude, 1 three months' imprisonment, &amp;c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 murder, 6 manslaughter</td>
<td>2 guilty, 1 not guilty of murder, 5 guilty, 1 not guilty of manslaughter</td>
<td>2 death, 1 three years' penal servitude, 1 eighteen months', 2 one year's, 1 six months' imprisonment with  hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Brawney</td>
<td>...</td>
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Total 63
### VIII.

#### CIVIL BUSINESS.

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<td>2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Applications for order to administer by Curator of Intestate Estates.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Applications by Executors for probate.</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
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</table>

#### COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS.

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<th>District of Court</th>
<th>Number of Persons Charged.</th>
<th>Nature of Charge.</th>
<th>Result of Inquiry.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Central District</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15 murder</td>
<td>7 committed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 manslaughter</td>
<td>1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern District</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>9 murder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 breaking out of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western District</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 raped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 indecent assault</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 raping</td>
<td>22 convicted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 indecent assault</td>
<td>9 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 breaking out of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUMMARY OFFENCES JURISDICTION.

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<th>District of Court</th>
<th>Number of Persons Charged.</th>
<th>Nature of Charge.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central District</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>6 larceny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 breach of Bicheno-oer and Pearlshell Ordinance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 breach of Constabulary Ordinance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16 assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 indecent assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### CIVIL JURISDICTION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central District</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4 debt</td>
<td>3 verdict for plaintiff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern District</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11 debt</td>
<td>1 verdict for defendant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 damages</td>
<td>3 verdict for defendant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western District*</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nil.</td>
<td>3 settled out of court.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 18</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 verdict for defendant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 settled out of court.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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IX.

NATIVE MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION (FORBIDDEN ACTS).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District of Court</th>
<th>Number of Persons Charged</th>
<th>Nature of Charge</th>
<th>Result of Trial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 2 (Central)</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>6 spreading lying reports</td>
<td>6 convicted, 11 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11 assault</td>
<td>11 convicted, 2 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>144 larceny</td>
<td>42 convicted, 2 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 abduction</td>
<td>3 discharged, 5 convicted, 5 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 disobeying magistrates' orders</td>
<td>3 convicted, 5 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 adultery</td>
<td>40 convicted, 3 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40 breach of Roads Regulation</td>
<td>3 convicted, 3 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24 breach of Burials Regulation</td>
<td>2 convicted, 3 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 sorcery</td>
<td>1 arrested, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15 adultery</td>
<td>10 convicted, 3 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 larceny</td>
<td>2 convicted, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 spreading lying reports</td>
<td>2 convicted, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11 sorcery</td>
<td>11 convicted, 7 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 breach of Burials Regulation</td>
<td>7 convicted, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 using threatening language</td>
<td>2 discharged, 12 convicted, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 (Eastern)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>12 adultery</td>
<td>12 convicted, 1 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 assault</td>
<td>1 convicted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 larceny</td>
<td>10 discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 (Western)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7 debt</td>
<td>9 for plaintiff, 1 for defendant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 damages</td>
<td>2 for plaintiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

CIVIL JURISDICTION (CIVIL CLAIMS).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District of Court</th>
<th>Number of Actions Tried</th>
<th>Nature of Claim</th>
<th>Result of Trial</th>
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<td>5 for plaintiff, 1 for defendant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 damages</td>
<td>1 for plaintiff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3 (Eastern)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 damages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 1 (Western)</td>
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<td>Nil.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.

- In Central Court: 64
- In Courts of Petty Sessions: 134
- In Native Magistrates' Courts: 202
- In all Courts: 420

TOTAL NUMBER OF CIVIL PROCEEDINGS.

- In Central Court: 11
- In Courts of Petty Sessions: 18
- In Native Magistrates' Courts: 10
- In all Courts: 39

5. During the year eight persons, all of them aboriginals, were sentenced by the Central Court to undergo capital punishment. In no case was the death sentence actually carried out. These cases were briefly as follows:

In September, a native of Yarumi, on the Astrolabe Range, was tried for a murder committed by him in 1892, when his tribe made an attack on the Veiburi sept. Two other members of the same aggressive party were tried for the same offence in 1895, and were convicted. In their cases the sentences were commuted to five years' penal servitude. The accused acknowledged the crime with which he was charged. The sentence was commuted to five years' penal servitude.

In 1894 some of the men of the village of Borabora, who were wandering around in the woods, were attacked by a body of men from the village of Bemuni. Two of the Borabora natives were killed. The cause of this attack was the marriage of a girl belonging to a third village to one of the Borabora men. Negotiations had been opened by one of the Bemuni men, called Moiamoria, for a marriage between himself and the girl. He and his friends seemed to have regarded the marriage of the girl to the Borabora man as a grievous injury, which, according to native custom, required to be avenged. Moiamoria was captured in 1896, and tried for his participation in the above murder. The capital sentence was commuted to five years' penal servitude.
In January three natives of Uberi were convicted of the murder of certain members of the tribe of Awaiatenumu. The Uberi represented the strongest section of the natives of the district who, under the name of Ebe, had become notorious from the attacks made on the travellers, Mr. Morrison and Dr. H. O. Forbes. They have always been aggressive in recent years, and have been engaged in many conflicts with their neighbours. Ten men of the Uberi met a man and a small boy of Awaiatenumu in the bush. They killed the small boy. The murderer acknowledged that he had committed the homicide.

A party of the Uberi made a direct attack on Awaiatenumu village, and killed three of its inhabitants. Two of the assailants were convicted. They also admitted their participation in the crime.

These cases were all regarded as episodes in the intertribal warfare that had existed there periodically for many generations. The strife had been forced on the people attacked, who really wished for peace; but Government authority had not been established over the Uberi. The sentences were commuted to five years' penal servitude in each case.

In January a native of the Hagari tribe, which occupies the southern spurs of Mount Service on the banks of the Naero and Rugoo, was convicted of murder. His tribe had made a descent on a village on the Lower Vanapa, and killed a woman there. The constabulary, under the leadership of the Commandant, crossed from the Lower Vanapa, traversed several mountain ranges, and arrested one man after a slight skirmish with the tribe. The accused admitted that he assisted in committing the murder. The Hagari tribe was unknown to the Government previously, and they had no acquaintance with the Administration in any way. The capital sentence was commuted to five years' penal servitude.

In May two men of the Womai village of Karana, in Freshwater Bay, were sentenced to death for the murder of a reputed sorcerer. It had been currently said of this latter that he had caused the death of five persons by sorcery. The two men convicted killed the sorcerer the day after the death of the child of one of them, under the idea that he had brought about the death of the child, and that they were therefore performing a meritorious service. The sentences were commuted to five years' penal servitude.

Sittings of the Central Court were held as under—
In the South-Eastern District 1, at Nivani.
In the Eastern District, 11: 1 at Kiriwima; 1 at Ferguson Island; 6 at Samarai; 1 at Normanby Island; 1 at Orangeerie Bay; 1 at Dufaure Island.
In the Central District 5, at Port Moresby.
In the Western District 1, at Saguana.

Of the 64 persons committed for trial before the Central Court, 46 were actually tried; and at the end of the year 2 were still awaiting trial. The others were discharged or acquitted.

Of the 37 cases due to violence, 28 were charges of murder, 7 of manslaughter, 3 of wounding, and 4 of assault. The sexual crimes charged were 19.

In the lower courts 144 cases were disposed of in summary jurisdiction. Of these 56 were for breach of the Native Labour Ordinance, and 35 for larceny. Six persons were proceeded against for being drunk and disorderly, all in the Eastern District.

In the civil jurisdiction of the lower courts 18 cases were heard.

In the Native Magistrates' Courts 202 cases were tried. The principal offences were convictions under—

The Road Regulation... ... ... ... 49 cases.
For stealing ... ... ... ... ... 48 .
For breach of Burial Regulation ... ... ... 31 .
For adultery ... ... ... ... ... 30 .
For assault ... ... ... ... ... 15 .
For sorcery ... ... ... ... ... 12 .
For spreading lying reports ... ... ... 9 .

Ten cases came before the civil jurisdiction of the Native Courts.
The total number of cases dealt with in all Courts was 459.
VISITS OF INSPECTION.

6. On the 20th July a call was made at Dufaure Island, chiefly to pick up a Appendix A, party that had been sent to visit the inland tribes of Orangerie Bay. These were page 1, found to be friendly, and the district to be in peaceful quiet.

The gaol and prisoners were seen to be in a satisfactory condition at Samarai, while several improvements on the island were in progress.

On 22nd July the station at Nivani was inspected, with a satisfactory result. The plantations of the station were doing well. The prison, which was clean, contained only four prisoners.

At Hula Bay, on Sudest Island, a careful inspection was made of a body of some fifty prisoners employed temporarily in the service of the British New Guinea Gold-Mining Company. The company were endeavouring to open up some gold-bearing quartz reefs near the centre of the island, the first attempt of the kind made in the Possession. They had, however, several miles of road to make over very difficult ground, and on this the prisoners were nearly all employed. They were under the sole management of the chief gaoler, with the usual staff of prison warders and an armed guard of the constabulary. These officers were paid by the company, who also maintained the prisoners and paid a small sum a day for each prisoner. The men were in excellent physical condition, well provided with food and medicine, and they were doing good work. Unfortunately, the troublesome disease "beriberi" made its appearance among them before they had completed the year agreed on, and several of them died of that malady. It has on several occasions manifested itself among the prisoners, but it was not expected among fine strong men, who were sufficiently well fed, and were camped in the open forest.

It was found that numbers of natives of Sudest were working at gold-washing on their own account, on regular miners' rights. A visit was made to Woodlark Island at the end of July. At that time there were about 190 miners on the island, the greater number in a camp about eight miles from the sea, chiefly under canvas, but with a few houses of native material. Mr. Thompson, a storekeeper at this place, was, by the request of the miners, appointed a justice of the peace and postmaster. There were no disputes between the miners themselves. They raised no objection to the natives of the island working gold on their own account, but demurred to Europeans using natives to exploit the field on behalf of the former. The great majority of the men were industrious workmen of good character. Many men had done well on this field. There had not then been much sickness, and, fortunately, there had been no trouble between the miners and the natives. It was thought that up to that time about 12,000 oz, of gold had been obtained on the island.

A short halt made at the north side of Misima found all quiet and satisfactory there. There were not more than half-a-score of European miners on the island. The natives there do not prosecute the gold industry on their own account like those of Sudest.

7. On the 6th August I started from the mouth of the Mambare River on a Appendix C, journey of inspection that was extended right across the island. The lower villages of the Mambare were practically deserted through fear of the natives of the Gira River. The people of Peu were timid, as they had some time previously tried to entrap Mr. Green, the Government Agent of the district. The inhabitants of Manatu were friendly. The Government Station on the Mambare was found to be in good order. During the few days we were at the station natives came there each day to sell food. They did not, however, give one the impression that they could be safely trusted if they thought themselves the stronger party. It was on this visit to the Mambare that we for the first time learned how the natives make the hole for the reception of the wooden handle in stone clubs. It is chipped out by means of a small stone about the size and nearly of the shape of a rifle bullet. Thunderstorms began for the first time that season on the 9th August, on the mountains to the north-west of the station.

A start was made from the station on the 11th August, and the same day, after passing over a large area of nearly flat and good land, we camped at the Green, an affluent of the Mambare coming from Mount Otovia. Beyond the Green the country passed over was considered very unsuitable for ordinary agriculture, though it is well watered. It took our party four days to reach Simpson's store, on Mount Otovia. This was a camp consisting of two or three native houses built by the
pioneer prospectors of the district, of whom Mr. William Simpson had been leader. They cut a track from Clarke Fort, on the left bank of the Mambare, as far as the junction of the Chirima with the Mambare, by far the most arduous undertaking ever performed by any private exploring party in the colony. We followed this track, and consequently did not require to cut our way through the bush until we began to ascend Mount Scratchley. No trace of native occupation was met with between the Tamata and the Chirima, but there was abundant evidence of a large rainfall in that district, and this seems to favour the growth of several kinds of rubber-producing trees. From Simpson's store all the carriers that could be spared were sent back to the Government station. We arrived at the Chirima Junction on the 20th. Several miners were on their way to the coast, they being of opinion that the wet season was already setting in. It was soon quite plain that the Mambare River specially receives the drainage of Mount Scratchley, which it embraces on three sides.

At the crossing of the Chirima we built a strong, small loghouse for stores, and for the defence of the two or three men left in charge. There we were visited by about a hundred natives from the village of Neneba, who brought us a large quantity of native food. They are the only tribe that actually live on a spur of Mount Scratchley. They were seen to be somewhat darker in tint than the coast people of the Central district, but to be distinctly lighter than the average Fly River man. They are of fair size, and wiry in build. No wavy-haired native was seen in that part of the country. The young men wear the eyebrows; their elders have whiskers. The features are good and not irregular. The men wear the T-bandage. The women, in addition to this, wear a petticoat and a mantle. The chief ornaments are earrings made of lizards' tails, and cigarette-holders carried in the lobe of the ear. The scaly ringworm was already among them, and known by the Louisiade name of "sipoma." They had the bow and arrow, and stone clubs. They, like many of the bow and arrow tribes, have no pottery. Besides the ordinary indigenous native crops, they cultivate maize and the tobacco of the western country. They have no cocoanuts and no betel-nut. The floors of their houses are 6 or 8 feet above the ground, the roof thatched with a kind of pandanus leaf. On the 30th of August the party reached the McLaughlin Creek, a fine mountain stream on the east side of Mount Scratchley, where all the miners except one were at work. They had a considerable number of native boys under engagement, from the north-east coast. These transported the food and stores from the Government Station to the mining camps, and also worked on the field with fair skill and industry. They did not seem to be ill-treated, but the work was hard.

We followed the tracks of the prospectors to the furthest point inland, on a spur of Mount Scratchley facing the north end of the Yodda Valley, which begins there and extends southwards along the foot of the main range. Some of the natives of that place had made certain signs of friendly advancement towards the prospectors, but no communication was actually opened. On the 1st September the ascent of Mount Scratchley was begun, and on the 12th we pitched camp on the top. On the second day an altitude of 5,000 feet was reached, and we were then in a temperate climate. All vegetation was covered by moss and lichens, but the rains setting in regularly in the valleys below had not yet reached this altitude. From about 5,500 feet there was a good view to the gap or depression in the main range some ten or twelve miles east of Mount Victoria, but it did not seem to offer an inviting route by which to cross the mountain chain. The trailing climbing bamboo began between 7,000 and 8,000 feet. Most of the track was difficult to cut. The rains reached us about the 7th September, and attended us daily till we arrived at Doura on the south coast.

On the 8th September all carriers except ten were sent back to the Government Station, and, in addition to these ten, three constables were kept. The first ice was seen in the early morning at an altitude of 10,200 feet. At 11,000 feet grass patches began in the cypress forest, and at about the same place several of the party began to suffer from the rarity of the air. At the top of the mountain attention was given to geographical matters, for which a fine 3-inch theodolite was used. Whilst I was so occupied, assisted by Mr. Green, Mr. English was cutting the track towards the Owen Stanley Range.
It was seen that the Owen Stanley Range is connected to Mount Scratchley and the Wharton Range, and through the latter to Mount Albert Edward without any deep intervening depression. The geological formation of the whole of this vast mountain mass is schist and quartz. It was thought the sources of the Angabunga (Mekce) River had their origin from the west side of Mount Scratchley or the Wharton Chain, but it is now clear that these sources are further west, and begin at the western spurs of Mount Albert Edward. The village of Fofona, on the left bank of the Ajabara, was the only village seen on the Wharton Chain. Some specimens of natural history were collected, but a collector was established and left on the top of Mount Scratchley.

On the 17th September, the native that was ahead cutting the track reached the top of Winter Height, on the Owen Stanley Range, and found traces of the road cut there in 1889 during the first ascent of Mount Victoria. On the following day we camped on the height, having had an easy road from the first camp on the top of Mount Scratchley to that place. It was decided that a visit should be made for geographical purposes to the top of Mount Victoria, where we arrived with four or five carriers on the 20th, but found that nothing could be done in the fog and rain that lasted all day, and only the latitude could be taken at night. On the 22nd we travelled from the top of Mount Victoria to Winter Height in nine hours, and next day Mr. Green started back with his party to the Mambare Station. Mr. English and myself, with two constables and six carriers, continued the journey over the top of Mount Kautsford and down the Vanapa River. On the 29th we reached the village of Gosisi, on the Vanapa, the natives of which were much alarmed by our approach from the interior, as they had heard of no party being in that direction. They did not appear to know of any place or people on the other side of the Owen Stanley Range. The men of these tribes were remarkable for their excellent physical proportions and strength. They were timid and suspicious, but supplied us most liberally with food. On the 1st October they carried our effects to the hill above Tobiri, and finally to the Vanapa, at the foot of Mount Kowald. Beyond that point our 1889 track could not be followed, as all trace of it had disappeared. On the 12th September we arrived at the village of Koni, where we were well received. Next day we reached the sea-coast at Galley Reach. Short vocabularies were prepared of the dialects spoken at Nenela and Gosisi.

8. A start was made from Port Moresby on 9th November to visit the east end of the Possession. A passing visit was made to the Rio Station, where matters were found progressing very satisfactorily. All was quiet in the neighbourhood of Suau, and also about Cape Vogel. On the 15th November we began the ascent of the Musa River with the steam launch and two whaleboats, but the former speedily became unserviceable. The river was flooded and difficult. The natives of Yasia, the first inhabited village, were timid but friendly. From that point it is possible to travel by native paths along the river, but the track is bad until the village of Dove is reached. The natives on the lower part of the river did not care about carrying for us, but the inhabitants of the upper villages were ready to do so, being less timid. When he had reached the hills I was obliged to return, owing to a very serious accident to Mr. Kowald, caused by the explosion of a dynamite cartridge he held in his hand. Two miners, Melniman and Simpson, went on to the Moni Valley with the carriers and six constabulary. They did not find any encouraging prospect. Descending the river with Mr. Kowald, we met a strong party of miners going up, several of whom were already sick. On the 7th December Mr. Kowald was placed on board the Merrie England. On the 9th December we ascended the Mambare River to return Mr. Green to his station. The river had been flooded, and the lower natives had begun to build together at Gudara. A native of the Mambare district was taken back from Port Moresby by Mr. Green as one of his constabulary. This man and all the party received a friendly reception all along the river. There were about a dozen miners at the station, half of them sick. There were said to be as many more on the Upper Mambare. Those that could not meet the expense of a passage in a private vessel were carried by the steamer to Samarai. Some of these miners did not treat their native boys well or fairly. Towards these latter the natives of the Mambare were decidedly unfriendly. The steamer left Samarai on the 15th December for Cooktown with Mr. Kowald on board. He died soon after in hospital there. Mr. Winter proceeded to Sudest in the steamer, and found the prisoners employed there to be in a satisfactory condition on the 8th January.
9. On the 8th February I left Port Moresby to make a visit of inspection in the western division of the colony. The Daru Station was in a satisfactory condition with large quantities of food in the gardens. A good and useful jetty was being built, and a new prison was under construction. A visit was made with a number of the principal men of the district to their hereditary fishing-grounds in the neighbourhood of the Barrier Reef, from whom it was learned that a line from Bramble Cay through the Moon Pass and thence to the south of Turn-Again and Deliverance Islands would secure their fishing rights and facilitate the work of administration in the west. No readjustment of boundary has yet been made between the two colonies. On the 1st March we reached the Morehead River, intending to try to induce the natives there to resettle and rebuild their villages. We were accompanied by natives of Mawatta and of the Wasi Kussa, to make these acquainted with the Morehead people. The natives were friendly, but living scattered in the woods. They were favourably disposed to rebuild, and were anxious to receive a mission among them. Fifty-four natives of British New Guinea were then living at Boigu. It was arranged that they should return to their own country and rebuild in June. On the return journey I heard at Boigu of the murder of Mr. Green and others on the Mambare, news which was confirmed by the Hon. John Douglas, C.M.G., who arrived at Daru on the 11th March. It became necessary to travel from Daru to Port Moresby in the steam launch, in order to reach the Mambare as soon as possible. On the way a call was made at Saguana. There the Rev. James Chalmers was found to be successfully carrying on an English mission and school. The tribes visited, or rather passed, near the mouths of the Aird River were friendly. We reached Port Moresby with the steam launch on the 22nd March.

10. A start was made from Samami, 10th April, to visit the Mambare district. Mr. Moreton had gone thither soon after the murders committed there by the natives, but he wisely abstained from undertaking any active operations against the tribes of the locality with the small force at his command. Some natives that were loitering about the coast, near the mouth of the Mambare, did not decline to enter into communication with us.

The natives on the lower part of the river fled on our approach. The large village of Peu was deserted. The inhabitants of Manatu were the only ones that remained to receive us. These had always been friendly. At some of the Uni villages a number of articles taken from Europeans were found. The buildings in course of erection at the new station had not been injured, and the natives had begun to construct new houses for themselves higher up the river, from which they fled before we reached them. At some of these considerable quantities of ammunition were found. The whole district in the vicinity of the Government Station was scourged by the constabulary, but the natives avoided any encounter with them, and soon abandoned that part of the country. One warrior of the Apochi tribe was captured, and another was shot dead in a skirmish with the natives of Peu in the thick scrub near the river bank. In a similar encounter with the Gadara tribe three men were arrested and one shot. None of the tribes ventured to make any show of open aggression or to threaten any attack on the constabulary. On the 1st May an attempt was made to surprise the village of Peu. There were about half-a-score of people there, but they escaped by abandoning their baggage. The whole country was again patrolled by the constabulary in several directions, and the formation of a new station at a better site was begun on the Tamata River. As it was most desirable to obtain a traverse of the Gira (boundary river) as far as it is navigable by boat, its ascent was begun on the 18th May. It is quite clear that the river opens into the sea in German territory, and speedily crosses the boundary line into British jurisdiction, but to again project a small loop on to or over the boundary, after which its course leads away to the south-west, like all other large rivers on the north-east coast.

There were undoubtedly many men from the hostile villages of the Mambare then seeking shelter on the Gira. The natives were timid, but not unfriendly. None were allowed to carry weapons, and they were not permitted free entrance to our camp. There is a good deal of fine planting land on this river, with many pleasant sites for building, and it has a comparatively large population. On the 6th June, the constabulary were led across the country from Apochi village towards
the upper villages of the Gira. The country traversed between that and the village of Wade is not inviting in any sense. The villages of Wade and Diware contained, in addition to their own people, most of the fighting men of the hostile Mambare tribes. In an encounter with the constabulary two of their warriors were killed, and these tribes were cut off from those between Wade and the sea. A few days later they were forced to fight again, when four of their braves fell, and the others fled for their lives. It was not deemed necessary to inflict on them then any further loss of life, but it was decided to wait to see what change would take place with time.

11. A brief visit was made to the Kiriwina Group, on account of certain disturbances reported to have occurred there. Very satisfactory progress had been made by the Rev. Mr. Fellowes in mission work. The Resident Magistrate had experienced much trouble in putting an end to village burial. The traders had ceased to put obstacles in the way of mission work, and some of them had even rendered substantial assistance to Mr. Fellowes. Some tribal disputes were dealt with, and the surrender of some of the principals concerned was enforced. But what was, perhaps, of much greater importance, was that the great chief, Euanakala, was made to grant land for a mission site at his own village—a concession he had hitherto refused to make.

REPORTS BY OFFICERS.

12. The Resident Magistrate for the Western Division reports that a fair advance was made by the natives in many ways, but in this he does not include house-building. Fortunately, the Burial Regulation has been well observed. Wabuda, which formerly gave us so much trouble, is now the most progressive tribe of the district. The Resident Magistrate has travelled a great deal in his division, visiting a number of villages that are unknown to me. At one of these, Baranoura, he saw the longest house we have yet met with in the colony. It was 287 feet long and 40 feet wide. The natives were found to be friendly everywhere, and to be well disposed towards law and order. It is now well known that there are wide areas of rolling grassy lands, much of it fit for cultivation, between the sea and the Fly River. The majority of the offences dealt with under the Native Regulations was on account of adultery. Violation of women and children is still very frequent. A remarkable case is mentioned, in which a native was relieving his grief by the usual expedient of discharging arrows; one of these passed through a native house and then through the body of a man—a good example of the tremendous force with which the bamboo bow shoots its missiles. The constabulary have rendered excellent service during the year. There are now thirty-six village policemen in the division. In addition to much cultivation of food for the use of the station, two large under-takings were on hand—the construction of a much-needed jetty and the building of a new gaol. The Resident Magistrate speaks favourably of the progress made by the Rev. James Chalmers at Saguana, where great advantages to the natives will arise from their being taught in English. The health of the station and district was satisfactory. There is no doubt that the Resident Magistrate succeeded during the year in extending the influence and authority of the Government in a way that is very creditable to him.

13. The Resident Magistrate of the Eastern Division reports steady improvement on the part of the natives, which would, however, be greater but for the evil done by coloured traders and loafers. An epidemic of dysentery caused many deaths at certain places. He enforced the Burial Regulations, but in some instances not without considerable perseverance. It appears that certain employers of native labourers did not treat them so well as they should have done. There are twenty-seven village constables in the district, but some are not efficient, not receiving sufficient supervision. A wharf, which has 19 feet of water at low tide, has been built by Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., at Samarai. The Government ketch "Sin" is sailed by an exclusively native crew. In the rubber industry competition runs so high that the profits of the trader are said to be narrow, but it is to be presumed that the native has advantage from that. Mission work, carried on by the three Protestant missions, has progressed quietly and steadily during the year. The Rev. Copland King put through the Press the Gospel of St. Luke, written in the language of Bartle Bay. A great deal of work was performed by the magistrate on the coast line, which is not touched on in his Report.
14. The Resident Magistrate for the Central Division considers the condition of the coast tribes east of Port Moresby to be most satisfactory, but there are still inland tribes near the foot of the main range not yet under control, though the influence of the village policemen of the coast tribes is steadily extending itself in that direction. Visits were made to the sandal-wood camps, the native labourers at which were all well cared for. In the west the Burial Regulations had to be enforced at Apiope. Three murderers were successfully arrested in the Opau villages, and two were arrested at Womai after some trouble, during which the natives discharged a shower of arrows on the constabulary. Bodies were exhumed to the number of sixty-four, and natives were punished under the Burial Regulation.

15. The Resident Magistrate for the South-eastern Division states that serious crime is almost unknown in his district. The most backward part of it is Rossel Island, a natural result of its distance from Nivani. The tribes of Misima, once so savage and troublesome as almost to make one despair of them, are now so completely pacified that only petty breaches of Native Regulations have to be dealt with there. There are sixteen village constables in the division, and with one exception their conduct was all that could be desired. On the island station of Nivani, 3,250 coconuts have been planted, and some will soon be coming into bearing. The Resident Magistrate has here—as has been done at Daru and at Rigo—effected much saving to the Administration by the cultivation of food at the station. The labours and co-operation of the Rev. A. Fletcher, in the district of Paniceti, are very favourably commented on.

16. The Government Agent for the Rigo district has observed much advance in the way of peace and civilisation, and remarks on the absence of any serious crime. Many new inland tribes were brought into contact with Europeans and Government officers for the first time. The natives showed great kindness to prospectors. He ascribes the spread of authority to some extent to the punishment inflicted on the Kokila tribe. Superstition is the greatest drawback to the civilising influences at work. The Government Agent complains of some trouble caused by the excessive zeal of certain South Sea teachers, while he eulogises the splendid results reached by some others. He visited the Uberti country with his detachment of constabulary to support Mr. Ballantine in dealing with that formerly refractory tribe. They proceeded as far as Baura. A number of new tribes were visited by Mr. Shanahan in some of the more inland parts of the district, so that the extension of the authority of the Government during the year was very considerable. It is stated that the natives are now steadily planting coconuts. Important improvements were carried out at the station in road-making and planting. There are over twenty village constables in the district, and they are said to be most useful. The Rigo detachment of armed constabulary consists of five men and a corporal; they give every satisfaction to the Government Agent. The sanitary condition of the station was good, but the natives of the district suffered from an epidemic of dysentery. Mr. English has prepared a vocabulary of the dialect spoken by the tribes immediately behind Aroma.
17. The Government Agent for the Mekeo district states that he found the Appendix Q, tribes at first unsettled, the natives thinking that the death of his predecessor meant that they might reconnoitre inter-tribal warfare. Cemetery burial is being extended. Some agitation was caused in connection with the regulation dealing with carriers for Government. This was occasioned by irregular action taken under the regulation, and doubtless would not have arisen had its provisions been attended to, and some little tact and care been exercised. Sorcery is still the cause of a great deal of trouble among the natives.

The Mekeo constabulary detachment consists of seven men and a corporal. Their behaviour has been satisfactory. Regret is expressed that the missions do not make stronger efforts to teach English.

18. The report of the Commandant shows that a large amount of useful work Appendix B, was performed by the force during the year over the greater part of the colony. The Commandant was for some time in charge of the Mambare district, which he managed very successfully for some months during the absence of Mr. Green. During that period the turbulent natives of that district were restless, requiring action to be taken by the police on several occasions. The visit of the force to the Hagari district is described. It was, undoubtedly, a hard and difficult journey. The total strength of the force at the end of the year was 108 men, consisting of Papuans, with the exception of one man. Some of them have already served five years. The health of the men was, on the whole, good, and their conduct satisfactory. Substantial and commodious barracks for the force were erected at Port Moresby.

19. The Travelling Government Agent mentions that he visited certain tribes inland from Suhina in Orangorie Bay, where he was well received. Subsequently he visited Mount Scratchley, cutting a road from the McLaughlin Creek to the top of that mountain, and visiting the village of Neneba. He cut a new track of ninety miles from Douma to Sikube, and built along it thirteen camping-sheds. By the end of June he had fixed his camp on the Wharton Range. Mention is made of the vast inland field that is not in the present programme of the missions. Mr. Giulianetti collected two small vocabularies, spoken at Suku and Sikube respectively. He was discontented with the constabulary generally.

20. The greater part of the report of the late head gaoler has reference to Appendix T, the previous year, but is inserted herein because it was not received in time for the Page 69 annual report of last year. Mention is made of the death of nine prisoners from beriberi, and of the unsatisfactory results by treatment. It will be noticed that Mr. Meredith held the Papuan character in considerable estimation.

MISSION WORK.

21. The two most notable events of the year in connection with the missions were visits of inspection by the general secretaries of the Wesleyan Mission and London Missionary Society. There is good reason to believe that these visits will have, as a result in each case, the establishment at an early date of an industrial school in connection with the respective missions. These are undertakings to which a full measure of support has been promised by the Government as far as it may be in the power of the Administration to encourage such work by the grant of suitable lands or in any other practical way. The London Missionary Society also contemplate establishing an inland mission, in a district that is eminently suitable for such a development with respect to both locality and population.

At page 3 of the Appendices to this Report will be found a despatch dealing Appendix B, with a visit paid to the schools of the London Missionary Society at Port Moresby, Page 3. It is noticeable that the Rev. A. Hunte was very successfully conducting the upper school in the English language, a matter that cannot but be of the greatest importance in the near future to the rising generation of that district. The Rev. James Chalmers, on the Fly Estuary, and the Rev. C. W. Abel, at Kwato, also taught wholly or principally in English.

MINING.

22. During the year under review a large number of prospecting miners arrived in the colony. None of these came to the Western Division.

About 400 men landed at Port Moresby. They travelled thence generally in three or four directions, on the Vanapa track inland from Port Moresby, by the Rigo Station, and along the Angabunga River. In most instances they carried their own
effects and tools, and in a very few days became quite unfit for the road. Unfortunately, most of them seemed unable to make for themselves suitable camping arrangements, and all the officers of the Government concurred in stating that many men were thoughtless and careless, ill-provided with food, and in too many cases with no medicines whatever. The result was that after a very short time large numbers became very weak and gave way to fever and dysentery. In the Central Division six died in the temporary hospital at Port Moresby, about as many are known to have died on the tracks in the bush, one on board the “Merrie England,” and several in the Cooktown Hospital. Of some 130 men that started inland on the Vanapa track, the majority did not get past the Evelyn Creek, two days inland from Doura. Only two small parties from the South Coast seem to have reached the eastern side of Mount Scratchley, and they consisted of, or were conducted by, men already accustomed to travel in the country. Nevertheless, the journey across by the Mount Knutsford track should be an easy one for, say, fifteen days. An interesting report by one of these parties will be found at page 35 in the Appendices.

The conduct of the old miners—of the men that have been at work for years in the colony—has been good. They have generally dealt justly and fairly with the natives, and they have been law-abiding. But amongst the men that came to the Central District last year there was, as might have been expected, a margin, probably a small one, of a different complexion. By these some acts of robbery were committed on natives, which greatly interfered with the engagement of carriers for the Vanapa track. These acts of violence were not accompanied by more serious crimes, and they met with universal condemnation on the part of the great majority of the men themselves. The old hands who have worked with the natives for years spoke of these occurrences with one voice in terms of indignation. It was unfortunate that the perpetrators got away from the Possession without being prosecuted.

Several parties proceeded inland from Port Moresby towards the Brown River on prospecting tours, but it does not appear that they got any further than their predecessors in 1878, if they even got as far. They met with few natives. The relations between the prospectors and them were good, except in the case of Mr. Rochfort, who was attacked by the aggressive tribe of Baura, who drove his small party back from Ginianumu after spearing a South Sea man.

23. Several parties went inland from the Rigo district. They were able to obtain local carriers, and they were very well received by the different tribes. Some of them took horses to within two days' march of the top of Mount Obree. Another well-led party, under Mr. W. E. Buchanan, prospected some new districts near Mount Nesbit. A short report of this, kindly furnished by Mr. Buchanan, will be found in Appendix V hereto, page 72.

Some three or four different parties proceeded inland from the coast, along the Angabunga River towards the interior, but the Government Agent of that district could not say with what result.

24. All that it was possible to do for the prospectors in the Central Division was done, not only by the officers of the Government but also by the private residents of that part of the colony. Two officers, provided with armed constables and a large force of carriers, were occupied on the Vanapa path for some five or six months. It is, however, the case that the results, owing to an unfortunate departure from instructions, were not nearly as good as had been expected. The track was made perfectly safe as far as Mount Knutsford, beyond which there are no natives before reaching the Mambare. It was well provided with camping-sheds as far as Suku, and a private firm furnished a store for the sale of supplies at reasonable prices on this track. A Government Agent was equipped for occupying a station on the top of the Main Range, whence he could visit places on either side of it within a wide area, and exercise a controlling influence on native tribes.

Several special expeditions were sent directly inland from Port Moresby to try to pacify that part of the country, so that it could be visited by the prospector, but the process of pacification was by no means completed in that region within the year.

In the Rigo district the Government Agent opened a path to the top of Mount Obree, passable for horses as far as the mountain itself. A special agent was also employed by the Government to visit a considerable number of new tribes in the inland districts there, with the view of facilitating prospecting operations.
It had been intended to employ this special agent in opening a track to the interior from Cloudy Bay, but that part of my instructions was not carried out during an absence on the Mambare. It need hardly be said that officers did anything they could to assist the practical work of the prospector in any direction possible. No sufficiently favourable results seem, however, to have been obtained on the south side of the Main Range, no "field" was discovered, and no workings even of a temporary character were established there.

25. Steps were promptly taken for the relief of indigent men and for the care of those that were sick. Funds were provided by general subscription for the opening and maintenance of a temporary hospital. For this a competent and trustworthy caretaker was engaged, and the whole establishment was managed by a local committee, on the principle that any person in want should receive gratuitous care and treatment, whilst those should pay that could do so. But, in addition to the contributions made in money, the institution while in operation received constant gifts from the ladies resident at Port Moresby.

Twenty-two patients were admitted for treatment, about half of them suffering from malarial fever. Of the six deaths that occurred, however, only one is entered against that disease by the medical officer, while three are put down to dysentery. A considerable number of men had free passages back to Australia by the s.s. "Merrie England," and many were transported by Government vessels along the coast. Those that were not sick, but who declared their means to be exhausted, received supplies from the Government store, although it appears that in some cases the rations so given did not quite come up to the somewhat high standard expected in certain instances. Dr. Blayney was detained at Port Moresby some two to three months to attend to the sick. Amongst the European residents of the place the earnest and sincere desire to assist in this work was universal, and the same feelings moved many men among the miners themselves; but not a few instances occurred in which men would assist neither themselves nor their mates. Some of these will be found mentioned in the Appendices to this Report. The report of the honorary treasurer to the hospital is printed at page 73.

26. In the South-eastern Division mining was carried on at Sudest Island, at Misima, and at Woodlark Island. Alluvial mining on Sudest has now assumed small proportions. The ten-head stamp battery in course of erection there was not in operation during the year. The prisoners employed, chiefly in road-making, by the company, had to be removed before the end of the year on account of an epidemic of beri-beri. Not more than twelve or fifteen European miners worked on Misima. During the early months of 1897 the mining population of Woodlark Island increased to some 400 men, a number twice as great as the place could support. Some of the men lived comfortably in native huts they built for themselves, but many were too careless to do that, and lived in squalor under canvas. The season was wet, and there was much sickness among the men. Many did remarkably well, while others were very much disappointed. It was easy to obtain provisions on the field at a reasonable rate. There was no trouble between the miners and the natives. At the end of the year there remained about 250 men on this field.

27. In the Upper Mambare district nothing new was discovered, and the old ground became worked out. On this field three men remained during the whole of the wet season, and a brief record of events by one of them, John Schmitt, will be found as an Enclosure to Appendix II hereto. They were greatly indebted to the natives of Neneba for food and shelter. It appears that it rained almost every day. At the Government Station on the Mambare a number of men suffered from fever and dysentery, and several died. They were supplied in many cases with medicine, food, and attendance by the Government. Most of the miners that ascended the Mambare River were assisted by Government boats and by the steam launch.

A prospecting party, accompanied by a detachment of armed constabulary and a number of Government carriers, led by Mr. W. Simpson, did some prospecting work in the Moi Valley. His account of this journey will be found as Enclosure No. 1 to Appendix D hereto, from which it will be seen that they found traces of gold at many places, and that they had no misunderstanding with the natives. A second party, unassisted by Government, did not appear to get as far as Mr. Simpson.
28. On the whole, the mining results of the year were disappointing. No deposits were found that, of themselves, would justify any considerable expenditure in road-making. Undoubtedly, much privation and suffering were endured by many of the prospectors; but it were idle to suppose that a tropical country, full of rugged mountains, scored in all directions by rivers and streams, and covered by dense forest, could be examined without fatigue and without incurring risk and danger. No person that is unable or unprepared to undergo hardship is or can be in his proper place in entering on a prospecting tour in this colony. Experience has also shown that the prospectors are not always inclined to utilise the paths already cut for them. In too many instances they have thoughtlessly, and on the strength of misleading experience obtained elsewhere, started courageously on a journey inland in spite of all advice to the contrary, and have, with no food at all, or with articles of diet unsuitable for their condition, and without any medicines, speedily succumbed to sickness that with reasonable care and forethought could have been prevented. Probably no new country ever has or ever will be opened up without such sacrifices of human life. The officers of the Administration and the permanent residents of the Possession have done all they could to make these lamentable losses as light as possible. The prospecting of the colony is still in its early infancy, and is not likely to be completed for many a long year yet.

29. The Treasurer has prepared the following:

RETURN of Miners' Rights Issued in the Possession during the Period 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Central Division</th>
<th>Western Division</th>
<th>Laundera Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[360\] Miners' Rights \(=\) £04. 10s.

TRADE.

The usual details of imports, exports, navigation, and postal matters are given in the Appendices to this Report.

IMPORTS.

Appendix Y.

30. The total imports through the three ports of entry of the colony have been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Samual.</th>
<th>Port Noumeau</th>
<th>Duk.</th>
<th>Total.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1888-89</td>
<td>£6,006</td>
<td>£5,610</td>
<td>£11,108</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889-90</td>
<td>£6,298</td>
<td>£9,305</td>
<td>£15,104</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890-91</td>
<td>£7,455</td>
<td>£8,075</td>
<td>£15,530</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891-92</td>
<td>£10,759</td>
<td>£12,377</td>
<td>£23,135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892-93</td>
<td>£13,713</td>
<td>£12,688</td>
<td>£26,401</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-94</td>
<td>£15,301</td>
<td>£11,428</td>
<td>£26,729</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>£12,079</td>
<td>£14,035</td>
<td>£26,114</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>£20,012</td>
<td>£12,355</td>
<td>£32,367</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>£22,813</td>
<td>£17,321</td>
<td>£39,134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
XXI.

The chief items imported may be arranged under the following heads:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Stuffes</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>7,124</td>
<td>4,063</td>
<td>6,097</td>
<td>6,259</td>
<td>7,191</td>
<td>8,062</td>
<td>9,268</td>
<td>29,722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drapery and Clothing</td>
<td>1,725</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>1,712</td>
<td>2,583</td>
<td>3,014</td>
<td>3,092</td>
<td>2,901</td>
<td>3,148</td>
<td>5,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco and Cigars</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>2,572</td>
<td>2,402</td>
<td>3,064</td>
<td>3,059</td>
<td>3,733</td>
<td>4,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardware</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1,123</td>
<td>1,545</td>
<td>2,677</td>
<td>2,525</td>
<td>3,162</td>
<td>3,410</td>
<td>4,844</td>
<td>7,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverages</td>
<td>805</td>
<td>1,123</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>1,760</td>
<td>1,416</td>
<td>1,728</td>
<td>2,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Materials</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>3,224</td>
<td>1,965</td>
<td>1,474</td>
<td>3,890</td>
<td>7,297</td>
<td>10,704</td>
<td>8,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Articles</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1,265</td>
<td>3,654</td>
<td>6,031</td>
<td>7,201</td>
<td>6,522</td>
<td>7,911</td>
<td>9,149</td>
<td>8,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£11,108</td>
<td>£1,101</td>
<td>£15,540</td>
<td>£23,785</td>
<td>£23,521</td>
<td>£26,501</td>
<td>£28,022</td>
<td>£34,254</td>
<td>£35,392</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The increase in imports over the preceding year was thus £16,871. The advance on food stuffs was £11,424; on drapery, £4,648; on tobacco and cigars, £1,913; on hardware, £2,871; on beverages, £623. There was a decrease on building materials of £26, and on other articles of £2,546. The increase under several of these headings was no doubt partly due to a greater influx of Europeans.

This is shown clearly, for example, in the item of beverages, a class of article not used by the native part of the population.

**EXPORTS.**

31. The total value of exports, as entered at the Custom House, has been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Summ.</th>
<th>Port Moresby</th>
<th>Daru</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1888-89</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£5,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889-90</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890-91</td>
<td>5,458</td>
<td>997</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891-92</td>
<td>7,678</td>
<td>7,55</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892-93</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>3,196</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-94</td>
<td>8,200</td>
<td>8,675</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>9,555</td>
<td>3,542</td>
<td></td>
<td>13,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>5,858</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>8,326</td>
<td></td>
<td>18,326</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The advance in the value of exports over the preceding year was £24,944. The largest item of export was gold; but the amount of this article as entered at the Custom House is doubtless very much less than what was actually taken away. There can be no doubt that at least twice the amount of gold declared was obtained in the Possession during the year. The figures here given are those declared at the Custom House, Cooktown, and do not include gold taken to Sydney and other places direct from the fields. The increase shown by the actual figures is an advance of £20,283 on the previous year. In computing the value of the gold exported, it has been reckoned at £3 10s. an ounce, which must be somewhat under its real value. The annual export of gold declared at the Customs has been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
<th>1890-91</th>
<th>1891-92</th>
<th>1892-93</th>
<th>1893-94</th>
<th>1894-95</th>
<th>1895-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ounces</td>
<td>3,850</td>
<td>3,170</td>
<td>2,426</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>1,128</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>1,973</td>
<td>7,148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>£14,887</td>
<td>12,420</td>
<td>8,371</td>
<td>4,322</td>
<td>2,586</td>
<td>3,006</td>
<td>2,585</td>
<td>4,735</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second export in point of value was pearl-shell. The quantity of this article exported annually has been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
<th>1890-91</th>
<th>1891-92</th>
<th>1892-93</th>
<th>1893-94</th>
<th>1894-95</th>
<th>1895-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tons</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>£1,510</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>1,623</td>
<td>3,862</td>
<td>3,005</td>
<td>2,971</td>
<td>6,004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly the whole of this was obtained in the eastern waters of the Possession. From the western districts only a ton and a-half was got, almost the whole of the fishing-grounds there being still in the hands of Queensland. It is an industry that will doubtless be carried on successfully in the eastern waters.
The copra exported consisted of 440½ tons, valued at £3,494. The export of this article has been:

- 1888-89: 76 tons valued at £550
- 1889-90: 43 tons valued at £250
- 1890-91: 198 tons valued at £1,433
- 1891-92: 340 tons valued at £2,084
- 1892-93: 194 tons valued at £1,150
- 1893-94: 450 tons valued at £2,885
- 1894-95: 427 tons valued at £2,530
- 1895-96: 381 tons valued at £2,748
- 1896-97: 440 tons valued at £3,494

Next to copra comes India-rubber. This article figured first as an export in 1894-95, when some 2 cwt. of it valued at £27, left the colony. In 1895-96 the quantity entered outwards was nearly 3 tons; this year it amounts to 16 tons, valued at £3,472.

Taking into consideration the fact that this product is obtained from several indigenous trees and plants, that it exists over a great area, and that there is in the colony a large extent of country that would appear to be eminently suitable for the cultivation of rubber-trees, it seems very probable that this may eventually become the principal export from the Possession.

There was a falling off of £1,712 in the declared value of sandalwood. Transactions in this industry have been as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tons</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1891-92</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>£2,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892-93</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>£4,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-94</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>£5,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>£1,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>£1,573</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It would appear that the decrease in sandalwood is more owing to the superior attractions of prospecting for gold than to exhaustion of the sandalwood forest. If so, there may be a revival in this industry next year.

The export of beche-de-mer continues to show on the whole a downward tendency. Its course has been as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tons</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1888-89</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>£2,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889-90</td>
<td>704</td>
<td>£4,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890-91</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>£5,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891-92</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>£1,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892-93</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>£1,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-94</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>£1,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>£929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>£1,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$1,016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pearls valued at £980, and turtle-shell declared at £519, were also exported. The remaining items do not call for any special notice.

The total volume of the trade of the colony has been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1898-99</td>
<td>£11,108</td>
<td>£5,348</td>
<td>£17,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899-00</td>
<td>16,104</td>
<td>6,435</td>
<td>22,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-01</td>
<td>15,530</td>
<td>8,434</td>
<td>23,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-02</td>
<td>23,753</td>
<td>11,280</td>
<td>35,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902-03</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>30,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903-04</td>
<td>21,901</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>36,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904-05</td>
<td>16,215</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>30,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905-06</td>
<td>19,401</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>33,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-07</td>
<td>33,999</td>
<td>14,599</td>
<td>48,598</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SHIPPING.

32. All shipping entered inwards or outwards was British. The total number of vessels (exclusive of Government vessels) entered inwards from beyond the colony was 85, representing 13,650 tons; the total number cleared outwards for foreign ports was 65, of 15,174 tons. The total foreign tonnage has been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>28,524 tons</td>
<td>19,759 tons</td>
<td>48,283 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>28,524 tons</td>
<td>19,759 tons</td>
<td>48,283 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>28,524 tons</td>
<td>19,759 tons</td>
<td>48,283 tons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The entries inwards and outwards coastwise have been:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Vessels</th>
<th>Tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1894-95</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>5,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>7,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,676</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The contract for the subsidised mail schooner came to an end during the year, and was discontinued.

Many of the smaller craft at work in the Possession are sailed exclusively by Papuans; others have Papuan crews with a foreigner as master.

### POSTAL

The postal transactions for the year show, when compared with those of previous years, a decided increase. The following is a tabulated statement for the last nine years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters received</td>
<td>2,365</td>
<td>3,168</td>
<td>2,964</td>
<td>4,303</td>
<td>4,073</td>
<td>6,380</td>
<td>6,479</td>
<td>7,130</td>
<td>11,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters despatched</td>
<td>2,667</td>
<td>3,562</td>
<td>2,181</td>
<td>5,017</td>
<td>4,013</td>
<td>5,207</td>
<td>6,183</td>
<td>4,097</td>
<td>11,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packets received</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packets despatched</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers received</td>
<td>4,071</td>
<td>6,645</td>
<td>6,042</td>
<td>5,713</td>
<td>6,280</td>
<td>6,279</td>
<td>7,130</td>
<td>7,045</td>
<td>7,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspapers despatched</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>1,032</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FINANCE

#### REVENUE

The amount of revenue collected in the Possession and paid into the Queensland Treasury during the year was £10,663. It is compared below with the revenues of previous years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs Dues</td>
<td>2,416</td>
<td>2,803</td>
<td>2,525</td>
<td>1,428</td>
<td>3,707</td>
<td>5,097</td>
<td>4,022</td>
<td>5,074</td>
<td>9,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldfield Receipts</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fines</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licences</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,679</td>
<td>3,015</td>
<td>2,573</td>
<td>2,783</td>
<td>4,094</td>
<td>5,366</td>
<td>5,199</td>
<td>6,547</td>
<td>10,663</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENDITURE

The sum of £15,000 was appropriated for ordinary administrative purposes, in addition to a sum of £437 18s. 5d. for additional Government Agents, and £1,000 for Surveys. The two latter amounts were authorised by the Guaranteeing Colonies to be paid from the Accumulated Revenue Fund. The sum of £10,255 was actually expended for the usual administrative services in the manner indicated in the following table, in which it is classified and compared with the expenditure of previous years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of Expenditure</th>
<th>1888-89</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
<th>1890-91</th>
<th>1891-92</th>
<th>1892-93</th>
<th>1893-94</th>
<th>1894-95</th>
<th>1895-96</th>
<th>1896-97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil List Salaries</td>
<td>2,093</td>
<td>2,380</td>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>3,300</td>
<td>3,300</td>
<td>3,300</td>
<td>3,300</td>
<td>3,248</td>
<td>3,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Salaries</td>
<td>1,786</td>
<td>2,261</td>
<td>5,426</td>
<td>3,250</td>
<td>3,707</td>
<td>4,170</td>
<td>3,779</td>
<td>3,250</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessels and Boats</td>
<td>2,767</td>
<td>2,504</td>
<td>2,938</td>
<td>3,938</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>1,204</td>
<td>2,114</td>
<td>1,587</td>
<td>1,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowances</td>
<td>1,296</td>
<td>2,548</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,541</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>1,385</td>
<td>2,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings and Works</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>1,144</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail Services</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,002</td>
<td>2,308</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>4,174</td>
<td>4,071</td>
<td>2,342</td>
<td>3,357</td>
<td>4,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,719</td>
<td>14,976</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>16,928</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
XXIV.

36. The net expenditure on the "Merrie England" during the year ended on 21st March, 1897, was £7,313 19s. 2d. The distance steamed was 16,250 miles on a consumption of 800 tons of coal, making an average distance of 20-31 miles for each ton of coal. The vessel was under steam on 180 days. On launch duty 65 tons of coal were used.

As in previous years since 1895-6, the Imperial Government contributed £3,000 towards the cost of maintaining the steamer, while the Guaranteeing Colonies allowed the sum of £4,000 to be charged to the Accumulated Revenue Fund.

37. The considerations on which expenditure was regulated are given in full in the Despatch, the draft of which was directed to the fact that certain additional expenditure, estimated at the sum of £15,000, may be observed that the increased expenditure was due partly to the large influx of miners to the Possession which took place in 1897, and partly to the massacres on the Mambare River. The attention of the Guaranteeing Colonies was directed to the fact that certain additional expenditure, estimated at the time to amount to some hundreds of pounds, would be necessary, and their consent was obtained to the increase being made a charge against the Accumulated Revenue Fund.

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS.

38. An elaborate report by Mr. De Vis will be found as an Appendix hereto, in which that gentleman gives a careful description of the many new and interesting birds added to the official collection of the Possession since the date of his previous paper on the same subject, Mr. De Vis is well entitled to the thanks of the colony for so promptly giving to these matters so much labour, especially at a time when he is otherwise already overworked.

39. A report is attached by Mr. J. B. Cameron, Government Surveyor, on lands surveyed by him for alienation to Europeans. It has been intended to dispose of this land on favourable terms, more with the object of introducing systematic cultivation of tropical products under European supervision than for any other purpose. X of the 31,000 acres surveyed has been obtained by the Crown from the native owners by direct purchase. Mr. Cameron's report covers a few months not included within the year dealt with by this Annual Report, but circumstances make it convenient and desirable to publish it as it has been presented.

40. Mr. W. E. Buchanan has kindly furnished a report on the results of the expedition led by him to the foot of the Main Range to the north-west of Mount Nesbit. Unfortunately Mr. Buchanan's instruments got damaged, so that the exact locality reached by him cannot be put on the map. He describes it as a large valley, in the deposits of which are traces of gold; but Mr. Buchanan, though an able leader and a skilful and persevering prospector, does not appear to have found payable gold.

METEOROLOGICAL.

41. The Rev. Copland King has furnished the table (Appendix Z) of rainfall at Dogura Station for the year ending 31st December, 1896. It shows a fall of only 43\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches, though rain fell on 115 days. The figures would indicate that the dry season is from May to September, inclusive; while the three wettest months are January, February, and March. The rainfall of the same place from 1st February, 1892, to 31st January, 1893, was 86 inches, which gives an average for the two years of 61.75 inches.

At Port Moresby the rainfall for the year ending 30th June, 1897, was 38.97 inches. No rain fell in December, 1896, nor in June, 1897. In January, February, March, and April, the rain registered measured 32·31 inches. The rainfall of the last three years has averaged 37 inches.

A table is attached (Appendix Z) compiled from the observations taken at Port Moresby, which shows the average thermometer readings for each month of the year at 9 a.m.; and also the maximum and minimum temperatures for each month registered at the same place. From this it appears that the highest 9 o'clock temperature was that of January, 85.85 degrees F. The lowest was, for August, at 76.01 degrees; the average for the year was 81.92 degrees.
The highest monthly registration by the maximum thermometer was, for January, 89·28 degrees; the lowest by the same instrument was, for September, 80·46 degrees. The average maximum monthly temperature was, for the year, 85·44 degrees.

The highest monthly readings by the minimum thermometer was, for February, 77·33 degrees; the lowest, for August, 72·89 degrees. The average monthly temperature by the minimum thermometer was 75·57 degrees.

The highest temperature registered at Port Moresby in the shade at 9 a.m. was 90 degrees, on the 6th January; the highest registered at any time was 94 degrees, on the 9th February. The lowest obtained was 74 degrees, on the 6th and 22nd August.

At Daru the rainfall for the year ending 30th June, 1896, was 61·62 inches. Appendix L

The average for the last three years has been 82·5 inches. The fall in the months of September, October, and November, 1896, was less than 1 inch, while that for January, February, and March, 1897, was 10·74, 12·11, and 13·98 inches respectively.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

42. On the 30th of June last the officers on the establishment, in addition to those on the Civil list, were as follows:—

Resident Magistrate, Central Division ... Dr. J. A. Blayney.
Western Division ... B. A. Hely.
Eastern Division ... M. H. Moreton.
Louisades ... A. M. Campbell.
Government Agent, Rigo ... A. E. English
Mekeo ... B. W. Brunell.
North-east Coast ... M. W. Shanahan.
Travelling (temporary) ... A. Giulianetti.
Commandant ... Captain A. W. Butterworth.
Government Storekeeper ... H. N. Chester.
Treasurer and Collector ... D. Ballantine.
Sub-Collector, Samarai ... Alexander Henry Symonds.
Clerk, Samarai (temporary) ... A. McAlpine.
Sub-Collector, Daru ... H. W. de Lange.
Head Gaoler and Overseer of Works ... John McDonald.
Government Printer ... J. G. Allen.
Commander, s.s. "Merrie England" ... George A. H. Curtis, R.N.R.
First Engineer, "Merrie England" ... F. V. Corkill.

The year was, beyond all precedent, unfortunate as regards the loss of officers.

On the 25th of November, 1896, Mr. Charles Kowald, Government Agent for the Mekeo district, met with a most serious accident at a point on the Musa River some three score of miles from the sea. While Mr. Kowald was in the act of demonstrating to a native the use of dynamite, the cartridge exploded in his hand, and inflicted injuries of which Mr. Kowald died shortly after in the Cooktown Hospital. He had been employed by the Government from its first initiation. Though a foreigner by birth and education, he was a loyal officer, a man of unusual energy, resource, and activity. He built and created the Mekeo Station, and brought it to such a condition that the whole district was proud of it. The Mekeo Station was one of the most beautiful homes in this part of the world, and this was almost altogether the work of Mr. Kowald. He succeeded admirably in pacifying his populous and turbulent district, and made very considerable progress in road-making, while he practically put an end to village burial over a large area. He also visited many of the mountain tribes, and he held the balance evenly between rival missions while aiding all of them alike. He had already gained a large experience, and been well trained to his duties as Government Agent. Manifestly, the loss of such a man to the service, of which he had made a profession, was very great.
On the 14th January, 1897, Mr. John Green, Government Agent for the Mambare district and Assistant Magistrate, was attacked by a combination of the natives of the district, and murdered with four men of the armed constabulary, while three prisoners and a private servant were killed at the same time. Mr. Green and his men were engaged in constructing a new station on the Tamata affluent of the Mambare. They left the old station in the morning and went to the new one, about which they were employed when attacked, unfortunately without their arms. These constables were all first-rate men, and the Commandant is of opinion that if they had even had knives with which to defend themselves they would probably be alive to-day. The conspiracy had been carefully prepared beforehand, and its execution was doubtless facilitated by the presence at the station of a Tamata man as a constable. Apparently, all the tribes near the station were implicated.

Mr. Green had a natural liking to work connected with native administration, for which he had a decided talent. He had already received a good training, which, added to his superior intelligence and unusual perseverance, promised great things. He had built the Mambare Station; and though located in the most remote and least amenable of the districts, he had made very considerable progress in acquainting the natives with the aims and objects of the Government. He had visited and established friendly relations with many tribes on the north-east coast, and had inspected the Mambare as far as Neneba and the top of the Owen Stanley Range. He was much respected by the prospectors and others that visited the district, interpreting correctly and carrying into effect, with tact and goodwill, the desire of the Government to render to those men every assistance possible. He was the only European that accompanied me the first time the Moni Valley of the Musa was reached, and he accompanied myself also to the top of Mount Victoria, being able to render excellent assistance in preparing geographical work, in which he was becoming an apt pupil.

The loss of an officer so endowed and so well trained was a most deplorable one to the service. There was no position in it to which Mr. Green might not have aspired. It was further intensified by being associated with the murder at the same moment of the faithful, intelligent, and well-bred chief of his detachment of constabulary, Corporal Sede, a native of Turituri, in the Western Division.

Mr. John Meredith, head gaoler and overseer of works, died of illness at Sudest Island, where he was stationed on duty in charge of a body of some fifty prisoners at work in connection with a gold-mining company opening up some auriferous quartz reefs. Mr. Meredith became head gaoler in July, 1894. He took a deep personal interest in each prisoner under his charge; and by firm, kind treatment maintained excellent discipline, while by regular work, regular hours, and the use of the English language he imparted to the prisoners a useful and valuable education. He maintained them in good physical condition, clean skinned, and as contented as men in such circumstances could be.

The Commandant was absent, on leave, from February to the end of June.

GENERAL.

43. The usual assistance so courteously rendered by the Government of Queensland in former years to the Possession was again repeated in the refitting of the “Merrie England” and in other ways.

The year was one of specially hard work to the whole of the Civil Service in the Possession, the zeal and assiduity of which deserve my warmest thanks and acknowledgment.

I have the honour to be,
Your Lordship’s
Most humble and obedient servant,

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., Governor of Queensland.
DESPATCH REPORTING VISIT OF INSPECTION TO VARIOUS PLACES IN EAST END OF THE POSSESSION.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

No. 35.] S.S. "Merrie England,"

Manbure River, 1st August, 1886.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report that I arrived at Sanarum on the 20th July, intending to visit several places of importance in the east end of the Possession. On the previous day a call was made at Mangala (Defuaree) Island. The local police inspector came to report that there had been no infringement of the peace in the district for a long time. I had sent a small party inland some days' march from the village of Suabia towards the mountains lying behind that place. These island tribes have not at this point made any hostile descent on the coast tribes, but the latter are really the stronger. The island tribes were found to be very friendly, and the principal men promised to come down regularly to the coast to meet any Government officer that might call there.

The gaol at Sanarum was found to be clean and in good order. The prisoners, most of whom are short sentence men, were in good condition. The gaol building is in need of considerable repairs, which will have to be carried out this season. The prisoners are generally employed in building a sea wall and reclaiming foreshore on the south side of the island, at which they are now making fair progress. The part of the island on which the prison and Government buildings are situated is being fenced in, as it has hitherto been open to the public. A gate is being put on this fence, and a local village constable is stationed in a house built there, so that ingress or egress is now better under control. One of the principal reasons for appointing that officer was that with the greater influx of Europeans there was arising the evil habit of nightly visits to Sanarum by many native women from the neighbouring islands. The constable has been able to deal with this irregularity effectively.

A lease was granted to two boatbuilders of a piece of land on the frontage of the island suitable for their business. A lease of foreshore was also granted to the firm of Messrs. Barnes, Philip, and Co., on which to build a wharf. This structure is to have not less than 10 feet of water at the sea end at low tide, and is to be finished within a year.

2. On the 22nd we reached Nirani, the Government Station of the Louisiane district. Mr. Campbell, the Resident Magistrate, had gone to Sudost Island, and the station was in charge of the corporal. There is now as much of the island cleared as I deem desirable. The coconut trees planted there are doing well; the oldest will be in bearing in about two years. They have sufficient native food growing on the island for the present use of the station. There were only four prisoners in gaol. The district was perfectly quiet. A good new whaleboat was left at the station for the use of the magistracy.

3. On the 23rd the steamer anchored at the east end of Hula Bay, on the south side of Sudost Island, some half a mile from the store built by the British New Guinea Gold-Mining Company. It is at the head of this bay that the company is to carry on its operations.

Some time ago certain gold-bearing quartz veins were discovered on the main hill range of the island by some of the old-established miners of Sudost. The site of these deposits is three or four miles west of Mount Teng. The discoveries were made in the surrounding districts, and the discoveries sold their interests in this reef or took shares in the new company. The latter had the reef examined by experienced and competent men, and they are now occupied in getting quartz-crushing machinery on to the ground.

The company would not, however, enter on this undertaking unless the Government would let them have for twelve months the services of about fifty prisoners. I am well aware that any such arrangement is quite unusual, and can be justified only by very exceptional circumstances, and can be carried out satisfactorily in practice only when the greatest care is exercised in regard to supervision. It seemed to me to be of the greatest importance to this colony that a start should be made in the more permanent form of mining from the quartz reefs. The alluvial workings are not of themselves of much advantage to the Possession, on account of the fragile nature of the industry. In this country the European miner on alluvial workings leaves whenever he obtains a certain amount of gold; then he and what he has got goes on to some white man's country, leaving the stock of gold in this colony so much the less. Very few of these men settle here. In eight years only three or four of them have taken up any land in this colony. All this, of course, quite different in a country like Australia, which is adapted to become the permanent home of a great white race. Quartz-mining would be a more stable industry, would give regular employment to a certain number of white men, and this in its turn would doubtless lead to at least a certain amount of settlement in the neighbourhood. The company saw that there would be some heavy work to do in making a road to the reef, and in transporting machinery there; while at first they could only obtain raw labour, and would not know even where to get that until they became better acquainted with the country. In the face of these considerations I consented to let them have the services of fifty prisoners for twelve months on certain conditions. At the present time they have fifty-nine prisoners. They are under the control of the head gaoler, who is assisted by two paid warders and by two prisoner warders. There is also an armed guard of four men of the constabulary. All the cost of supervision is paid by the company. They also provide food, house accommodation, medicines, and all other necessaries for the prisoners and the staff of supervision, and they pay ld. per day for each prisoner at work. I found the prisoners in excellent physical condition. Only two were not perfectly well; one, suffering from a mild attack of rheumatism, was unfit for work. Another, with enlargement of the spleen, was fit for duty, though at some inconvenience to himself. They were being fed chiefly on yams, of which they could
have as much as they cared to eat. The stock of medicines was inspected and found to be complete. Their quarters were sufficiently comfortable, and their camp was kept clean. I had every reason to be well satisfied with their condition and treatment. They are making excellent progress in road-making, at which all were employed except some eight or ten that were working at the reef. The company will have some eight or ten miles of a road to make over difficult steep ridges. It is not likely that they can have the machinery on the ground and ready to start until three or four months from this date. They have now had forty-seven of the prisoners for nearly three months, and I see no reason whatever to be apprehensive as to the treatment of the latter. The company promptly met every wish of the head gaoler in regard to any matter represented by him. They have about a score of men from Rossell Island engaged as free labourers. These do not work with the prisoners. The company has purchased 444 acres of land at Pantara Point, where they have built a general store, and will keep a small herd of cattle, as it is good grass land. The landing-place for the mine is on the Hula River; there they will have a small allotment of land. Between that and the mine they are taking up a few acres of grassy land, suitable for pasturing the bullocks used in transport. They also take up a machinery block on the Hula Creek below the mine, where the crushing will be carried out. In addition to this the company has the usual area of land connected with the original claims on the mine and purchased by them. The above will show that this Government has done everything it possibly could do to facilitate and encourage the operations of the company, even to the extent of seriously interfering with such public works as building a sea-wall at Port Moresby and another at Samarai—works that languish in the absence of the best prison labour. I trust that the exceptional circumstances of the colony may be held to justify the very unusual course which I have followed in this matter.

4. There are now only a few miners on Squad Island—probably about half a dozen. The natives work intermittently in obtaining gold on their own account, many of them being provided with miners' "rights," but they do not exercise the protective rights afforded by these. When a native discovers a good patch, and this becomes known, all his relations and friends come and work on it on their own behalf. The whole island seemed to be perfectly quiet.

5. On the 26th the steamer arrived at Sogula Bay, on the south side of Misima (Woodlark Island). There is excellent anchorage there for vessels of any size, in all weathers. There were about 150 miners at work on the island at that date. The first camp is about two miles north from the head of Sogula Bay. In this there are only a few miners—all of them are engaged in gold mining. There are a number of native boys, engaged on monthly wages, on the field. Next day I walked to the main camp, about eight miles by the path in a northerly direction from the head of Sogula Bay. The path lies all the way in forest-clad country, crossing low ridges or slightly undulating land, with many small creeks and watercourses. Many of the ridges crossed consist of coral limestone; others of quartzite or slate. There are no native settlements there. The main camp is called Buzi. There were about 100 men in it, under crows; but there are a few houses built of native materials, one of which is used as a store. The miners asked that Mr. Thompson, the storekeeper, should be appointed a justice of the peace and postmaster. As Mr. Thompson's character seemed to justify this appointment being made, effect was accordingly given to their wishes. There were no disputes between the men themselves, but some of them objected to the employment of native labour by certain others in exploiting the field. It is very gratifying to find that there was not a single objection raised there to the natives of the island washing out gold for themselves if they wished to do so. This is quite contrary to what the late warden reported to me some time ago, but evidently that gentleman was mistaken. What the men objected to is that a few Europeans engage natives at about 8s. a month, and employ these in working ground which they say might be later on pegged out by Europeans. These natives do not work on miners' rights, and it would therefore seem to be the case that a miner possessing a right could enter on ground worked by these natives. Some men would not object to a native working with a miner inside his proper claim; others would take exception to this unless the native receives a due share of the results. No miner urged on me any unreasonable measure. The great bulk of them seems to consist of respectable, honest, industrious men—probably as fine a class of men as could be met with on any field. Not a few of them are well educated. Those that have been at work since the field opened have, as a rule, done well—some of them very well. Most of the creeks hitherto discovered are being worked or are already finished. Some of the ground is now being worked over a second time. With the number of men now on the field it will be more than sufficiently occupied, unless more is discovered. The number of the men were leaving the island on the 27th to prospect on the mainland. Others are to follow soon, apparently with the intention of trying the upper reaches of the large rivers on the north-east coast. There has been remarkably little sickness on Misima. I have not heard of any friction between the miners and the natives. It is not easy to ascertain even an approximate estimate of the amount of gold that has left the island, but apparently not less than 6,000 ounces has been sent away, and there is probably as much as that in hand on the field now.

6. A short halt was made at Sagar, on the north side of Misima, on the 28th. The local policeman came to report that all was quiet in the district. There are, it seems, not more than half a score of miners on the island—if there are even so many. Mr. Campbell, the Resident Magistrate of the Leinides, accompanied me to Misima, which is in his district, and we landed him at Nivani on the 28th. The cutter "Maino," the district vessel, is now becoming too old and leaky for this division, so that it will be necessary to provide for it a new vessel of the same class as the "Siai" and "Lokohu." It appeared to me that Mr. Campbell is getting his district and station into very good order in every way.

I returned to Samarai on the 29th instant.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

P.S.—I enclose a tracing prepared by Mr. Cameron, who surveyed the lands of the company, which shows the position of their several grants. This part of the coast survey was not finished by the Admiralty surveyor, and the sketch attached hereto is more correct than the delineation on the Admiralty chart. 

W. M.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., &c.
APPENDIX B.

DESPATCH REPORTING VISIT TO THE SCHOOLS OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY AT PORT MORESBY.

Government House, Port Moresby,
19th October, 1896.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report that, on the invitation of the Rev. A. Hunte, I this day visited the Office of the London Missionary Society at Port Moresby.

The schools are two in number. The upper school is taught by Mr. Hunte himself; the lower by the veteran South Sea teacher, Rustoka, whose name has often been favourably mentioned in previous reports.

The usual course of lessons was gone through in each school in my presence. In the upper school were six students that intend eventually to become teachers, five smaller boys whose future career is not yet determined, seven girls or young women, and two small boys—a score in all.

The great peculiarity of this school is that it is taught and conducted in English, and I am bound to say that the teaching of English is both sound and thorough. The importance of this to both the scholars and to the district is very great. It is very likely that the process of teaching this school in English is much more laborious and results are obtained slower—at least at first—than if teaching were carried on in Motu; but the ultimate advantage to the pupils and to the district, especially at the headquarters of the Government, must eventually be very great.

The first thing they did was to sing an English hymn; then they recited the Lord's Prayer in English.

They were in different stages in arithmetic, from simple addition to compound division. The greater number of the sums were done correctly, but it was clear that in this branch the girls and the more elderly students were not so brilliant as the young boys. The average, however, was good.

English reading is making fair progress, but speaking English and translating English into Motuan surpassed my expectations, several students translating simple sentences readily and correctly. This branch was decidedly very satisfactory.

They showed fairly accurate acquaintance with the general features of the geography of Australia and the great divisions of the globe.

Music is being taught with great care and decided success. Port singing of different exercises was so well done that it was very manifest that extra care and trouble is being taken to ground the pupils thoroughly in the elementary parts of this most important subject.

As regards the upper school, I saw only one thing that is unsatisfactory—the small number of pupils that attend it. This is a matter that is unfortunately beyond the control of Mr. Hunte. This only confirms and strengthens the conviction at which I had already arrived, that the time has come when a mild and tentative attempt at compulsory attendance should be made.

At the lower school attendance varies on ordinary occasions from ten to forty-five scholars. As it became known that I was to visit the school, no fewer than 111 were present to-day, no doubt in the hope that I would give them something on the spot or a picnic at a later date. Of the 111 present, only 30 were boys. There could be considered as attending school altogether about 42 girls and 18 boys, out of a population not far short of 1,100. This school is conducted in the Motuan language. In the highest division were 12 girls from eight to ten, and 2 boys of the same age. These could read in the Gospel of St. Mark, about half of them fairly well; the others indifferently or badly. The other scholars were at words of one syllable or at letters. The more advanced ones had some acquaintance with the elements of geography. They could read the multiplication table up to three times nine. They counted in English up to 110, translating the numbers in Motuan. In addition a little mental arithmetic is tried.

The singing was the most successful part of the performance. It was noticed that many of the children were rather thin, and appeared but ill-fed.

Nothing could be more discouraging to the teachers than the present ill attendance of the scholars. A boy will come to school one day, and in a great many cases will not be seen there again for two or three weeks. The result is that no teacher, however full of enthusiasm he may be, can fail, sooner or later, to lose courage. It is marvellous to me that they retain in their work the interest which it appears they have in their laborious and thankless toil. It is an undoubted fact that although the Motuans have gone forward in other respects during the last two or three years, they have retrograded in all scholastic matters. Some pressure will be tried on them before long to endeavour to obtain a moderate amount of school attendance.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G.,
Government House, Brisbane.
APPENDIX C.

DISPATCH REPORTING ASCENT OF MAMBARÉ RIVER AND JOURNEY ACROSS THE ISLAND.

No. 53.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to report that on the 6th of August I left the s.s. "Morice England" in Mambare Bay, with the object of ascending the river of that name, and visiting the interior of the island. We started with two boats toed by the small launch of the steamer, and with some trouble we took them as far as the Governor. When we approached the Mambare it was lower than we had ever seen it, there being insufficient water for the launch at several places.

This gave an opportunity of seeing for the first time that in the bed of the river there are many coral rocks between its mouth and the village of Gadara, a formation that one would hardly have expected there, as the hills on each side of the lower portion of the river are metamorphic and 500 or 600 feet high. At the villages of Taututu and Chia, the inhabitants of which had been from the first uniformly friendly to Europeans, there were no natives present, although the houses did not seem to be entirely deserted. It appeared that the owners had temporarily abandoned them to seek shelter and protection further up the river, generally at Peu, from the inroads of the Gira natives. We saw and heard several men at work on their gardens on the banks of the river, and all those greeted us in the friendliest manner. Two or three miles below Peu we had much difficulty in dragging the launch over the shallows there, and had to camp for the night on the right bank in a fine garden, the owner of which did not appear, although his canoe was tied up at this spot.

2. On the following morning we continued our journey up the river. Many of the villagers of Peu, men, women, and children, invited us to land there; but when we approached the bank they became timid and retreated into the "bush" behind the village. Some time previous it seems that a number of them wished to entrap Mr. Green, the Government Agent of the district. He was invited to land near to where their canoe was moored, and the villagers showed their intention to murder the Government Agent, but the latter fired with some effect with his revolver on the assailant and then caused the constabulary to collect and burn all the canoes they could find in the village. The Peu people have since then shown no further aggressive tendencies, but they remain distrustful though they are at the same time desirous of communicating with us. We were kindly received at Manutu village, as has always been the case. Below the village of Pinung we experienced one of those sudden accidents that are so frequent in travelling in this country, and which may in a moment unexpectedly put an end to any expedition. The launch was run aground on a snag in the river, and the men of the Native district were able to set the boat free; it was made fast to the trees, towed by a boat, and then run down stream; this brought my boat down on another snag, which at once made a hole equal to eight or ten inches square in the side of the boat, and below the water line. Although I promptly thrust a small tent into the hole from the outside, and kept pressing it in, it was with the greatest difficulty that we got the boat to the bank. This boat contained half the stores for the journey inland.

Materials for repairing such damages are always carried in our boats, and in a very short time Mr. Green had closed up the opening and made it perfectly watertight, so that we resumed our journey in about an hour and a-half. The station was found to be clean and in good order, with a large quantity of native food, chiefly taro, in the gardens near it. There were four prisoners at work there, natives of Tautota, who when under engagement to certain miners had run away. To enable him to deal with such cases and with other matters of a judicial character, now frequently arising in the district, Mr. Green has been appointed a magistrate.

I arrived at the station on the afternoon of the 7th, and left it on the morning of the 11th. Some three or four of the natives of the vicinity visited the station daily during that period to sell food. They remain more or less suspicious, and are not desirous of having very intimate or close relations with the Government. They are restrained from aggression simply because they feel that they are the weaker party, but they are not to be trusted where they might think the advantages, even temporarily, clearly on their side. This state of affairs will continue until the men arrested in the district return to it. These are six in number. Two of them are at Samarai as prison warders, and four have been voluntarily enrolled in the constabulary at Port MoreSBey. When these men have been sufficiently educated they will return to the Mambare, each as a village constable, after which the permanent settlement of the district will, no doubt, progress rapidly.

Here, for the first time, I had an opportunity of seeing how natives make the hole that receives the handle in a stone club. Some time ago I found one they were in the act of boring, but they had taken away the borer. That same specimen, with the borer, is now in my possession. They select a number of small stones of the size and shape of a rifle bullet. They chip a hole into the stone club by light blows from the point of the small stone. It is surprising what progress can be made in boring the hole by this very simple contrivance.

Just before my arrival on the Mambare the Government Agent had visited the district where the miners were at work on the Upper Mambare, and had gone to Neneba, a village on the north side of Mount Scratchley. The chief of that place, a man of about fifty, accompanied Mr. Green back to the station, and even paid a visit to the "Morice England," in Mambare Bay. This man was an object of great interest and curiosity to the tribes on the lower part of the river, as I could see very clearly from an interview between him and two Mambare natives, at which I was present. They asked him first whether his village was, and he gave them to understand its position far away in the mountain in which they then inquired whether the river went there, and, on his replying in the affirmative, each of them bit the index finger of his right hand as a manifestation of marvel. But they had no wish whatever to visit his country.
At this time of the year it was very hot at the station during the day, but it felt cold at night.

Thunder began for the first time this season on the afternoon of the 9th, on the mountains to the north-west of the station, and the river had risen by two feet next morning.

The geographical position of the station had already been obtained by astronomical observations and survey, but we obtained true bearings for Mount Victoria before proceeding farther inland on the same matter requiring a little time, as in some strange way the “wires” (spider’s webs) in two theodolites had got broken in ascending the river, and these had to be renewed before anything could be done.

3. We left the station on foot on the 11th August, accompanied by only a few carriers. Most of those brought by us had been sent on a week before to carry a load as far as Simpson’s Store, on the Otowa mountain, and had not yet returned. We met the greater number, however, before the afternoon. Our track lay on the north side of the Manapure, along level alluvial land covered by great forest trees, land fit for agriculture, but at many places likely to be flooded when the Manapure and Thames are in season. We stopped for the night at the mouth of a small tributary of the Manapure, the bed of which is nearly a hundred yards wide, and that enters the Manapure nearly two miles below Clarke Fort. We estimated the distance to this place by the road at about nine miles. Next day we covered about the same distance, the path still traversing thick forest, but over more uneven ground. At midday we had lunch at the mouth of the Clunas, a tributary of the Manapure. It is distant from the Green about four miles by the road; in the afternoon we crossed the Simpson alluvial on a riff, at about three miles from the Clunas. These three large branches of the Manapure are all nearly of the same size, but the Simpson is the largest. Between them there is some country worth prospecting for gold, but it is not suitable for agriculture. They seem to be all three part of the drainage of the mountain Otowa. The Green was named in honour of the Government Agent; the Simpson and the Clunas to preserve the names of the two principal pioneer prospectors of this district.

On the third day some seven or eight miles were travelled over, through similar forest but on uneven ground, with a small streamlet of water every three or four hundred yards; in the creeks were boulders of granite, basalt, quartz, and slate. The soil is a red clay and unfit for agriculture. On the 18th a march of less than half-a-dozen miles brought us to Simpson’s Store on Otowa.

We left the Simpson’s Store, because it was built by Mr. William Simpson, a working miner, whose services in opening this district to the prospector cannot be overlooked here, but should be recorded in the annals of the Possession. As related in my dispatch No. 50 of 21st November, 1805, Mr. Cameron and myself cut a road from Clarke Fort on the Manapure for some miles up the right or south bank of the river to a spot on the Ajudakaba, opposite Simpson’s Store, on Otowa. The road on the left side of the Manapure from the Government Station to the junction of the Chirima and Yoldia was cut by Mr. Simpson and the party of prospectors that first accompanied him inland. Mr. Simpson was the leader, the others were Clunas, Bastian, Dressen, Maclaugham, Elliott, Nollson, and McClelland.

The cutting of this path is from the point of view of the explorer and geographer by far the most important work ever performed by any private person or party in this country. It is highly probable that it will be the most useful contribution. It is thereby that we have acquired very great honour and credit on Mr. Simpson and his companions. It must have been a severe strain on the slender means at their disposal—the scant savings from hard toil in similar fields elsewhere—but the courage and intelligence of Mr. Simpson triumphed, and eventually he and his persevering companions did well, though not so well as they deserved to do.

The road traverses extremely difficult country at many places, so difficult that the traveller has sometimes to trust his whole weight to a single cane or small bush in ascending or descending a cliff, or has to advance by means of a very rude ladder. It must have occasionally taken a good deal of time to find a way by which one could pass at all. Mr. Simpson, never could tell what he would come to next, perhaps a hopelessly inaccessible cliff, probably a wild and savage tribe, or an impassable torrent; and if anything went seriously wrong, he was sure he could obtain no assistance, procure no relief, until it would be too late. This is all very different from the explorations made on or near the coast, and the difference is all to the credit of Mr. Simpson. We were able to use our road from the Government Station to the junction; the path between the station and Simpson’s Store we could have dispensed with by following the road we had already cut along the right bank of the Manapure; but Mr. Simpson’s road from Simpson’s Store to the junction saved us the trouble of cutting any track there, and induced us to travel up the left bank of the Manapure. Simpson’s Store is some 1,500 to 1,000 feet above, and about a mile distant from the Manapure. It was found to be in latitude S. 8 degrees 35 minutes 30 seconds. It was impossible to carry a chronometer over such difficult road for determining longitude on this journey, and this was therefore not attempted. The system by which the approximate longitude of Simpson’s Store was obtained—and which is sufficiently near for all practical purposes—was this:—The true meridian was found, and the true bearings were taken from the spot of observation to the peaks of Mount Victoria, the position of which has been fixed from the south side of the island. The variations of the theodolite needle was at this place 5 degrees 08 minutes 30 seconds. It should be noticed that certain writers on the geography of this country have disapproved of Mount Victoria being specified by name, or by that name; and it should therefore be pointed out once for all that, whatever may be the case as regards the theoretical geographer, a name for Mount Victoria is for the traveller absolutely indispensable. On this journey we found a specific name for Mount Victoria as necessary as a special appellative for the sun, for Venus, or for a Scorpion. Mount Victoria is the highest crest on the Owen Stanley Range; it has so well defined a shape, and is so high, that it can never be mistaken for anything else, or anything else be taken for it; its east and west peaks supply to the traveller precisely what he wants for cross bearings. Whenever he wishes to know where he is, or where his track is leading him, he obtains the necessary information from Mount Victoria. This crest must therefore in practice have a specific name of some kind. Not a little confusion has arisen in some writings by the use of the term “Mount Owen Stanley.” “The Owen Stanley Range” is the name applied by the hydrographer to the Aluminy to the great central chain of mountains that runs from east to west over about two degrees of longitude. On this chain are many mountains, any one of which might be “Mount Owen Stanley.”
There can be no greater authority on such a point than Admiral Wharton, and that officer has informed me that it would not be convenient to have both an Owen Stanley Range and a Mount Owen Stanley.

In giving a specific name to the crest now known as Mount Victoria, the requirements of field work have been considered, and the result has been a clear gain to precision and convenience. But it was on this journey found necessary to go a step further, and to divide the south-east spur of Mount Victoria. This is a conspicuous object, and gives, with the western peaks of Mount Victoria, a larger base for crossing beaches than the east and west peaks of the higher crest. In practice it was convenient to bestow a name on the peak of this spur, and it has accordingly become known to us as Huskey Peak—a name that is based on a suggestion from Admiral Wharton.

5. As we were accompanied by Goiye, chief of Neneha, we were able to obtain from him the names, as known to him, of the principal mountains, &c., seen from Simpson's Store. The manibare called Mamba or Odda; Mount Victoria, Nada; Mount Scratchley, Tooroa; Mount Gillies, Otoria; and Mount Parkes, Ajulakujula. It is a very evident that Otoria and Ajulakujula form a very wet district. Even where the altitude does not exceed 1,000 feet above sea level, the trunks of all trees are covered over by moss, similar to what is met with on Mount Scratchley and on the Owen Range. This is a result only from excessive humidity. There is, at least at this season, practically no game on either Otoria or Ajulakujula; the white-crested Guara pigeon, for example, is plentiful on the Mambare. There are no traces of old clearings or of former native occupation on those mountains on the watershed of the Mambare.

From Simpson's Store we send back all the carriers whose packs had been eaten by us up to that time. These amounted to ten. We met three miners at Simpson's Store returning from the interior. They had done "fairly well," but considered the dry working season as past, and they were on their way to the Government Station or Clarke Fort where there were some prospectors camped. On the 17th, after I had obtained true bearings in fine weather to the peaks of Mount Victoria, we continued our journey.

At first we descended the hill into the bed of the river, which is there very deep, and not more than fifty or sixty yards wide at some spots, running rapidly in a channel cut out of hard dark-coloured slate containing the very wavy lines of quartz.

The same day we met two more miners returning from the interior, as they regarded the wet season as already set in. They were of the opinion that there would eventually be a good goldfield in the place. After leaving the river bed the track entered on the rough cut of 1,000 to 1,500 feet. In the forest there seemed to be many different kinds of trees that yield rubber, some of which appeared to be of good quality. On the 18th we crossed one and on the 19th the two excessively steep ravines of great depth. They can be crossed now without much danger, but they try the strength and endurance of the unfortunate carriers. On the 19th we crossed the highest point traversed by Mr. Simpson's track between the Government Station and the junction, about 2,000 feet. As the chief of Neneha had now been absent from his people for about two weeks, and as I was afraid they might, from his long absence, become alarmed for his safety, and in consequence cease trade to the few miners yet remaining in their district, the chief was sent on ahead early on the 19th, accompanied by the corporal of Mr. Green's division of constabulary. Goiye's wife informed me afterwards that on account of his delay in returning home she was, before he arrived, thinking seriously of straggling herself. Early in the afternoon of the 20th we reached the junction of the Yodda and the Chirina, which unite at this place to form the Mambare. The Yodda is two or three times as large as the Chirina, and the latter is very little less than the Angubunga or Melco River. These two great branches are merely a forking of the Mambare to receive between them the huge mass of Mount Scratchley. The Mambare may be considered as specially the product of this vast mountain. It makes a wonderfully straight course for Mount Scratchley from the sea, and as soon as it arrives at the first spur of the mountain it immediately divides so as to embrace Mount Scratchley on three sides. The larger branch, lying first on the east and then on the south side of the mountain, is the Yodda; the smaller, on its northern side, is the Chirina. At one spot only, on a spur of Ajulakujula immediately below the junction, was any trace of even old cultivation discernible during the whole journey from Tambo to the junction. At that one place the chief of Neneha had a garden some years ago, but he was driven away from it by the people living in the Yodda Valley. In the district near the junction there is no level or easy sloping land anywhere—all is steep forest. Only near the junction are native hunting-tracks met with. In a ravine, about a day's journey from the junction, some native head-dresses were found suspended, probably put there by some of Goiye's friends who had come to look for him.

Mr. Simpson's track, from the time it meets the eastern ridges of Otoria, crosses its spurs at right angles always at least within a mile and two of the river, and well within a mile or two of the river. The five or six miners then in the district were all at work in the small streams at the foot of Mount Scratchley, on the east side near to the Yodda. To get there they had improvised a ferry-raft for crossing the Chirina half-a-mile above the junction, and from that they had cut a track half-a-mile of miles long, crossing the spurs of Mount Scratchley nearly at right angles where they were low and near to the Yodda.

We formed a good camp at the Chirina Crossing, and built there a substantial log-house, which would protect our stores, and could be held by two or three constables against a large number of natives.

6. Between sickness, wet weather, great difficulty in obtaining true bearings to Mount Victoria, visits from natives, and having to wait the arrival of carriers, I was unable to leave the Chirina Camp till the morning of the 28th August. The latitude of the bed of the Chirina, nearly a quarter of a mile below the camp, and about the junction, was 5° 32' S. The distance above the junction, as far as depends on true bearings to the peaks of Mount Victoria, taken from a river about a quarter of a mile north-west from the junction. The variation of the theodolite needle was 5° 14'. The Chirina, about two miles above the junction, gives off a branch called the Oroa, which turns towards the south and runs along the ridges of Mount Scratchley, on the east side of its principal north spur. This last rises to a height of 5,000 or 6,000 feet, and is called Momon. On its west side, at a height of 3,000 or 4,000 feet, is the village of Neneha, which belongs to Goiye's tribe, the only one actually settled on Mount Scratchley. At about two miles and a-half above the junction the Chirina gives off a branch
Native of Fofoa, Wharton Chain.

Native Pig, Mount Scratchley.

Club in process of making.

Bleeding.

Coe, Chief of Nenoba, Mount Scratchley.
called the Gaida, which comes from the north, fed from the western ridges of Ootia. This branch is interesting as giving an encouraging prospect of omnirump. The village of Neneba was visited by Mr. Green about a fortnight before this, and the people were found to be very friendly. Without any delay nearly all our carriers were sent back from the junction camp to bring up more food before we proceeded further, as this was the most advanced point we could be done. The commandant, who was at the Tanata Station, was wise, and ordered many of the carriers to come inland in charge of the carriers to visit some of the natives while I proceeded further. He was, however, unable to come past Simpson's store on Ootia, and this part of my plan was unfortunately left unaccomplished. On the 22nd Mr. Simpson, who was at work on the McLaughlin, a tributary of the Yottin, used as a visit in camp. He thought the McLaughlin nearly worked out. He told us that omnirump occurs in most of the creeks, but that it is more abundant on the Chirrima than on the Yotin. He was also of opinion that the 50-feet mining claim is too little, and that it should, therefore, be extended to 100 feet. The miners had not suffered from fever, but both they and the native boys employed by them had been several times threatened by dysentery. In all probability this is caused by working all day long in cold mountain water. Mr. Simpson and the others still in the district intended to remain there for about a month longer.

On the 22nd Geyle visited the camp with fifteen men; four men arrived from Neneba on the 28th; and on the 27th Geyle came there with probably the whole tribe—men, women, and children—over 100 souls. These people are of unusual interest on account of their geographical position. In colour they are of a dark brown, a shade darker than the coast people of the central district, but much lighter than the men of the Fly Estuary. They are fully up to the average size of Papuans, and many would be described as being bony and wiry rather than muscular. They are much larger men than those of the islands and of many parts of the east end of the island. Amongst the something over 100 natives present there was not one with straight or wavy hair; and there was only one man that could be called hairy. These characteristics, it may be mentioned, apply also to the tribes of the Lower Mambare. In both, the hair and beard are without exception frizzled. The young men wear the hair plaited into small corn-like divisions, often not thicker than a quill, but usually with some stripes having been made on each plait. The elderly men wear their hair quite short and smooth with an oil. With many of them it is inclined to be thinner on the crown than is usual among Papuans. The young men wear the eyebrows in the normal condition; the elders cultivate whiskers, but rigorously depilate the rest of their face. This fashion gives them a somewhat grotesque clerical appearance. They have good high foreheads, brown eyes, the lips inclined to be thin, the cheeks rather broader than ordinary, and the chin stronger. In short, their features are a shade more robust than is usual in the central coast district, but they are undoubtedly true Papuans. The older men use the perineal band and girdle, made of Papuan cloth; the young men dress in the same manner, but the great peculiarity of their costume is that the parts concealed by the perineal band anteriorly are enveloped in leaves till the whole reaches the bulk of a child's head. The object of this was not clear. The women, who appear short, especially of leg, compared with the men, also wear a perineal band, but in most cases they use over this a grass petticoat that reaches from the waist to the knees. In addition to this they wear a sort of mastic made of a piece of native bark cloth about 2 feet broad and 1½ feet long; it has a running string along the upper edge, by which it is made to half envelop the head, and is kept in position. They are not rich in ornaments, and the artistic sense is not well developed in them. They do not tattoo, and they have no cicatrical ornamentation; the septum of the nose is pierced, but no one wore anything in it. They have large earrings made of the tails of birds, covered by narrow strips of palm-leaves dyed yellow. It is also common for the young men to wear in the lobe of the ear a piece of bamboo about three-fourths of an inch in diameter and six or eight inches long, closed at one end, and with the end of the tail of a small cuscus or squirrel stuck into the open end, which projects in front. This bamboo is used as a cigarette-holder. A pig's tail is also a favourite ornament for the ear. Several men had head-dresses made of feathers from the casowary, the night-jar, the hornbill, &c., but they did not wear the plumes or feathers of birds of paradise. In some cases the teeth of swine or of dogs, or a few small white cowry shells, were plaited into the hair. On the neck they have often a few turns of fine cane, and armlets are also worn, but they paint armlets of the ordinary kind with red and yellow colours. So many men were without the upper incisors, or without one of them, that it could hardly have been the result of accident. A few of them suffered from the ringworm Tapas dermatitis which they seemed to be known to, but the form of the ordinary eastern name for this disease, and seems to have been developed from a word in the language of the Panièeti Island in the Louisiades. Most of the men had a small net bag on his arm for transporting such things as spare pig's teeth, shells, stones, &c., and many had a small bag an inch or two square tied round the neck, which was a small piece of bark or some charm. Very few had any large shells from the sea, but several wore stripes of the skin of the cuscus. Their arms consist of stone clubs and of the bow and arrow. The clubs are of two types, the disc and the pineapple, the two forms that are common on the north-east coast. They do not possess many of these. Their bows and arrows are but poor weapons. The bow is of palm wood, is weak, and about three feet long, with the string made of a strip of cane. The arrow has a reed shaft and a wooden point without barbs. Many of the arrows are old and worm-eaten, and they and the bows are blackened by the smoke of years. The appearance of their weapons corresponded with the apparent peaceful and amiable disposition of the people, who were remarkably free from tidiness, suspicion, or mistrust. It was quite clear from the state of their arms that they had not been engaged for years before in any warfare undertaking. I saw no shield, spear, sling, casowary-lagger, or beheading knife. Pottery is unknown to them. They cultivate many varieties of sugar-cane, bananas, taro, yams, sweet potatoes, tobacco, and maize. This last is in a small red variety which they call "corn," and Mr. Green says it is the kind of maize that the natives cultivate in the Gig'e region. The presence of maize at Neneba, and its absence on the lower Mambare would seem to show that there has been little or no communication for ages between those tribes, a view that would also be supported by the fact that the bow and arrow is not known to, or at least has not been seen with, the lower Mambare tribes, which it may be mentioned make use pottery. The form of pipe in current use is the same as the "balau" of the central district. As for the "kangur," it appears to be the only two domestic animals kept at Neneba. They have no coconuts and do not use betel nut and lime. They sleep in suspended net hammocks. Their houses are described by Mr. Green.
as being superior to those on the lower Mamare. The roofs of the houses, which are made of the leaves of a species of Pandanus palm, are carried right down to the ground. The floors are about six or eight feet above the ground, and are made of stones and about three feet wide except of mud. Some have been made from one end to the other, and on each side of this the floor is made of reeds lashed to small bars having an incline of about 20 degrees towards the fire-place. The space under the floor is utilised for shuttling up pigs during the night.

On the last visit to us these people brought us four pigs and a very large quantity of vegetable food. For these things they were paid in tomahawks, knives, beads, salt, plane iron, and tobacco. They had already one fan-shaped hatchet, which they said had reached them from a village called Udaup, which would seem to lie to the west of Mount Scratchley.

8. On the 29th we left the Chimira camp, and after a march of some half-a-dozen miles over ridgy ground, made very slippery by rain that had fallen during the night, we camped on a stream about fifty yards wide, one of those that drain the east side of Mount Scratchley into the Yodda. Gove, the chief of Nenba, was greatly concerned by my departure, predicting disaster from hostile natives and from hunger. His anxiety seemed to be genuine, and he would not be comforted by the assurance that some European would be stationed in the Chimira camp. He and his people remained there several days after I left. A march of about three miles next forenoon, in the same southerly direction, brought us to the McLoughlin stream, on which all the miners except one were employed. Two of them were at work close to the place where we struck the McLoughlin. They had about a dozen Taupota boys assisting them. These have learned to handle the shovel and basin dexterously. They are generally engaged at 10s. a month, and are, of course, fed. The miners have on the whole treated the boys well, but the latter have suffered a good deal from the great fatigue inseparable from transporting food so far, and over such very difficult road. Standing so long in the cold water of these mountain streams has also in not a few cases impaired their health. They do not work on the Sabbath, but receive on that day better food than on working days. They have learned the value of gold, and some of them have begun to steal it. It would seem that they have been well fed, but of course they have had, like their employers, less fresh vegetable food than would have been desirable. The McLoughlin runs in a bed of slate and quartz, and was at this camp about four miles from the Yodda, and about thirty yards wide. It has left a good deal of gold at higher levels than the present bed of the stream. Traces of osmiridium are mixed with the gold. The latter is generally in small scales, and appears of fine quality. I gave to this stream the name of one of the pioneer prospectors that accompanied Mr. Simpson, and who was still at work there. They were employed on account of clouds. Natives of the extreme eastern side of Mount Victoria might be somewhat larger than the McLoughlin, at about a mile and a-quarter from the former; and about three-fourths of a mile further on a second stream of rather less volume. All have their sources on the eastern side of Mount Scratchley, and the two latter join the McLoughlin before it debouches into the Yodda. A march of some half-a-dozen miles brought us to a spot known to the miners as the "Look Out." It is on a ridge of one of the extreme eastern spurs of Mount Scratchley, and was their furthest inland camp. It is about 2,000 feet above sea level. In latitude it is south 8 degrees 45 minutes 38 seconds, but unfortunately no part of Mount Victoria could be seen on account of clouds, so that the exact longitude could not be fixed by observation. It is about a mile from the Yodda River. This camp looked into a valley that lay opposite to it, and across the Yodda, and which is situated between the Ajudakujula on the north and the eastern portion of the Owen Stanley Range on the south. Its western end is shut in completely by the foot of Mount Scratchley, but it is continued eastward round Ajudakujula and could be traced for thirty miles, so that it is not unlikely that it is the western end of what much further east becomes the Male Valley. The Yodda gives off a large branch which proceeds towards the east along this valley. It could be traced from a spot nearly half-way up Mount Scratchley for ten or fifteen miles, and seemed to be connected with a small lake near the eastern end of the Yodda Valley, where the ground seems to rise considerably. This valley is three or four miles broad at its western end, and would seem to increase in breadth as it goes further east. It is covered by forest and is nearly flat on the surface. Two villages could be seen on it at about eight miles from the "Lookout" camp, and there were several fires in clearings and gardens, especially on the low spurs of the mountains on the far side of the valley, and perhaps twelve to fifteen miles from us. Ownership of the soil is not regulated by the commandant to be the idea of sending any officer there to visit those villages. There were evidences of a friendly disposition on their part. They had become aware of the presence of miners at the foot of Mount Scratchley, and to some had hung up for themselves some hut and posts. The game found a few of these nuts, some taro, and sugar-cane hung up on trees on the banks of the Yodda. These things had been there for some time, and there were no traces of natives on the ridges of Mount Scratchley. Mr. Simpson had in his turn exposed a few presents for the Yodda natives, but it does not appear they ever found them. In the district of the Yodda Valley the rainy season seemed to be already set in. The height of the "Lookout" camp by boiling water was 2,015 feet; the temperature at 7:30 a.m. was 67 degrees Fahr.

9. On the morning of the 1st September we left the "Lookout" camp and began the ascent of Mount Scratchley, camping in the afternoon at 4,250 feet, close to a small mountain stream. There was no trace of any native track on this ridge, so that the road had to be cut all the way. The most troublesome thing to contend with at this altitude was a climbing plant covered with small spines, and so enveloped in moss that one could not see the spines and constantly caught hold of the plant where the ground was steep and slippery.

Next day we continued the ascent to 5,000 feet, where the temperature was 64 degrees at 2 p.m. and 57 degrees at 7 a.m. The daily rain that had set in lower down in the valley of the Yodda, on Ajudakujula, and Okivia, had not yet reached this altitude, but it was evidently reaching this altitude. Below us all was enveloped in dense fog and this reached us during the night. All trees, even the leaves of palms, were covered by moss. The evergreen oaks began at about 1,000 feet, having acorns of the size and shape of a large hen's egg. They are as much as two inches thick. At 3,000 feet there was a bush of Piper betel, which a Fly River man at once recognised as "Gomada," the name for it in his district. There were not a few hotel palms of a kind that is prized by natives because they say that the nuts, though small, are very strong. The vegetable ivory nut
seemed to be common. It could be seen very clearly in the creeks that the geological formation is still quartz. We had some difficulty about 4,000 feet with a trailing fern provided with spines. The myrtles began about 5,000 feet. There was no game. At 5,000 feet we first began to feel the cold disagreeable at night.

At an altitude of 5,500 feet, on the morning of the 3rd, magnetic bearings were obtained to the peaks of Mount Victoria, and a good view was got of the eastern portion of the Owen Stanley Range. Some half-score of miles east of Mount Victoria there is a depression in the Owen Stanley Range, the bottom of which appears to be a rather narrow gully, and at an altitude of probably 5,000 or 6,000 feet. One seemed to be able to see along this gully in a southerly or south-easterly direction for twelve to fifteen miles. The mountains on each side of it rise several thousand feet higher. It did not appear to me very promising as a route to follow from the south coast to Mount Scratchesley. The probabilities are that it would be more difficult to travel along the valley than to cross over the top of a lofty mountain. At 6,000 feet the forest trees seem to consist principally of myrtles. At 5,000 feet the beautiful bird, Epinaeus major, began to visit our camp and continued to do so up to 9,000 feet. At 5,500 feet we first met with the cirrus-like playground of the lower bird. On the third day of the ascent we camped at 8,500 feet, when the temperature at 7 a.m. was 60 degrees in the air and 52 degrees in water. On the fourth day of the ascent, 4th September, we camped at 7,725 feet. Here we came into contact with the trailing bamboo, which grew side by side with "lawyer cane" and pandanus trees. The large trees were chiefly myrtles. The geological formation remained the same, many large veins of quartz being visible in the slate rocks. The temperature of the air at 7 a.m. at 7,725 feet was 59 degrees. It was there extremely difficult to cut a truck along the top of the narrow ridge we followed.

Next day we passed through a zone of short, stunted, twisted trees, interlacing and crossing each other, as if to flash a moss, that much of our car was thickly covered. In these trees, three or four feet above the ground, on this path one could any moment fall into the air. We pitched camp in the afternoon at 9,075 feet, having much difficulty in finding ground on which it was possible to erect a tent. At 7 a.m. the temperature of the air was 45 degrees at this altitude. Here we were overtaken by the rains now established below, and from this onwards until we descended Mount Knutsford, on the south side, we suffered very severely from cold. The forests began here to contain some cypress trees growing side by side with pandanus and myrtle forest, but all trees were more or less dwarfed at this altitude. In spite of the cold there were numerous leeches and mosquitoes in our camp at the 6th at an altitude of 9,700 feet. At 4 p.m. the thermometer stood at 54 degrees in the shade. From this date until we arrived at Doura on the 13th October the weather was very much the same. In the morning there was fog in the valleys. By 10 or 11 this reached the tops of the mountains in very thin driving sheets, which gradually became dense; by 1 o'clock there was generally a drizzling mist followed by some hours' rain. The forenoon was generally dry, but it was the only dry part of the day.

Mr. English had been left at the junction of the road to unit and to bring on the carriers sent to fetch inland stores for us. We waited for him on the 7th and 8th at the 9,700-foot camp, sending back most of our few carriers to help him on, and pushing ahead of the track, now so difficult, at the same time. At 10,000 feet there are great quantities of two of the most beautiful rhododendrons to be met with anywhere, one with splendid bunches of delicate pink flowers, each about five inches across; the other half that size.

Mr. English reached our camp near midday of the 8th with twelve bags of rice and some other provisions. All carriers were immediately sent back to the Government Station except ten, in addition to which we kept three constables, who are well accustomed to form camp, etc.

On the 10th, at sunrise, the thermometer stood in the shade at 40 degrees in our camp at the altitude of 10,200 feet; there was some ice in the shade. At noon the thermometer indicated 59 degrees in the shade. On the 11th we shifted our camp to 11,175 feet.

Progress was now slow, as the carriers had cash to carry two loads between the different camps, and there was much wet weather. At 11,000 feet snow seemed to be too a new bird of paradise was met with. It is worth noticing that this bird is of the same two colours, yellow and black, as the bird of paradise we found on the top of Mount Knutsford in 1870; a third one, also yellow and black, was seen by Mr. English, but not collected, as we could give but little time to natural history. At 11,100 feet the greater part of the forest consists of cypress trees with a few anemarias, and the undergrowth becomes thin. Many trees from about 10,000 to 12,000 feet are 3 feet or more in diameter and from 100 to 150 feet high. In the middle of the valley, above 10,000 feet, to anything like the same degree, there are seen at 10,000, 10,500, and 11,000 feet that grow from 6,000 up to 10,000 feet. A grass patch at about 10,900 feet was white with frost at 8 a.m. The most remarkable plant found near the camp at 11,175 feet was a daisy, sometimes with white at other times with pink flowers, but with a very delicate perfume of remarkable fragrance. Several of the party began to suffer inconvenience from the rarity of the air at this height.

10. On the 12th we pitched camp on the top of Mount Scratchesley, our path having taken us over the top of the highest wooded summit, which, measured by the merid., had an altitude of 11,700 feet. Our first camp was at the height of 12,200 feet by the aneroid, and at 12,800 by the boiling-point apparatus. This spot was found by astronomical observation to be in latitude south 8 degrees 45 minutes 05 seconds. Its longitude depends on true bearings to the peaks of Mount Victoria. A short base line was formed, and two watch readings to tenths of a second made, the same being taken at each end of the base. This was to obtain the position of the tops of the mountains around Mount Scratchesley, to all of which true bearings were taken with the theodolite. At this first camp there was, by the sun at midday, although the thermometer topped the temperature of the air to be 38 degrees. At noon in the shade and protected from wind it reached 55 degrees. On the 14th my camp was shifted to the other end of the measured base line, which terminated at a post on the top of a peak which the merid made 12,650 feet high. The altitude of the highest peak of Mount Scratchesley was by the boiling point 12,690 feet, and by the aneroid 12,650 feet. I spent the whole of the 15th on the top of the peak in fog or drizzling rain in the rain hope of obtaining true bearings thereon, but I was more fortunate next morning before the mountains became enveloped in mist. It appeared that the wet weather began on the tops of the great mountains, accompanied by thunder and fog, only the first day after we reached the top of Mount Scratchesley.
Whilst I was occupied observing, &c., on the top of Mount Scratchley, Mr. English was sent on ahead to open a path to the Owen Stanley Range, as it was of great importance to learn definitely whether one could pass from that range to Mount Scratchley without crossing any deep valleys. Mr. English was instructed to keep aloof round the head of the waterhole and the head of the Mambare where it was expected to lie between the Owen Stanley Range and Mount Scratchley.

On the 17th Mr. Green took stock of our provisions, and found that we had something over 400 lb. of rice. Our future plans had, of course, to be framed in accordance with the amount of food available. It was decided that Mr. Green, with five carriers, should return from the Owen Stanley Range to the Tamata Station, whilst I, accompanied by Mr. English, two constables, and six carriers, should continue the journey to Mombi, on the south coast.

11. Mount Scratchley may apparently be regarded as the heart of this country so far as the mainland is concerned. It is of large area, and undeniably contains not a little gold. It consists of slate, with plentiful quartz from the summit to the foot. The slate rock, so far as observed, dips at an angle of about 45 degrees to the north-east. On the peaks the rocks are generally abrupt, broken, nearly perpendicular, on the south-west aspect; whilst on the north-east side the gentle slope permits them to become covered by grass, shrubs, and trees. The formation of at least the western portion of the Owen Stanley Range is similar. The road from the latter to Mount Scratchley is surprisingly easy. A long chain, probably never less than 10,000 feet high, consists Mount Scratchley with the great Albert Edward Mountain. This interesting chain I have named the Wharton Chain, in honour of Admiral Wharton, Hydrographer to the Admiralty, a gentleman that has taken a warm interest in the geography of this colony, and to whom I am indebted for much assistance. From the top of Mount Scratchley it is, therefore, not difficult to reach Mount Albert Edward by traversing the top of the Wharton Chain.

An easy journey of two days would take one from the top of Mount Scratchley by the track cut by us to the western end of the Yodda Valley and to the numerous creeks at the foot of the mountain. We have already cut out a second path, by which one can in the same time travel from the top of Mount Scratchley to the junction of the Chirima and Yodda. If tracks were cut, journeys of two or three days from the top of the same mountain would take one to the creeks and galleries on the west side of the mountain, where they doubtless form the sources of the Angabunga (Meeko) River, which has long been known to be springing down much gold in its sand and gravel. This same starting is within the reach of the greatest extent of country connected with the circumference of Mount Albert Edward and with the foot of the Wharton Chain, all of which deserves to be "prospected." There could thus hardly be a better centre than the foot of Mount Scratchley for a prospecting campaign on a considerable scale. It, therefore, becomes a very important practical question whether provisions can be transported thither. I believe they can for a prospecting party. Were a permanent goldfield once established in the interior, probably a much better road would be found for taking them over the tops of the highest mountains in the country; but, as a centre from which prospectors could advantageously radiate, a depot of supplies on the top of Mount Scratchley would be very suitable and convenient. For men at work on the foot of Mount Scratchley, on the east and north-east sides, the path cut by Mr. Simpson from the Government Station to the junction may be the best, if gold is found in payable quantity in the valley of the Yodda, there would apparently be a probability of finding an easier road from Clarke Fort over the top of Ajulakujina. On the top of Mount Scratchley there is probably an area of not less than two square miles of earth 10,500 feet high, the greater part of which is covered by grass, bare rocks, and clumps of trees and shrubs. There are at least three small lakes on the top, the largest having an area of probably fifteen to twenty acres. The appearance of the mountain top from our first camp was most picturesque. Sharp ridges of a yellowish brown, sometimes so large as to become small hills, covered the broken ground in all directions. The hills and ridges bristled with rugged, sharp, grey rocks on which were often little heaps of broken up, white quartz. Between rocks and ridges, and in some of the intervening valleys, there were clumps of a very strange weird-looking forest. This consisted almost entirely of cypress trees of a peculiar form. The top of one hill was a broad crown, quite flat and in some places tinged with yellow, while the stems, covered by leaves, are of a hoary grey. The branches are gnarled, and the stems short in proportion to the width of the crown. These trees do not grow close together, but rest on the sloping ground with the regularity of steps, the stems decay, and are blown away from the wind, and not a leaf seems to move on them, so that the whole view suggests irresistibly the idea of a petrified landscape. The dantesque appearance is further increased by a cypress with a short, thick, black stem and a small crown of leaves, which generally grows in the grass in irregular rows at the edge of the cypress wood, and looks like a line of sentries posted round it.

Altogether on the top of the Owen Stanley Range of Mount Scratchley, of the Wharton Chain, and of Mount Albert Edward there cannot be less than, say, 100 square miles of this grassy country. There is probably considerably more. The only nearly flat or even ground visible from the summit of Mount Scratchley on the Upper Mambare was the Yodda Valley, which, if not continued into the Musa Valley, must at least be twenty or thirty miles long. It was a matter of surprise to see that there is no deep valley between Ovoya and Mount Albert Edward. A line of hills seem to join the two together, and this is not less than 2,000 feet high; so that no drainage can reach the Mambare from the north side of Mount Albert Edward or of Ovoya.

The Chirima branch of the Mambare drains the south and west sides of Ovoya, the south side of Mount Albert Edward, the east side of the Wharton Chain, and the north side of the Owen Stanley Chain.

The Yodda branch of the Mambare drains the west side of Ajulakujina; the Yodda Valley, into which must flow many creeks from the southern slopes of Ajulakujina, and from the northern aspect of the eastern portion of the Owen Stanley Range, the whole of the southern part of the Owen Stanley Range and the northern face of the Owen Stanley Range from Mount Victoria to three or four miles west of Winter Height.

Only one native settlement was visible. This was the village of Fofoa, at an altitude of about 2,000 feet above sea level on a large and long spur thrown out towards the east by the Wharton Chain. This village stands on the west side of the Chirima affluent, called Ajihara by the Neneba tribe. Neneba is situated opposite Fofoa on the western face of the large hill already mentioned, which is a great ridge of Mount Scratchley, and is called Momoa. Neneba is thus on the east side of the Ajihara River, and is at least as high as Fofoa.
MOUNT VICTORIA.

MOUNT ALBERT EDWARD. (From the top of Mount Scratchley.)

OUTLINE OF MOUNT VICTORIA ON THE NORTH SIDE
(Taken from Mount Scratchley.)
12. Except to collect a few plants, no time was given to natural history on Mount Scratchley; but to make up for that a collector was left there provisioned to the end of November. He has three or four men of the armed constabulary with him, and he has been appointed a justice of the peace, so that he could attend to small matters of business if required to do so. But there is not any probability of misunderstanding at present between the miners and natives—at any rate, not between the old miners and the natives. Among familiar birds noticed on the top of this mountain were larks, swallows, sparrows or finches, with various others; but the great majority of the birds were new and unknown. Probably over a score of different grasses were collected; three or four daisies; as many kinds of buttercups; many heaths, &c. Probably the most interesting flower at that altitude is a rhododendron about a foot high that bears bunches of scarlet flowers.

There are a few wallabies, but they are seldom seen. They are quite different from those met with in the lower country. At an altitude of something over 10,000 feet we first heard the howling of wild dingoes. These seem to be more numerous than are the wallaby above that height. Traces of these dingoes are met with everywhere, but they seldom come into sight. The only one we really saw was a large black animal. They howl vehemently when we first arrive in a district, and then are generally silent afterwards.

13. The most notable object seen from Mount Scratchley was Mount Albert Edward. On the long crest of this mountain, which looks from Mount Scratchley as if it ran east and west, there are three conspicuous dome-like peaks. Those lie between 8 degrees 24 minutes and 8 degrees 25 minutes of south latitude—say twenty-four geographical miles inside British territory. It is most northerly spurs will therefore, in all likelihood, be British also. That side of the mountain is probably drained by the Ginn River. The portion of Mount Albert Edward that is visible from the southern end of the base line on the top of Mount Scratchley extends from 229 degrees to 9 degrees 30 minutes of south latitude; this area certainly embraces nearly the whole mountain. From 333 degrees to 350 degrees the top is covered by grass and bare rock. The western dome is the highest; giving an altitude of 17 minutes from the south end of the base line, the distance being 24 24 statute miles. The altitude is therefore about 31,100 feet, assuming that the base of the latter point is 6,100, the result given by Captain M. C. Farquhar 12. On the 17th we left our second camp on the top of Mount Scratchley, and arrived before noon of the same day at the camp found by Mr. English half-way to the Owen Stanley Range. Our track went close past the end of the highest peak of Mount Scratchley on its south side; it then turned south and passed the foot of the English Peaks, but on the north side of these. These are two conspicuous twin peaks, the western a little higher than the other, which have been named because they are a good landmark for the road. A small streamlet of water begins on the face of the highest peak of Mount Scratchley, and runs westward a very little way west from the dividing line of the watershed of the Mambarie. It seems probable that this little stream is the source of the Augebungs (Mekos) River; but this is not absolutely certain, as it is not impossible that it later on finds its way round the west end of the Owen Stanley Range and into the Yampa. It certainly never reaches the Mambarie. On the 17th the path lay almost entirely over grassy country, but some of this was wet and boggy. On the same day Romi, a native of the village of Saram—in the Rigo district, the men sent out to cut the road where necessary as far as the Owen Stanley Range—returned to camp with the cut end of a sapling that had evidently been felled several years ago by a sharp instrument. This proved that he had cut on to my former track on Winter Height, and that the passage from Mount Scratchley to the Owen Stanley Range was easy. This same Romi had partly cut the track on Winter Height in 1888, so that he was the first native of this colony to complete the traverse of the island. On the 18th, leaving our last camp on Mount Scratchley at 7 a.m., we reached the top of Winter Height before noon. The road was comparatively even, most of it over grass. We kept near the watershed till we reached the Owen Stanley Range, and then kept on the top of the latter as far as Winter Height. As it was very dry, we determined that Mount Victoria as obtained from the unmeasured base on Mount Scratchley, which differed to some extent from that on the Admiralty charts, and as it would be of much use to have true theodolite bearings from Mount Victoria, we started for that place on the morning of the 19th. These were others were directed to keep to the old track and transport our baggage to the two knolls on the east end of Mount Knutsford. In some places we were able to follow our former track without difficulty, but at others it had disappeared completely. We reached Mount Victoria on the 20th, at 3 p.m., and took our quarters on a cliff at a great height, and on the rock we had occupied before—the only sheltered spot we could find. The fresh, preservation quality of the climate there was well seen in the fact that the ferns that served me as a bed more than seven years before were not yet rotten, the charcoal left by our free looked fresh, and a pair of blue dungbeetle pants left there by some one of our carriers still had the buttons attached, and did not seem to be rotten. It was, however, manifest that the weather was to be very unfavourable. A strong and piercing wind was blowing, charged with dense clouds of penetrating mists or dazzling rain, and the cold was cruelly severe, especially to people provided only with garments suitable for tropical lowlands. To add to the misery of the situation firewood was scarce and bad, and it was not found practicable to erect a tent. Next morning, about 2 a.m. and daylight, I was, however, able with the assistance of Mr. Green to observe three pairs of stars for latitude and to obtain the true bearing. The latitude of the western end of the crest of Mount Victoria was found to be 8 degrees 22 minutes 20 seconds, practically the same as it had been found to be from the top of Mount Scratchley; but all attempts to obtain true bearings to my great disappointment failed utterly. On the 21st there were strong winds, wet fogs, and rain all day, and the weather was as anything still worse, so that I determined to remain until the weather the way we had come. The misery of those with me was so great that I was afraid to continue it longer, and provisions were exhausted. Besides this, there was always present in my mind the conviction that a slight attempt to detach twenty or thirty tons of the rock on which we were camped, which would in all probability crush the whole party on the spot. This mass projected from the shelving front of the rock, and was already separated from the rock all round the circumference, so that one could hardly see what was keeping it in place. That an apprehension for such a moment as this worked into my calculations must seem fantastic and whimsical to the met person acquainted with the frequency and violence of earthquakes in this country, and what followed proved
that my misgivings were not groundless. On the 24th, at 5:15 p.m., we were camped on Winter Height when the earth began to tremble and the tops of the trees to move to and fro; when this had lasted for ten or twenty seconds this earthquake became greatly more violent, perceptible undulations passing along from west to east in the direction of the long axis of the earth. These undulations had lasted for at least ten seconds Mr. English said, "What a long time it lasts," and it must have continued as long again after that. Of course we do not know what was the effect on the oven on Mount Victoria. On the 22nd we had spent nine hours on the road thither from the top of Mount Victoria. On the 23rd Mr. Green left Winter Height with five carriers to return to the Government Station. He had directions for the commander of the "Merrie England" to meet me at Red Sea Head, and to send my boat some way up the Vanapa in the hope of meeting us there. On the 25th a march of about five hours brought us from the top of Winter Height to the two knobs on the east end of Mount Knutsford. It was possible to follow our old track except where it crossed the trailing bamboos, where of course all trace of it was lost. It was no easy matter to cut the track through the first 3,000 feet in the descent of Mount Knutsford. Of all paths that through the trailing bamboos is the most detestable. On the 27th we came across the marks, left evidently a few months before, of a party that had tried without success to open a road up the mountain. They had reached an altitude of about 7,000 feet, had tried various directions, and then abandoned the attempt. This had been a party of Malays who had followed up our 1,880 track thus far. They were collecting birds. It was decided that we should not follow our old track to the foot of Mount Knutsford, and up the extremely steep face of Mount Musgrave opposite it, but that we should take the first path we should meet leading towards the village we knew exist at the north-west foot of Mount Knutsford. We found a suitable path branching off at a height of about 4,500 feet, and this brought us to Gosisi on the foronoon of the 29th. It was supposed that these natives would be surprised and alarmed by our arrival from behind them, and we therefore tried to gain their attention before we came in sight by firing two or three shots and shouting. After some time they replied to us with shouts, and three or four young men came up the path some distance to meet us; but they could not be induced either to approach us or to wait for our approach to them. They retraced down the mountain till they had cleared the cleared ridge where the houses of the village begin. After a few minutes at last got into communication and contact with them there, and soon induced four of the young men to return with some of ours to the last camp for four bags of rice left behind. The others brought us first sugar-cane, and then other kinds of food. It was extremely difficult to alloy the feared and treated these people. Clearly these were no kind of fear; few of them did not carry arms of any description; and at least as many women as men, about half-a-score of each, visited our camp the first morning. Then misgivings were apparently of a totally different order. Seven years ago I had found that if one attempted to write anything in their presence they promptly; they showed the same distrust of pencil and paper now, so that I could not obtain a start with their language until the next morning, and even then no one would remain near me writing for more than four or five minutes at a time. They had no knowledge of any place on the other side of the Owen Stanley Range, and it was not possible for a long time to carry their thoughts to the other side of the mountain, but finally they understood that there was something beyond this, and that we had been there. The principal village at the foot of Mount Knutsford, or the tribe living there, is called Gosisi; those that live opposite them, on the north-west spur of Mount Musgrave, are known as Tobiri. Personal appearance, a common language, and immediate proinquity show them to be one and the same people. They live for the most part in their garden houses, the village houses being small and few for the number of inhabitants. The occupants on the two sides of the river combined could probably muster sixty to eighty fighting men. They appear to me slightly lighter in colour than the Neneha people, but the shade of difference may have been owing to the fact that they were less dirty at Gosisi and Tobiri than at Neneha. Here also, there was only one hairy man, who was, moreover, the lightest-coloured person in the community. There was no straight or wavy haired individual there. In my opinion the men of Gosisi and Tobiri are physically the best built men yet met with in this colony. In the Gulf, for example, there are as tall men, but they are greatly inferior to these mountainiers in general muscular development, especially in the lower extremities. They are clearly superior to any coast tribes in symmetry and proportion; probably also, in average size and weight. I am aware this cannot be reconciled with the theory of writers on this subject, who inform us that the natives of the interior are less robust and are black and squat. No more can the fact that the lightest-skinned people we have met with were in the island where the British, Dutch, and German boundaries then meet, as Mess Bay, Musa Valley, on the Upper Kumi, on Mount Scratchley, on Mount Knutsford and Musgrave, behind the Melko Range, on Mount Yule, and on the Fly at the centre of the island are bronze-skinned, frizzly-headed Papuans, between whom there are only shades of difference in personal appearance. Of course the small black people may yet be met with in the interior. All the women of Gosisi and Tobiri wore the grass petticoat. The dress, &c., of the men I have already described in my dispatch narrating the first visit to Mount Victoria.
all keep at all bay should there be any treachery at work. The event showed that there was not the slightest. They brought us to a place where there was a precarious bridge over the river, made up of a great number of logs, and we went half way across the channel, and of small trees laid down on the tops of boulders to complete the other half. This bridge the natives soon prepared, so that we could cross dry and without much difficulty. We then ascended about 2,000 feet on Mount Mungavre and pitched our camp on a path that lies on the top of a range from which I visited Tobiri, the top of the Mount Mungavre, in 1889. Here we were soon visited by the people of Tobiri, who were very friendly and hospitable. These tribes had plenty of food—beans, maize, pumpkins, cucumbers, yams, taro, sweet potatoes, and fat pigs, of which they gave us two of large size. Next morning I went ahead with one man to find the road, but after I left, an old man appeared in camp accompanied by a number of women carrying food. He was disappointed to find the road was already gone. He carried a plume iron in one hand and a knife in the other, and these he used to demonstrate to Mr. English that the “Kovana” was the first man to cut a road to their district by which they had got knives and tomahawks and been put at peace with other tribes. They had therefore brought me food and he wished to send the women to carry it to me because he was too old and too weak to go himself. Mr. English said he did not think I would like him to send the women so far, but the old chief insisted, and as a matter of fact the women carried food, &c., for us as far as Mount Kowal. The names given by the natives of Tobiri to the principal mountains were:—Mount Victoria, Togo; Mount Knutsford, Evani; Mount Mungavre, Toi; Mount Melville, Dabigoro; Mount Theyne, Kaniari; Mount Liley, Turu; Mount Bellford, Ubi; the south-west end of the Owen Stanley Range, Ovei. As both men and women accompanied us from Tobiri we could make more rapid progress than by using our own six carriers only. We crossed the Lico, the stream at the foot of Mungavre, on the south side of the forest on the 3rd October, and reached the Vampra, at the foot of Mount Kowal, at midday on the 4th. We found the Tobiri had kept our 1889 track open as far as this; but they had improved it by shortening it at several places. The only disagreeable thing we met with on this part of the journey was the thick infestation of beetles on Mount Mungavre from the 3,000 to the 15,000 foot. They were so numerous at places that one could not keep one leg clear of them with both hands.

13. The Tobiri natives left us at the foot of Mount Kowal to return home. Next day we crossed the river by raft, getting over everything safe and dry. Beyond this point the marks of our former track had disappeared, the blood stains of trees had become skimmed over by bark, and the cut stump left after bark and moisture had disappeared. The country was intersected by the foot of Mount Mungavre from the 15,000 foot to the 3,000 foot. We reached the foot of Mount Victoria, with their behaviour on this occasion. In 1889 every rumour that arrived from any quarter was that I and everyone with me had been killed. Several of the party were more or less, and were, as far as ceremonial went, buried in their absence; this time preparations were made to receive us hospitably wherever it was thought we would call, and there was not a single rumour of any bloodshed whatever. The Koni tribe, at first very wild in 1889, are now domesticated and very hospitable. From their village we reached the sea coast the next day. It should be mentioned that on arrival at Koni village we had still ten days’ provisions on hand for our own party, but this was arrived at only through great care and rigorous economy.

17. Attached are two brief vocabularies, that of Nonela and that of Gusii and Tobiri. These are of great interest as representing the tribes nearest to each other on the opposite sides of the great central mountains. This supplies, though only imperfectly as account of the short time at disposal and the special difficulty met with, particularly at Gusii, a want formerly much felt. In the Annual Reports for 1889-90 the language of the tribes of the lower Mambare will be published. The Koni tribe understand the language of Kabadi and Mombi as well as the language of Gusii. With the two short vocabularies now given here and the languages of Kabadi and the lower Mambare, we shall have a chain of dialects going right across the island.

Any person giving attention to this interesting and important subject must guard against being misled by what, so far as I know, is the latest publication on the subject, “A Comparative Vocabulary of the Dialects of British New Guinea, compiled by Sydney H. Ray. 1893.” Under the head of Papuan Languages, page 8, Mr. Ray, who is an enthusiastic scholar and of phenomenal erudition in these matters, has the following:—“44. Kaban. On the slope of Mount Owen Stanley (Motu oromo Kabana, waist of the mountain).” Kabana figures as number 49 in Mr. Ray’s comparative vocabulary. Anyone not versed in the facts of the case would conclude that there is a village called Kabana, say half-way up Mount Owen Stanley, and that he has the dialect of these people before him. It is impossible to say within a score or two of miles what is meant by “Mount Owen Stanley,” but from the context and from the seductive etymology (which, however, deeper thought would probably connect with “Vanu,” “pama,” “kumam,” &c.) applied to the geographical position, it probably signifies Mount Victoria. Now, not only is there no village on any side or slope of Mount Victeries, but there is none near it. I have not been able to learn with certainty where Kabana is located, but it is not improbable that Kabana, a village near Mount Cameron, is the place meant. That of course is many days’ march from the slopes of Mount Victoria. On the map accompanying Mr. Ray’s brochure the name of Owen Stanley Range is correctly given; but Kabana is not shown near to it, but in close proximity to Dears, which is probably also correct, although that would make Kabana some way from the Owen Stanley Range. As the village or villages of Gusii is near the foot of a spur of Mount Knutsford, it may perhaps be considered as being at the foot of the Owen Stanley Range; but in this respect its position is, so far as we know, quite unique. There can be no question whatever as to the geographical position of Gusii and of Nonela, which become of great importance in a scientific classification of our dialects.
on correct premises; but in any such classification Kabana, at least as represented by Mr. Ray, must disappear. It will be noticed that there are not a few instances in which a word has the same signification at Neneba that it has at Gosisi. Mr. Green says there are many points of contact between these dialects and that spoken by the tribes inland from Kabadi. Corn seems to have reached Neneba from that district. At Konji, on the Yanapa, we met a native that had actually been to Neneba.

Mr. Simpson has presented a rich specimen of gold and quartz to the official collection of this colony in Brisbane, and there will be additional light thrown on the natural history of the interior when the specimens now being collected are examined by competent authorities.

I should not close this despatch without acknowledging my indebtedness to Mr. Green, Mr. English, and Mr. Simpson for the assistance they rendered me in this journey. I am grateful to the Papuan carriers.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of Queensland.

[Enclosure No. 1 in Appendix C]

VOCABULARY OF THE DIALECT SPOKEN BY THE NATIVES OF GOSISI AND TORIBI, MOUNT KNUTSFORD AND MOUNT MUSGRAVE, 1895.

Adam's apple: Nero
Ankle: Nakoia, Kosona
Anklet, plaited: Kosona
Arms: Akoba, Siruma
Armpit: Kosona
Armlet: Okosovara
Armlet of corse: Para
Arrow: Omo
Azde, stone: Kuma, Idhima
Back: Bako
Backbone: Iru
Bag: Yaka
Bag (woman's): Yaha
Bamboo: Botoni
Bamboo earing: Ajaya
Bambou pipe: Bagu
Banban (carrying on): Hinwe
Banana (close end of): Derive
Banana: Uve
Benda: Akeva
Beans: Manuta
Bee: Kuma, Ekeva
Beads: Akeva
Baubau (closed end of): Derive
Baubau pipe: Fene
Bee: Kunia, Fidina
Beetle: Tokamu
Bell: Luti
Belt: Kaka
Blade: Fabutimai
Black on face: Yodi
Blanket: Sogo
Blood: Atuma
Bone: Idi
Boil (to): Runa
Bone: Innava
Bone: Egumanu
Break on knee: Egumanu
Butterfly: Akoba
Breast: Amu
Burn: Lahak
Bringing: Mana
Calf of leg: Fabumai
Cane: Iru
Cane necklet: Para, Bisi
Cape gooseberry: Wasi
Carry on shoulder: Ebanamono
Carry under arm: Kamunu
Carry on head: Kinamu
Castor oil nut: Britani
Chief: Kau
Cockatoe: Kein, Kain
Come: Ivanhoi
Cooking stones: Mune
Collar bone: Neobito
Coose: Kosama
Cold: Uganna
Chew sugar-cane: Terebu ivunu
Cough: Eno
Cloth: Dubun, Boseka (for head)
Cry: Jwina
Cut with knife: Ootobe
Cucumber: Osuna
Cucumber, another kind: Menimai
Danee: Havai
Dog: Watabinu, Botunu
Dog: To
Dog howls: To koama
Drum: Sare
Drum, inside of: Wahe
Ear: Kavana
Earrings: Midaite, Ajaya
Ear, hole in it: Ufana
Ect: Iri
Elbow: Nukai
Eye: Niabi
Erelish: Nirika
Eyebrow: Nivada
Fat: Bonana, Gatavi
Fence: Eenu
Feather: Fomove
Fire: Vene, Fene
Firewood: Ahama, Kari
Finger: Ogowada
Finger, index: Fiso
Finger, second: Atikoro
Finger ring: Fiso
Finger, little: Eikowo
Fire, to blow: Venc funa
Flame: Mire
Fog: Sori, Yua
Floor of house: Fio
Forehead: Yoi
Flower: Oguro
Flower: Kadumunu
Foot: Patrona
Garden: Boseka
Garden fence: Habi menu
Grass: Botoo
Get up: Amubai
Give: Mata
Go: Tamarai, Wasi
Grass seed: Asa
Gun: Illi
Hack, to: Ili
Hair: Kinavona
Hat: Beseka, Lokiloki
Head: Kina
Hole in septum: Uria
Hole in ear: Uria
Hornbill: Bohoro
Houses of Neina Village, and Small Gardens. (Mount Scratchley.)

Neina Village, Mount Scratchley.
VOCABULARY OF THE DIALECT SPOKEN BY THE NATIVES OF NENEBA, MOUNT SCRATCHLEY, 1866.

Adanu's apple: Adoro
Aize, stone: Kuma
Amaryllis: Ta wea
Ankh: Faguguda
Ant: Chiri
Ant, black: Siri
Ant, black (large): Kabua
Apron of cloth: Taraba
Armlet: Agoro
Armlet (woman's): Agoro
Arm, upper: Adatawa
Arm, fore: Adatawa
Armpit: Agodivena
Armlet of case: Kutu
Artery: Tarague
Ashes: Uti
Bamboo pipe: Togo, Bugu
Bag, knitted: Lo, Da, Ra
Banana: Mina, Uve
Bake: Amoa
Back: Amoa
Backbone: Dinu
Basket: Dolori
Backbone of fish: Taraba
Back of bone: Edi vate
Bark of banana: Uve vate
Beetle: Baia, Sigari
Beans: Amiu
Beads of banana seeds: Arisa
Belt: Kutu
Betel nut: Boli, Sibo
Belly: Lati, Gowa
Bee: Wamu
Beard: Alvoma
Belly full: Momo tasa
Beverage of quartz: Mata
Bird: Nea
Boy: Eche
Breast: Atun
Blood: Tae, Tave
Bring: Umairose
Butterfly: Atanawa, Demende
Blow the fire: Lolitaativa
Breastbone: Gememo
Buttock: Denise
Bill of bird: Ravi
Blow: Ravanawa
Roll: Guraguru
Black on face: Oyo
Brand of wallaby skin: Boro
Bow (shooting): Biano
Bow string: Biano Katefama
Bows, arrow for: Diba
Bristles: Alvoma
Calf of leg: Asimi
Cane: Raisa
Sweet potato: Kubea
Smoke: Fenedelo
Spear: Jo
Stone club: Giruca
String: Uta
Stone: Mumi
Squeeze: Ebakana
Sun: Poenoe
Spider: Alkho
Sugar-cane: Babada, Terebu
Shoulder-blade: Bego
Sit down: Uganai
Skin: Wait
Snake: Huna
Sneeze: Kiini, Ekinam
Stick: Idi
Stand: Tai
Spit: Fimi, Sahi
Unfold: Wavemanu
Utte: Ivoêu
Uter: Ove
Vein: Darugana
Village: Daba
Walk: Tinu
Water: Warabu, Bia (Raisi, hot water)
Waterfall: Agouri
Whistle: Ipana
Woman: Koete
Fist: Jileli
Wrist: Nukari
Yam: Gamere
Yam skin: Gamere hanu
Yes: Oe.

1: Adai, Main
2: Nokau, Totakemanu
3: Nukawo, Kemamu
4: Fisoe, Totakemanu
5: Nibiriwe, Maiwa, Totakemanu
10: Yahanu, Aho vaham.

[Enclosure No. 2 in Appendix C]
Cinder: Dere
Duck: To
Drink with axe: Goriba
Drum: Aua
Dingo: ~rring
Cricket: lkoda
House ladder: ~nd\n
Drum, parchment of: Docle

Dracem-t

Eyebrow:

Epimachus: O::itd

1~ye

Eat

Encence: Kam l\middle

JWJOw: Gamla

I~velid:

Vingc1', middle: .Fisouini
Moth: lJemeiHle

Fork:

Garden: Buro

Hair: Kire

Grass: Sttri

Hair on hack with hand: Ada

Hair

Head-dress

Hole in end of bamboo pipe: Togu

Hole in bamboo pipe: Togu fa

Scratch the head: Umu

Shoulder: Kolawa
Shoulder-blade: Kussi
Shirt: Hoda
Shinbone: Anami
Sharpen: Orivo
Shut a box: Edan, Koneru
Skin: Badivi
Sleep: Namai, Namai
Smoke: Biorya
Smoke tobacco: Hewutu isi
Sneeze: Akhio
Son: Mero
Son, my: Di mero
Son, your: Ai mero
Som evine: Fast gaunweta
Spot out water: Isi nandia
Spy: Tobolo
Spider: Gadugadu
Spoon: Bego
Spleen: Isiavi
Star: Paluma
Strike a mosquito: Koima kava
Strike with fist: Adumaduma
String: Giharn
Stalk of cabbage: Xo
Stalk of banana: Ronovi or Uvi

vetoma

String of shells: Adarnu
Stone: Pure, Fare
Sun: Hari
Sugar-cane: Jua
Sweat: Bibiwa
Take: Voriveriain
Tail: Detero
Tail of small eucucus: Ubo
Taro tope: Maquma
Taro: Muda, Bara
Taro garden: Buro
Tattooing: Kisori
Thigh: Migu
Thumb: Adebaua
Thief: Kararn
Tie together: Basuni
Tooth, incisor: Ailoi
Tooth, molar: Aungi
Tooth of dog: Sisa
Tongue: Neme
Toxic gum: Kewa
Tomahawk: Bogobugu
Tree: Idi
Turn round: Fokoroi
Turkey: Nuc
Turkey, egg: Kanki
Turn round: Fokoroi
Turtle, egg of: Abora
Twine: Edite
Ulcer: Edokorowara
Understand (do not): Gadamanu
Utensil: Perca
Vein: Adatanaru
Wasp: Koriada
Water: El
Whistle: Feivana
Walking-stick: Kecro
Windpump: Adoroi
Wife: Amuru
Woman (my): Di amuro
Worm: Teri
Wrist: Adaiama
Writing: Sina
Yarn: Anai, Feusi
Yes: Ea

1: Foreordanesia
2: Amaduman
3: Foreordanesia
4: Atamadaban.
GRAVE AT NENEA VILLAGE, MOUNT SCRATCHLEY.
(Shewing Skeleton.)

NENEA VILLAGE, MOUNT SCRATCHLEY.
Shewing disposal of Skulls of dead relatives.
APPENDIX D.

DESPATCH, REPORTING VISIT OF INSPECTION TO CERTAIN PLACES IN THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE POSSESSION.

No. 3.

18th January, 1887.

Mr. Loun—I have the honour to report that on the 9th November I left Port Moresby in the s.s. "Merrie England" to visit certain places in the eastern part of the colony.

The Government Station of the Rigo district was in a satisfactory condition; the food gardens containing considerable quantities of bananas, sweet potatoes, &c. The two large bridges constructed by Mr. English across the creek, for opening a wheel-road from the beach to the station, were all but finished. They are built of the best native hardwood (Afzelia bijuga), which will keep sound for several generations; they are strongly put together, and are altogether a very creditable performance. The road was also being proceeded with. The only disagreeable matter was the rather severe, continuous drought.

The chief of Gusoru joined us with a number of carriers for travelling inland.

The night of the 11th was spent at Suman; it was ascertained that nothing of importance had occurred in the district for some time.

At Samarai I was waited on by a deputation on the 12th, which came to complain of the action of the magistrate in refusing to allow certain vessels to carry an unreasonable number of natives along the coast to the Manusare River.

The commander of the s.s. "Merrie England" inspected the vessels engaged in this work, and determined the number that they each could with safety carry in the future.

At Kap-Kapi, where we anchored for the night of the 13th, all was quiet.

2. On the 15th of November we started from the northern mouth of the Musa to ascend that river as far as the Moni Valley. The party consisted of two miners (Messrs. Simpson and McLelland) Mr. Green, Mr. Kowald, and myself, with carriers and a few constabulary, transported in two whaleboats towards the scene of the s.s. "Merrie England." It was, however, soon found that the launch had been neglected, had been badly damaged when being unskillfully hoisted on board the steamer, and had further been allowed to fall out of repairs. In addition to this, the driver could not manage the machinery.

The first day we only reached the camp at the foot of Mount Victory, some ten or twelve miles by the river, and had to camp there for the night.

Next day the launch and boats had to return to the mouth of the river to bring on the rest of the party and baggage that had been left there. On the 19th the launch ceased at the village of Yasia to be of any further use; at that time, too, half of the party were a day's march further down the river. We were thus left encumbered by too many men and too much baggage for ascending the river by pulling boats, especially against the stream, then becoming flooded.

At Yasia a few natives, the first we had seen, came to the camp. They were shy and timid, but quite friendly. There was hardly any trace left of the former villages that stood on the river below this point. Even Yasia itself was deserted, and the houses were falling to pieces. This depopulation was doubtless one of the results of the raid of the Mount Trafalgar men in their great cannibal expedition of 1865.

It was found that Yasia is in latitude 9° 15' 05" S., and bear 162° 15', magnetic, to the highest peak of Mount Goropu. About a mile above Yasia a branch called the Totori enters the Musa on the right side; it comes apparently from the western side of Mount Victory, and is about sixty yards wide.

Several canoes come out of that branch with taro they wished to sell; there is probably a village on it; there are certainly gardens there. Two or three miles above the Totori there was a new village of five houses, well built, on the right bank of the river; this place they called Kiriw. There were about a score of men present there; all were friendly; they had no tree-houses.

We reached the village of Yagisa, on the right bank, on the afternoon of the 23rd. It consists of nearly two dozen houses and red tree-houses. There were about fifty men present; they supplied us with some native food. One man even said he belonged to Tojiwari (one of the former small villages below Yasia), and that his people had been nearly all killed by the Trafalgar cannibals. He was aware that these had been promptly punished, and he divested himself of his earrings and presented them to me out of gratitude; but he was very willing to accept a return present.

On the 24th Mr. Kowald and Mr. Simpson crossed the river from our camp to the right bank, about a couple of miles above Yagisa, to look for a native track by which the carriers could transport the baggage or part of it overland.

They found one which led them to the village of Dova.

From this point one can easily travel overland into the Musa Valley, there being native paths all the way and no very difficult road.

On the 25th of November we were at the village of Dova. It appears that the name of the district is Endari, which is also sometimes applied to the village. The Dova people were friendly, and some of their men, with a small number from Yagisa, assisted as carriers. Dova was found to be in latitude 9° 21' 30" S., and bear 155° 30'-158° and 161°, magnetic, to the three peaks of Goropu.

The greater number of the Dova men stole away into the bush on the morning of the 27th, when their services as carriers were required by us.

A little way above Dova two men appeared on the right bank of the river, one in a shirt and wearing a red cloth. They turned out to be the chief of the Gedawduru tribe and his brother. As soon as the chief heard that we were on the river, he started on a raft to come to meet us. The village of
Gwadaru was passed by our boat on the 29th, but with such extreme difficulty that, after taking about an hour to accomplish a hundred yards on the river, I was all but on the point of giving it up as hopeless. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Kowald went on overland, and reached Dugaree village.

Gwadaru consists at present of a score of dwelling-houses in three or four groups, each surrounded by a palisade, and it has half-a-score of good tree-houses. Dugaree has now about fifteen dwelling-houses and three tree-houses. All those people were very friendly, many of them having joined the land party as carriers.

A camp was formed on the left bank, about a mile below where the river enters between the hills, and there Mr. Kowald was left behind with part of the baggage.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon I had pitched camp on the river, about a mile and a-half below the highest point to which the boat could be taken, when messengers reached me overland asking that I should return immediately to see Mr. Kowald, who had suffered a very serious accident. I arrived at Mr. Kowald's camp at dusk. Mr. Kowald, it appears, was showing the chief, Keburanama, how dynamite is used. He was not then employing it for the purpose of fishing, for the river was flooded, the water was muddy, and there was no pool there. Mr. Kowald was blowing on a firestick to light the fuse, when the cartridge of dynamite exploded in his right hand. The explosion carried away his hand and the right eye, besides inflicting numerous serious injuries to the face, neck, and right side of the body. It was evident that his condition was a very grave one, and that I should consequently not be able to proceed any further up the river. It was accordingly arranged that Mr. Simpson and Mr. McLellan should go on to the Muns or Mons Valley with the carriers and six constabulary, with provisions up to the 6th of January.

I descended the river with Mr. Kowald to get him on board the "Mercy England" as soon as possible.

Mr. Simpson's report of his journey is annexed hereto. It will be seen that from the gold prospectors' point of view it is nothing short of disappointing.

The day after the accident to Mr. Kowald and the subsequent day several men, including the old chief of Gudare, came to the camp from Muns and Gudare to say they were greatly distressed over the sad affair to Mr. Kowald; that they had cried over ever since, and had not slept. Mr. Kowald had received or simulated grief very admirably; but they intimated that so much sorrow deserved some material recompense.

On arriving at Gwadaru on the 4th December, I was informed by the chief's brother that they had cried all night and had not slept since the accident, and they wished to be paid for their tears. A very small present extinguished this old claim.

On the 6th of December we passed, at some seven or eight miles from the sea, the camp of as many miners, who were on their way to the Moni Valley.

Four or five more were still at the mouth of the river. They were expecting assistance from the steam launch to help them up stream; but that was of course impossible, as the launch was quite useless even to ourselves. It will be seen that Mr. Simpson met these men higher up the river on his return, when he showed them the nearest and best road into the valley, and provided them with bead guides and carriers. With these and the road already cut, and with the Moni natives all friendly, they should have no difficulty in reaching the main range, were the weather at all favourable.

One of their number had already died, and others were ill. Some of those camped at the mouth of the river were also sick—one or two seriously so—and so were also the two men in charge of the launch.

On the evening of the 8th of December we reached the mouth of the Mambare River. The following day we began the ascent of the Mambare, which was flooded, and the current very strong.

At Tsartata there were no natives in residence. It was evident that the whole village she had recently been flooded.

At Gudare we found all the Tauntata people; they had left Pen, they said, because it had been so often flooded. At Gudare there are some ridges that are 50 or 60 feet above the river; they are now building on a clearing there. It appears that the tribes on the Gira side of them have made peace with Taututu.

On this visit one of the Mambare prisoners went back to his district. He is a member of the constabulary, and seems to be a steady, trustworthy man. If he remains so, he will be of very great use to the Government Agent.

It did not seem quite safe to trust all the others at present in their own district. It is most desirable that they should have some experience as members of the force in other districts, and in general service, before they return as village police or as armed constables in the Mambure district.

The returned man, who seems to be a great favourite in the district, had a touching and warm welcome at many places.

On seeing him arrive at Gada a woman stood up and yelled for some time as loud and hard as she could; then she and two or three others rushed at him, seized and kissed him by rubbing faces after their own fashion; then he sat down on a mat and let them cling to him and cry and lament. When the women had done their cry and sung their coronach then the men surrounded him, and as soon as one man began to cry then the lips of each man began to shake and their eyes to water, and all cried as they might more reasonably have been expected to do were he being torn away from them instead of being restored to his friends. His behaviour was very correct; he received their embraces, kisses, and tears with sympathy; then showed them his uniform, carbine, the contents of his shooting-bag, his outfit, &c. This was gone through whenever there was an opportunity but their very demonstrative affection was exhibited at some places where we did not stop, in a still more striking way.

When they heard at Manatu village that Dumai had returned, a woman yelled and screamed at the top of her shrill voice, and beat her breast violently. She then took a short run along the high, hard-baked bank of the river, jumped into the air, throwing herself back at the same time so that she fell on the whole length of her back flat on the hard ground; this she did again and again.

But even that, which would have probably stunned or killed an elderly European woman, did not seem to relieve sufficiently the feelings of joy with which she was suddenly intoxicated.
She took a run straight towards the river and jumped from the high bank as far as she could into the flooded muddy stream, swimming back to the bank to repeat again the same acrobatic leap.

At every place the natives were friendly.

Two men insisted on accompanying up the river from Goda, and they kept shouting to everyone they saw the news of the return of Dumai. The corporal, a Fly River man, had brought his wife, a woman of Port Moresby, with him. Next to the return of Dumai the arrival of the corporal’s wife was the most important news; the idea seemed to be that now the constabulary were bringing their wives there was to be real peace in future. She was looked at with the deepest interest.

5. At the station there were ten or twelve miners. Two had died, and half the others were ill, some of them seriously so. There were some ten or twelve in the interior, but the latest news from them was by no means encouraging.

It appeared they were working on the old ground on the McLaughlin Creek, at the foot of Mount Seratley, and that they had not found any new patches. It rained every day whilst we were on the river. In the morning the river was always flooded, sometimes overflowing the banks; in the afternoon it fell several feet, only to be up again next morning. It was the intention of most of the miners to leave the Manbure till the wet season was past. A number of them wished to reach Samarai by the steamer.

There was a trader’s schooner at the mouth of the river; and as private vessels often complain that the steamer interferes with their business by carrying passengers, &c., I directed Mr. Green to inquire into each case before a passage could be granted by the steamer. He was instructed to send by the steamer each man that was so ill as to render his speedy removal desirable; and each man that was not able to pay his passage by the schooner. Some half-dozen came by the steamer. Some that left the river abandoned there the native carriers they had brought about 200 miles from their homes.

6. A large number of natives came from Milne Bay to Kwato at Christmas to visit the Rev. C. W. Abel; there were over 200 men in twenty-one long canoes.

Learning that I was at Samarai, they came there on Christmas Day to escort me ceremonially to Kwato. I had an opportunity of interviewing all the principal men on the 20th. First of all I presented to them Mr. Symons as successor to Mr. Arnot; then it was explained to them that it was extremely foolish to cut down rubber-trees, as many were said to do, to obtain a single crop of rubber instead of preserving the trees to yield an annual crop. They were encouraged to make a road from Wagg-Wagg to Mairana to join the great road already made on the north side of the bay. It was impressed on them that they should build good houses and extend their coconut plantations, and that they should always assist the police and the teachers.

7. We reached Samarai on the morning of the 17th of December, and the next day, at noon, the steamer left for Cooktown.

Symptoms of traumatic tetanus began to show themselves in the case of Mr. Kowald as we descended the north-east coast, and it was deemed urgent to transport him to the hospital at Cooktown as soon as possible, although his recovery was all but despaired of.

The Manbure station was supplied with provisions for six mouths. With the Government Agent were left nine men of the armed constabulary and six prisoners. The first work of Mr. Green will be to transfer the station to some low ridges on the Tamata branch, about a mile and a-half from the present station.

The new station will be accessible by boat, and will be beyond the reach of any flood.

8. A large number of natives came from Milne Bay to Kwato at Christmas to visit the Rev. C. W. Abel; there were over 200 men in twenty-one long canoes.

On the 2nd of January the steamer left Samarai to fetch Mr. Simpson’s party from the mouth of the Manus River, and she returned on the 5th. On the following day the steamer left for Sudest Island with Mr. Winter on board, who received directions to inquire into several matters in that district, as I was detained at Samarai on other work. Mr. Winter’s report will be found annexed hereto. It will be noted that the prisoners employed at Sudest were in a very satisfactory condition.

9. There is considerable activity in the east end of the colony, chiefly on account of the two industries of gold and rubber. It appears that there were over 200 miners on Woodlark Island, about half-of-score in the Moro Valley, and nearly the same number on Mount Seratley. The Manus men were reported as some doing fairly well, and others as getting but little. The rubber industry has already assumed considerable proportions, and it seems to have room for much extension. The rubber seems to be of fair, some of first-rate, quality.
After leaving your party on the 2nd December, 1896, I made across the ridge and struck the river midway between your highest 1896 and 1895 boat camp. Before crossing the ridge I was joined by about thirty of the local natives, Ilmiban who, accompanied us to the river and down it we picked up the boat camp and Mr. McLeod and the police. By the time we had arranged the stores to go back it was found to be too late to make the 1895 boat camp that day.

The local natives professed to be willing to go with us to the Moni Valley and carry loading. Fourteen of them were picked out to return to us the following morning, which they did, and we reached the 1895 boat camp at 10 a.m. on the 3rd, the goods unloaded, and river boat returned to your party.

On reaching the camp the Ilmiban boys did not want to go further; they had previous to this volunteered to show us a road up the left bank; they now declared there was no road up that side. However, they were induced to cross the river with us, and we cleared and erected a camp.

During the afternoon half of them sneaked quietly off, and during the night the remainder decamped also, though a watch had been set on them.

Some delay was caused on the morning of the 4th by having to rearrange the carriers' loads, through the failure of the Ilmiban boys' promises to come with us, and we left at 9 a.m. After going a mile or two it was found one of the parties had lost its way. Two or three fair-sized creeks were in water in this stretch, but without getting them back and changing him for one left in camp, which cost us another hour. We have with us four police and twenty-three carriers, leaving two police to mind the stores and boat at Didura, the native name for the camp.

At the river we saw traces in old places of the track made by Your Excellency. On our second day we made across the high ridge as suggested by the river-strangulation, and we have seen no solid country anywhere, all sand on the other side. Following on till camp time, the course marked on your tracing, we were in very difficult country during the afternoon. Next morning had to lead side and go down to the river bank, crossed the grass hill, picked up the old native track, and carried in a day and a half, four miles or so from grass hill, and reached the Moni-Aduna junction next morning by 9 a.m. Followed a native track up about half a mile from junction, when we suddenly came out on a big grass patch. On this patch we sighted a native before he saw us. I immediately sang out the peace terms used with the exception of the word friendly and was too terrified to ask if the last was true, and on this he recovered he had managed to assure me that our mission was a friendly one. He wished to go away at once for food and fetch his friends, but we induced to show us his village, a poor little place of four or five houses, and Your Excellency's '96 camp. About an hour after leaving us he returned with about thirty of the local natives, Iru bisa boys, who accompanied us.

These ridges were dry, all made ground, with a coating of black soil on top.

We had passed a branch of the Aduna, named Domara, about four miles up from the Moni junction, at which we first camped. It was thought it would be better to cross in the high country between the Aduna and Domara. This we did, passing over a lot of grass country alternated with scrub, a lot of it ridgy, all made ground, almost in every instance you could make water by digging. Two or three fair-sized creeks we water in we tried, but without getting them back and changing him for one left in camp, which cost us another hour.

We met some miles out by the Domara chief and a host of followers, who accompanied us to the Domara branch, down it some distance till we came to a village close to the junction with the Aduna, alongside of which we first camped. We tried the Domara beaches without success.

So far this side of the valley had shown us very little for diggers; in both branches slate and quartz are abundant, but giving very little for diggers.

We crossed also some fine small plains of kangaroo grass; these plains were all made ground, with a coating of black soil on top.

We passed over one small branch called the Oiwa coming into the S.W. our first day. This branch junctions with Moni about four miles west or south west from the Aduna junction.

Our road across the valley was a very varied one, sometimes high cane or spear grass, and sometimes fine open grassy ridges, with plenty of small trees, particularly so on the upper part of the valley.

We passed another small branch, the Sidwara, coming in from north or north-west, about sixteen miles above Aduna junction; and about eight miles above that we came to a very large branch, the Oiwa, which we passed up to the range, a distance of eight to ten miles, course about S.W., We found fine colours of gold on the beach gravel of the branch, and fine colours in some gullies and creeks coming into it; but it was the usual thing in this branch, all flat ground until it rose abruptly into the range, leaving practically no ground for alluvial prospectors.

We returned down the Oiwa by the same track we had gone up; stopped some distance above the junction; put in a day making refit, not finding a great deal of difficulty, succeeded in crossing the whole of the expedition over the fast-running Moni. This difficulty was caused by our carriers' utter want of knowledge of river work; and it is doubtful a very strong load now could have succeeded in crossing it at all and not lost the help of the local inhabitants, who, seeing our boys inefficient, turned out and assisted with a will. After crossing the Moni we made off from the river in a north-west direction to get into some ridgy country we could see out that way. We crossed a bit of flat sand up to the Moni, and started and tried two big creeks, but without success.

There were numerous gullies amongst the ridges, but, with the exception of the two creeks, they were dry. These ridges were principally made country. The first day we were among them we did not see native rock anywhere on the bottom of one of the creeks.

We came back to the Moni at a point where it was flowing through a gorge.

We got through this gorge to find a big creek coming in from the north-west, and the Moni itself turning to the south-west, entering another big gorge.

We followed this up some distance until we came to a remarkable-looking bridge constructed by the natives across the river at a very narrow part of the gorge.

We had tried the river beaches at various points about the gorge without results.

The going ahead looked very difficult. We had a couple of carriers knocking up, and it was thought advisable for the time we had left to go up the big creek to the north-west as far as we could.
This was accordingly done. We followed this creek up a good many miles and prospect ed it well, but did not see gold.

The formation was very remarkable, always changing. Our second morning in the creek it was found that two of our carriers were utterly unable to proceed further; so we proceeded to make our way back to the Gowa junction. Here we made some rafts in addition to those we had left there, and came down the Moni as far as the Poosi junction.

Our reason for stopping at that point was we were informed by the natives that the road from the Lower Moni up to the Poosi junction was very dangerous, and that the journey was too long for our time. We found it necessary to stay a day there to solicit the sick carriers; and on the morning of the 25th we left for the boat camp at Dulura, arriving there about 4:30 p.m. on the same afternoon, although we had some difficulty in getting our sick carriers to move. We found the road on our return journey a vast improvement to the one we had gone up on the opposite back. All through the trip the Moni chief proved our particular friend; escorting us through the country, and introducing us to all his neighbours and friends. We found a very large population in the valley, and in all instances they were friendly; but in the early part of the visit they were very suspicious, in the latter part their suspicions were very much abated. We saw no women with the exception of two by accident, and only in the latter part of our trip did we see any small children, who seemed not the least bit afraid of us, sleeping in the camp with their relatives if allowed. The principal weapons of these people seemed to be the spear, club, and shield; we did not see any bows and arrows. The dress used by the men is one of the ordinary native cloth. The health of the expedition was fair, many of the carriers getting slight attacks of fever, and the final break-up of the two before mentioned certainly robbed us of a few days work ahead.

It was not possible to take them further out, and it would have been very unwise to divide the party.

Species of country rock wherever seen were obtained, also some river shingle.

We left the Dulura Camp on the morning of the 25th with the boat and rafts, and reached the Ten-mile Camp, under Mount Victory, on the afternoon of the 26th December.

As we had a few days to spare, we started out to examine some of the country on the west side of Mount Victory. We returned from there on the 2nd instant without having discovered anything worth noting, and on the third day made our way to the sea.

The Mercury England arrived the same day.

I am, Sir,

WM. SIMPSON,

His Excellency Sir Wm. Macgregor, Lieutenant-Governor, British New Guinea.

**VOCABULARY.**

| Area | Adj.
|------|------|
| Arua | Ari
| Boulded shelter | Kamii
| Borer in cane | Kovee
| Bulky | Tota
| Boys | Borri or Bororidlin
| Blue pigeon | Ubani
| Beetle cut | Tama
| Bug | Gaoli
| Bulldog | Sikii
| Banana | Kaka or Donoro
| Bamboo pipe | Gagabu
| Black bee, yellow streak | Balram
| Cassowary shank-bones | Begiga
| Carry | Bum or Banu
| Cane grass | Ora
| Crooked | Blitza
| Coral | Goezema
| Calico | Yapa Yapa
| Creek | Bibira
| Cooking pot, Okia | Oka
| Disc club | Tuhi
| Drink water | Bengo or Koiohn
| Dance | Gomi or Gorni
| Dead | Ula
| Dyed native cloth | Giwai
| Drum | Duru Goma
| Eye | Nanita
| Eye | Omi
| Fat | Bengo
| Fog | Qerso
| Fingers | Ipol
| Foot | Toequa
| Fish | Mvian
| Firewood | Kaiso Kaiso
| Fingern and ornament for month, pig | Gomtani Gainri
| Fine | Jere
| Frees | Monka Monka Pekina
| Fall down | Tari
| Good | Inanga
| Ginger | Or
| Garden | Bigata
| Green | Nini
| Greena | Magezo or Awarri
| Get up | Emina

**WEAPONS AND ORNAMENTS BOUGHT.**

**UPPER MUSUL.**

- Disc club: Tinpi
- Round club: Patana
- Pineapple club: Misi
- Round club: Fawu
- Road: Atsu
- Road: Duri or Daha
- Root for dye: Amiing
- Raft: Yo
- Rough yam: Biliika
- Rope: Toro
- Rain coining: Obi mituris
- Sing: Gomtani
- Shield: Birn
- Sword: Wiabi
- Scythe: Tiga
- Sword: Iwarri
- Star: Muran
- Stone: Gillia
- Sweet potatoes: Mosera
- Stinging shrub: Ari
- Small: Ona
- Sit down: Asamti
- Sleep: Atumata or Rio

- Shore: Gomu
- Sleeping mat: Washimiri
- Small net: Wadja
- Sugar-cane: Poca Roca
- Spear grass: Oki or Sivra
- Tree: Rurubu
- Topknot: Giri
- Thunder: Ugabu
- Toro: Mian
- To make fire: Gegraburi
- Thumb: Ubi
- Vine: Yudua
- Wild bees: Anurakumma
- Walk: Yergi
- Wild ducks: Wadi
- Water: Uwa
- Wild turkey: Dika
- Yew: Ai
- One: Owersa in
- Two: Emman uan
- Three: Gadibon
- Four: Ozaabu
- Five: Unpaula.
S.S. "Merrie England,
9th January, 1897.

Sir,—I have the honour to report that on the morning of the 8th January instant the steamer reached the anchorage off Pamana Point, and that during the course of the day I visited the quartz-mine and inspected the prisoners.

Prisoners.
2. The main camp of the prisoners on the 8th January was on the top of a level portion of a small spur, some three miles inland by the road. This camp was to be shifted in a few days to a site on the edge of a spur of the range in which the mine is. The new camp will be about half-an-hour's walk from the mine. Those of the prisoners who are at work on the mine itself camp alongside the Europeans on the summit of the range, close to the mine. The health of the prisoners seemed good, and their skins sleek and clean. They all appear to be in a contented frame of mind. The prisoners stationed at the main camp were at work on the main road, close to the camp. Those at work on the mine are at present engaged in tunnelling work. There are at present thirty-five prisoners with the Head Gaoler at Sadost.

Free Labourers.
3. The company have now forty-eight free labourers engaged, of whom seventeen come from the neighbourhood of John and the rest from Russell Island. Those that I saw seemed healthy and cheerful. Their camp is at the mill site.

Road.
4. A great deal of labour has been expended in making the road from the landing on the Hula River to the mill site. The road has been cleared and formed to within about half a mile of the mill site.

The Mine.
5. A shaft has been sunk from the crest of the range to a depth of 80 feet. The quantity of water that percolates through the surrounding soil into the shaft has made it necessary to dig tunnels into the hill-side to meet the shaft. Two tunnels are being driven into the south-western face of the hill, one a little lower down than the other. These tunnels will enable the shaft to be drained, and will also improve the ventilation of the mines. The quartz will also be brought out through them. The shaft has reached the quartz roof. The mill will be several hundred vertical feet below the mine, as it will be at the foot of the steep slope, near the top of which the mine at present is.

Ticks at Sadost.
6. Ticks in numbers have been found on the cattle at Sadost, but it has not been scientifically proved that these ticks are the same kind of tick as the one that has been so destructive to cattle in Queensland. Three of the bullocks belonging to the mining company died some little time ago, but the driver, an experienced man in cattle, thinks their death was due to their having eaten some poisonous plant. Other cattle have also died, but the owners do not put their deaths down to the ticks. It cannot, however, be said that it has been shown that the Sadost ticks are not injurious to cattle.

I have, etc,
FRANCIS P. WINTER, C.J.O.
His Excellency The Lieutenant-Governor.

APPENDIX E.

DESPATCH REPORTING UPON THE GOLD-BEARING DISTRICTS OF THE POSSESSION.
No. 4.

Government House,
Port Moresby, 18th January, 1897.

My Lord,—My attention has been drawn to the fact that many sensational, probably misleading, items of news have recently been appearing in the Australian Press with regard to the gold-bearing districts of this colony. It seems well that the matter should be put at once in its true light, to prevent, perhaps, much disappointment, risk to health, and loss of time.

1. There can be no doubt that the Woodlark (Muran) Gold Field is already much over mannined. There is no reason to suppose that the present mining population can remain there long. It would therefore be unwise for parties of men to come to this colony with the idea of working on Woodlark Island.

3. The islands of Manus (St. Aignan) and Sadost are practically abandoned by the surface miner.

4. As regards Mount Scratchley and its vicinity, where the head waters of the Manihure River take their rise, all that can be said is that there is a large area of country, composed principally of slate and quartz, with colours of gold in many, if not in most, creeks, with occasional traces of auriferous and chalcopyrite; but at the present moment it is not known to me that any new patch has been discovered that yields payable gold, while the McLaughlin Creek, where nearly all the gold found in that part of the country was got, must be about worked out by this time. The position of the Upper Manihure district, therefore, is this—that there seems to be a large area of gold-bearing country there, but what it requires is the prospector. There is not a goldfield there in the sense of any area of payable gold, but it seems to be well worth the attention of good prospectors.

5. At present there are four parties in the interior. (a) About a dozen men on the Upper Manihure, apparently at work chiefly on the McLaughlin Creek. They were understood, by latest reports, to be getting but little gold. (b) Ten or eleven men in the Moni Valley. The Moni is the western and larger branch of the Musa River beyond the first range of hills. This party has gone up the branch of
the Musa that appeared to Messrs. Simpson and McLelland to give the best prospect. They have some native carriers and probably three or four months' provisions. They may be able to prospect a part of the valley if the weather permits them to do so. Up to the present I have no information as to payable gold in the Musa or Mont Valley, but it is a country worth examining. (e) A small party of five or six men and ten horses have gone inland from Port Moreby, intending to reach the Upper Mambare if they can. No news has been received from them. They are traversing a district which a party from Port Moreby recently visited in an indirect way, under circumstances that appear to have been somewhat irregular, and which ended in the party being attacked, robbed, and driven back by the natives. The district has been subsequently visited by a magistrate, a government agent, and a force of constabulary, but the natives are probably still unsettled there, and may cause this last party of miners some trouble. I cannot send the constabulary to patrol that part of the country at this season. (f) A party of three men are said to have followed up the path recently cut across the main range from the Mambare to the Yomum, and to have reached the top of Mount Scratchley. Nothing further has been heard of them. All these men have been warned against going inland at this season of the year, but they disregarded all advice in such things, and being free agents in the matter they take their own way. It will be a surprise to me if they all come back alive. To try to cross the main range at this season with native carriers would be very improper; but it is understood that the two parties that have gone inland from the south side have no engaged native carriers with them. Any others they may employ on the way will be nearly sure to desert before they suffer too much.

6. The wet season has set in late—about the middle of January—at Port Moreby. It is not therefore to be expected that prospectors can travel inland before the end of April.

7. A word of warning will not be out of place as to the stamp of men that should attempt prospecting in the interior here. It is a hopeless undertaking for old or sickly men at any season. Only young and healthy men should try it at any time. For a man that has no means at his disposal this prospecting is practically impossible. For the necessary outfit a man would require from £50 to £100, to be chiefly expended in provisions, carriers, and medicines. The magistrates will not engage native carriers to men that cannot guarantee the wages of the carriers; and the Government cannot furnish carriers to prospectors.

The knowledge at present in the possession of this Government does not justify any considerable additional outlay on its part in cutting more new paths. Some are needed in any case for ordinary administrative purposes, but they cannot be started until the end of the rainy season.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., Brisbane.

APPENDIX F.

DESPATCH REPORTING VISIT OF INSPECTION TOWARDS THE WESTERN DIVISION OF THE POSSESSION.

No. 33.] Mambare River, 23rd April, 1897.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report that I left Port Moreby in the s.s. "Merrie England" on the 8th February to proceed on a visit of inspection towards the Western division of the colony.

At Bialala we landed the Magistrate for the Central division, who was to visit the district officially, travelling along the coast from the Purari towards Port Moreby. The logger for the division was then on its way west to join him at Orokolo.

2. The Government Station at Duru was found to be in a satisfactory condition. There was sufficient food growing there to feed the constabulary and the prisoners—half a-dozen of the former, and some three dozen, at that time, of the latter. As a change of diet, rice is given to a small extent.

The principal work carried out lately at this station has been the building of a small wharf, which has already reached a length of some three hundred yards; when it has been extended a hundred yards further, boats will be able to go alongside at low-spring tides. The first ninety yards is built of stone, the rest of red mangrove on strong posts of ti-tree, which latter is not attacked by the teredo.

The foreshore is mud-covered, and it has hitherto been always a matter of much difficulty to land at Duru at any time save at high tide. The structure is well built, and will be of great use.

A new and more elaborate prison is at present under construction at Duru. All the leading chiefs of the district came to report themselves. They had, however, but little to relate, as there is nothing to report save ordinary offences.

The Resident Magistrate had some time before this visited several new tribes at some distance from the coast of Mahalawau and Mawatua, and had everywhere been received in a friendly manner, which at all places is bound to increase the course of the coast civilisation and preceded him. He saw large areas of good rolling pasture land apparently suitable for growing coconut-trees.

3. On the 18th February I proceeded as far as Warrior Island (Tutu), in order to begin an examination of the reefs between that point and Duru, to learn more precisely the extent of the fishing-ground and that direction of our nearest coast tribes.

I was accompanied by leading men of the tribes interested. This examination, which takes much time and is in several ways not easy to accomplish, was not then completed; but it is now safe to say that a boundary between Queensland and this colony, starting from Bramble Cay to the Moon Pass in
the coast. In conjunction with the request, and to place two teachers on the Morehead. The Resident Magistrate has promised to comply with their request to be paid to the tribes of the Morehead so long as the wind remained favourable for traversing that very exposed part of the southern coast, a start was made on 28th February, when we proceeded as far as Suibai.

Next day we cramped at Biambro, the spot on the west bank of the Wasi Kussa, where we last year encountered the main body of the Tugeri.

We had with us several of the leading men of Wawatta, and also two men of the Wasi and Masi Kussa tribes selected from those then living at Boigu. The object of this was to make these men acquainted with the Morehead people, and to encourage the latter to enter into close relations with these settled, more eastern tribes between the Wasi Kussa and Daru.

On 1st March we camped on the west bank of the Morehead in a fairly good camping-ground, nearly a thousand yards from the mouth of the river. The Morehead was quite unknown to the Wawatta and Wasi natives that accompanied us, but they had a name for it.

On the 2nd and 3rd March we ascended the river, camping about half-a-mile above our old camp at Bangu, which was then completely under water, except about an acre of ground, the top of the ridge. We met two small canoes two score of miles below Bangu, the inmates of which were friendly.

There were no gardens on the river banks, and it was ascertained later that the Morehead people have not rebuilt their villages since they were burned down two years ago by the Tugeri.

On the 4th a few natives came to our camp in the morning, and before night we were visited by some four score men. They came without weapons and nearly empty-handed, for they had very little food for themselves.

They reported that the Tugeri, after their defeat on the Wasi Kussa last year, did not stop at the Morehead on their return journey. The Morehead people knew of the reverses of the Tugeri from seeing some of their skeletons on their road.

On the 5th I went up the river to a spot about eight miles above Bangu, where it was said a permanent camp or station could if necessary be formed. The place was found suitable, being about four feet above the surface of the then flooded river.

As the Wasi natives could converse a little with the Morehead people, it was proposed to the latter that they should all assemble together and build a strong village, that the Government should station half-a-dozen constabulary there, and that they should invite the Rev. James Chalmers to establish a mission station on the Morehead. There were four chiefs present, and these and their principal men readily entertained these proposals. They seemed then rather inclined to build on their ancient sites on the coast.

It was also arranged that two young men should accompany us to Daru, to become acquainted with our coast tribes. They did. The Rev. James Chalmers has promised to comply with their request, and to place two teachers on the Morehead. The Resident Magistrate has been directed to enlist six extra men to be stationed on the Morehead.

In choosing the time to do this, and in selecting the site that may finally be settled on, he will act in conjunction with Mr. Chalmers.

If this arrangement is successfully carried out, it will in a very short time add the Morehead to our settled districts in the west, the time for which seems to me to be now ripe.

From additional astronomical observations and other topographical notes made during this inspection, it will be possible to prepare a more correct delineation of the coast line from Boigu to the Morehead than any we now possess.

A halt was made at Boigu on the return journey on the 8th March. There I received a pencil-note that had been left at that place to inform me of the murder of Mr. Green and a number of others on the Mambare River.

There were natives at Boigu at that date fifty-four natives of British New Guinea made up of twenty-six men, fifteen women, and thirteen children. It was arranged with them that they should build a village in their own district next June.

They have already planted gardens near its intended site. At Boigu they were eating the seeds and shoots of mangrove, and were in their usual condition of semi-starvation.

A man named Aratai, the head of the Bagi, was appointed chief of those then living at Boigu.

The resident teacher had caused his church and school to be put in better condition, and was giving more attention to his duties than formerly, and from this the Papuans were to some extent profiting. On the 11th the Hon. John Douglas arrived at Daru, having most kindly come over in the "Albatross" steamer, bringing me fuller and clearer information in regard to the Mambare massacres.

I learned at the same time that the s.s. "Merrie England" would probably leave Brisbane for Port Moresby soon after the 17th. Mr. Douglas did not think that the "Albatross" was in a fit condition to do the journey across the Gulf to Port Moresby. I therefore decided to travel along the coast with the river launch, which would be of great use on the north-coast coast if it were possible to get her so far at this time of the year.
6. We left Daru for Port Moresby on the morning of the 18th with the steam launch and two whaleboats, and arrived at Sagana the same afternoon, where we spent the next day (Sunday) with the Rev. James Chalmers. A very good house has been built at the Mission station. Nearly thirty boys and girls live about the establishment, and attend school with tolerable regularity under a little wholesome pressure; judiciously exercised by the chief, who is also village constable.

On our arrival most of the people were absent making; on. On the Sabbath nearly 100 persons were present. They begin to sing fairly well. The service was conducted in English, partly in the Kiwi language. After service I was present at the ordinary school lessons. The small children chanted the alphabet. Then they all went over the numbers in English up to 100; they can count in this language up to 1,000. The next lesson was on the English names of common things, in which they were evidently making good progress. They went over the outlines of the geography of the world, more particularly that of Australia and of British New Guinea. They read in English words up to four letters, they know several English hymns, and repeated the Lord’s Prayer in that tongue. A certain amount of drill is taught for the sake of order. They concluded by singing “God Save the Queen” in good English. It was very manifest that Mr. Chalmers has met with encouraging results during the time he has been living at Sagana. The mission is really an English one, and it is amongst natives that desire to adopt the ways of white men. The nature of this district is such that they cannot live comfortably at home, but are practically forced to go out to work to make considerable numbers.

A knowledge of English will therefore be to them special value. It is an undoubted fact that if this mission is conducted permanently on its present lines, it will be invaluable to the people of the Fly Estuary from more than one point of view, as much in their economic as in their religious life.

Somewhat to our dismay a very strong south-east wind blew all day on the 14th, accompanied with a heavy sea, under which travelling along a completely open and exposed coast would in our fruit crafts have been impossible.

On the morning of the 15th twenty-three men out of a large number of aspirants were enrolled at Sagana in the armed forces.

The schooner of the London Missionary Society had been kindly lent to the Government Secretary to bring me duplicate despatches concerning the Mambare occurrences, and these recruits were opportunistically and conveniently embarked at Sagana on this vessel for Port Moresby.

On the 16th we had to ascend the Beaum River—some half-score of miles to obtain fresh water. A few scattered natives on the Bebe made friendly signs to us as we passed, inviting us to land, but time did not permit of this. The same night we camped on the Guna, and next day reached the passage at Risk Point by midday. Several score of canoes came out to meet us, offering bows and arrows for sale, but as the weather was favourable we continued on our way, merely presenting a tomahawk to one of the men of Aumo, at the east end of the passage, a village that has always been friendly disposed. We passed outside of Cape Blackwood, camped at night in the Pain Estuary, and reached Oroko many hours later. We found that the Resident Magistrate had recently visited the district and attended to all current matters requiring his attention.

Nothing worthy of notice occurred till we reached Port Moresby, on the 22nd March, with the steam launch safe and in good condition.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

APPENDIX G.

DESPATCH REPORTING ASCENT OF MAMBARE RIVER, AND ACTION TAKEN TO DISCOVER ACTUAL PERPETRATORS OF MURDERS AT PHU, GADARA, ETC.

No. 34.]

Mambare River, 28th April, 1897.

Mr. Lord,—I have the honour to report that I left Sannari on the 10th April, on the s.s. “M errie England,” to proceed to the Mambare River.

The same day the launch “Ruby” left Sannari for the North-east coast.

The night was spent at Cape Vogel. There I was visited by the three principal men of the district, who reported all quiet and satisfactory.

Next day a native came out to meet us off Cape Nelison, and as it was thought that it might contain some carriers escaped from the Mambare, the steamer was stopped to allow them to communicate, but at the last moment their courage failed them, and they would not approach the steamer. We reached the harbour of Portlock on the 11th.

Soon afterwards a native came on board, a friend or relation of the wounded man returned to the Trafalgar tribe after their cannibal raid on the Musa some two years ago. He was not in the least suspicious. He had seen no refugees.

During the night of the 12th-13th, Mr. Moreton arrived from the Mambare, and boarded the “Merrie England” in Portlock Harbour.

When at the Mosquito Islands, on the morning of the 11th February, Mr. Moreton was found by the Rev. J. A. Reynolds, of the Anglican Mission, who had crossed Goodenough Bay during the night in very bad weather in a whaleboat, to inform Mr. Mor ton of the murders on the Mambare.

Mr. Moreton reached Sannari early on the 15th, and left it on the 16th for the Mambare by way of Dobu, where he went to engage some extra native boys to accompany him. He also employed Mr. Elliott, who, as a miner, had worked on the Mambare.

He reached the mouth of the Mambare on the 10th March, arriving at the site of the former Government Station, the Tamata junction, on the 14th. It was found that the entire Tamata had been burnt to the ground there; but the framework of the new house on the Tamata was untouched.
On the way up the river an escaped carrier, a native of Ferguson Island, was brought to Mr. Moreton by Toiya, chief of the little village of Yevu.

Mr. Moreton's object was to wait at the station for the arrival there of the three miners left on the Upper Mambare—Schmitt, Ryan, and Burns. He remained at the station till the 31st March and then left, having concluded that the three men must have gone overland to Port Moresby.

2. Whilst in camp at Tamata junction Mr. Moreton's party was fired at from across the Mambare, there about 200 yards wide, by natives armed with Winchester rifles. In descending the river they were fired upon at the village of Peu, and then again at the village of Gadarua.

It appears that one man was killed at Peu by the return fire of Mr. Moreton's party.

Unfortunately, the men left by Mr. Moreton at the mouth of the Mambare carelessly allowed the natives of that place to rob them of another Spencer rifle. They entered too of the boys ashore in the dingy of the schooner "Siai," then seized the one rifle in the dingy while amusing the boys with sugar-cane, &c., and laid hold of one boy and the dingy. The native coxswain to some extent made up for his gross carelessness and disobedience of orders in letting the dingy go ashore, by swimming to the beach with one other boy, pushing before them their rifles tied to an empty cask.

They thus recovered the dingy, which was already damaged, but the rifle was gone.

3. On the 15th April we began the ascent of the Mambare.

In the bay, at its mouth, were several natives loitering about the beach. They were timid, but did not decline communication, and said some food to some of our men.

The Gadarua villages were unoccupied, but there were several people about them, and a few appeared at work in the gardens. Those about the houses seized their bundles and fled on seeing us. Some of those in the gardens came to the bank and shouted "Orakura." after we had passed them some distance.

There was no one visible in the village of Peu as we passed, but half-a-dozen men appeared on the bank of the river near the houses when we had ascended about half-a-mile further. They did not shout to us.

The next village, Manatu, was occupied, and several of the people, both men and women, came to the bank and saluted us as we steamed up the river in front of the village. At Pinung two women were captured, but all attempts to obtain any information from them completely failed.

Unfortunately, one of our men lost his way in the forest near Pinung, and by firing off his rifle alarmed the villages higher up the river. At the little village of Yevu we found three sheets of corrugated iron, a shorted, and other articles of European property. The chief, Toiya, kept, however, out of sight.

In Pinung there were none of these articles of plunder.

On reaching the village of Umi we dashed ash at once from the village on the bank to those about a mile and a-half inland, but the natives had probably heard the shots fired by the boy lost at Pinung, and had fled, leaving a pot still boiling on the fire.

There we found candles, shovels, a pick, a hammer, and many other articles, but no person was seen.

The same night the river rose over the bank and flooded our camp at the old station.

On the 17th a visit was paid to the new station.

The frame of the house was uninjured, and nearly three dozen sheets of corrugated iron lay near it. The place had been visited two or three days before by a small party of natives, who had made fire by friction, had passed the night there, wooded some of the gardens, and planted some additional taro. Manifestly it was to become the home of certain natives. In the afternoon the small launch went up the Mambare some half-dozen miles above the station, and found some new villages in course of erection.

In one there was a house covered with galvanised iron. The natives were surprised, and had to run and leave much of their property behind, including a bag containing 150 Winchester, 46 revolver, 14 Martini-Henry, and 6 Snider cartridges, in all 240 rounds of ammunition, the whole of which was in good condition. They had also a box containing about 100 lb. of snails in the original package. The same day a search was made for any native settlement on the right bank of the river opposite the station, but no habitable houses were found, and no person was seen there. It was now quite plain that the natives had avoided all meeting with the constabulary, and were already in hiding in the forest.

4. Early in the morning of the 18th the natives fired some three or four shots somewhere not far from Umi village, too far away to be directed at our camp. The Commandant, with two Europeans and thirty constabulary, was sent to patrol the Tamata district under definite instructions.

That day we examined the Mambare River up to the island above the station. Near the island a small village had recently been built, and one house was covered by galvanised iron tied on as a roof. Many plundered articles were found there, but the occupants had fled.

On the 19th we ascended the Tamata River about four and a-half miles by boat, to try and meet the party sent out the previous day under the Commandant.

Touch with them was effected about midday. On the Tamata, as far as we could go by boat, there was no settlement.

The Commandant's party visited a number of villages in the Tamata upper district. In the village of Depua they found Mr. Green's aioxide, which the natives, taken by surprise, had not time to carry off, and a dozen sheets of corrugated iron.

Near this place they captured two women and two little girls, one of the women apparently the wife of a Tamata man in the constabulary and stationed at present at Sainani.

On the way back we buried the bones of a man, an adult native, that had been killed at about 150 yards from the new station by a blow on the head by a club or some other blunt instrument. He appeared to be dead at least two or three months.

5. On the 20th the Commandant with thirty men and two Europeans was sent to search the district of the Mambare as high as the confluent named the Green.

There they were to leave a note in a bottle to intimate to the miners on the Upper Mambare, should they descend that way, that the station at the Tamata junction is occupied.

It was found that no settlement had been made by the natives at Clarke Fort, on the Mambare, but they had been camped at two places in "the bush" not far from that.
At one place were the remains of trousers of kolosskin, dungaree, and bata, cotton drawers, a blucher, and an ordinary boot. In the pocket of an ordinary boot was a small bottle containing some antiseptic tableauds of the make of Burroughs, Welcome, and Co., but there was nothing by which the original ownership of these articles could be determined. On the right bank of the river two or three men of the constabulary met a small party of natives travelling down the river from the upper districts that were then being searched. At first they made some show of making a stand with their spears, but they fled when fired upon, and all got away. An elderly woman was unfortunately accidentally shot on this reconnaissance.

6. On the 22nd two Europeans were left at the Tamata junction with ten natives to keep possession there till the rest of the party visited the other villages between the station and the sea.

One boat was sent on direct to Pinung village. They found no one there, nor on proceeding thence two or three miles inland.

They then crossed the river and captured a warrior of the Apochi tribe, who was said to have had a part in the recent disturbances. The rest of the party stopped at the village of Apochi on the bank of the river.

This place has been practically deserted for nearly a year. The paths were followed up, and it was found that they have built a new village at the foot of a little hill some two or three miles from the old village, and perhaps a couple of miles from the river.

The men died before the constabulary found the village. They secured a woman, who gave the names of the principal murderers, declaring that the Apochi tribe had kept aloof from the attack on Mr. Green. There were, however, in Apochi some bands of sawn timber which could have come only from the station. It may be, however, that Apochi was not implicated as a tribe, and it may therefore be possible to make friends with them soon. At Manatu a number of people remained on the bank. A brief hasting was made, and they were told that we should have peace with them. A hurried descent was made on Peu, but the men of the village escaped, and only two women were taken. In the village were found some plunder. Some of European clothing and many other articles were obtained from this village, but nearly everything of any value had been carried off, and the people had been living in "the bank."

Next day the constabulary were sent out in two parties, one on each side of the river.

Those on the right bank met a small party of warriors who attacked them with spears and tomahawks; one of them was shot dead, on which the others fled precipitately.

The magistrate (Mr. Moreton) was sent back to Manatu to confirm that tribe in our peaceful intentions towards them.

This succeeded, and three of their young men came to Peu and lived with us there as long as we remained at that place. From these men, and from two Peu women captured by the constabulary, the names of the actual Peu murderers were obtained.

Search was continued in the vicinity of Peu on the forenoon of the 24th on both sides of the river, but without any result beyond learning where were the paths and gardens belonging to the tribe.

In the afternoon a descent was made on the village of Gadara, but no man was found there. In some houses there were a few Winchester and Snider cartridges and some other plundered articles.

In each of the two villages a dozen men were left concealed, but they did not succeed in arresting any of the men wanted by them.

On the 25th half the men were removed to the mouth of the Mandare, to search the native settlement that lies inland from the anchorages about a couple of miles, whilst the other half remained at Gadam.

7. At first it seemed in the absence of an interpreter an almost hopeless matter to find out the names of those that were the actual murderers at the Government Station at Peu and at Gadara.

That, however, seems to be now fairly accurately ascertained.

There are at least eight natives armed with rifles, one of them possessing two; and it seems that they have plenty of ammunition.

It is quite possible that they have thirteen or fourteen rifles altogether, but some are probably already damaged.

It is quite clear that they know how to shoot.

As far as can be gathered at present, the first murders were those of one or of two miners and their carriers at Peu.

These murderers, and those committed at Gadara or at the mouth of the Mandare, are said by the natives to have been plotted by Businawon, chief of Gadara, who, however, did not actually assist in them.

The murderers committed below seem to have suggested the idea of the murder of Mr. Green and others at the Government Station.

These latter were planned by a native of the village of Uni called Amburapia, who assembled the Tamata and Uni men for that purpose.

The man Dumai, a native of the Tamata, originally arrested as a prisoner, subsequently a prison warden, and finally a member of the constabulary selected by Mr. Green to accompany him to his station, does not appear to have taken any part in the attack on Mr. Green; but he was evidently unable to resist the doubt pressing importunities, probably threats, of his countrymen, and he seems to have let matters take their course without warning Mr. Green, and certainly without doing anything in his defence.

He is now a deserter from the constabulary, and is said to be one of those that carry a rifle.

The arrest of the actual murderers will take much time and cause a great deal of trouble.

Not a little time and patience is required to detach the tribes not directly implicated in the murders.

All have doubtless received some part of the plunder from the leaders of the aggressors, simply to establish a common solidarity among all the tribes on the Lower Mandalare. Any men of the tribes that are thus only indirectly implicated are separated from the others, it will then be still more difficult to separate the actual murderers from the rest of their own tribe.

It is not now likely that they will meet the constabulary in open resistance unless they very greatly outnumber the latter.

The river may now be traversed by any party on its guard.
8. As it is not known whether miners will be travelling on the Mambare in future, it is not possible to determine at present whether to rebuild the Government Station on the river or not.

Clearly the river must be occupied till the actual murderers, or some of them, are arrested; but that done there would be no object in maintaining a station on the Mambare except for the safety and convenience of miners, for there is no other trade exercised in the district.

As soon as this temporary building is put up the constabulary will then spend some time on the river until the natives are thoroughly intimidated and more arrests are made, on which I shall find the approximate boundary at a few points on the Gira watershed, a district from which we have had much trouble, probably entirely from tribes settled on British territory.

I hope to then visit the tribes on the British side of the boundary.

Then I wish to inspect the Ope, Kumuwi, and Moss Rivers, to obviate any evil impressions on the minds of the natives there which may have been produced by the numerous murders on the Mambare.

I shall thus in all probability be detained on the North-east coast at least to the end of May.

9. The following is the list of the murders on the Mambare, according to information obtained from natives of the river and on others, but by weak interpretation:

(a) Five European miners, names uncertain, killed by natives of Peu and Gadara from the 7th to 12th January, 1897, between Peu and the coast;
(b) John Green, Resident Magistrate; Sedu, corporal armed constabulary; Gaiwa, armed constabulary; Joe, armed constabulary; Kess, cook; Gudumori, Yuvo, Diuoro, prisoners; killed at Tamata junction on the 14th January, 1897.

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<td>(These three boys may still be with Schmitt, whose fate is as yet unknown.)</td>
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It seems to be almost certain that the bodies of all the Europeans, including that of Mr. Green, were thrown into the river; but it would appear that some at least of the native carriers were eaten, but even this is not fully established.

To secure plunder would seem to have been the principal motive of the murderers; but it is very clear that these natives are more warlike, pugnacious, and cunning than any we have had to deal with hitherto.

It would be difficult to exaggerate the immense loss caused to the service by the violent death of Messrs. Green.

He was an officer in whom I placed complete trust and confidence, and to whom I anticipated a bright career.

He was a man of unobstructed bravery and of more than average mental endowments, while he possessed in a remarkable degree the invaluable quality of perseverance.

He was in warm sympathy with native work, and took a real personal interest in the pacification and elevation of these tribes.

His untimely end is probably attributable to his genuinely kind and sympathetic feelings towards the natives, which led him to trust them too much in the effort to infuse into them trust and confidence in himself. I have no means of adequately supplying his place.

I also very deeply regret the death of Corporal Sedu, a native of Tuiriru, and the best man in the armed constabulary. This Government never had a more faithful, more courageous, or more trustworthy servant than this native corporal.

He was one of the two constables that only a few months ago accompanied me across the island. He was much attached to Mr. Green, and lately volunteered to return with the latter to the Tamata station as corporal in charge.

11. The following are the latest events up to the date of writing this: On the 26th the constabulary searched the district near the mouth at the mouth of the Main, where several murders have been committed. In the forenoon they arrested two men, one of them a son of the chief Businawa.

The chief himself is said to have received a bullet wound in the shoulder or arm, but he managed to get away. In the afternoon another man was arrested. They were all armed, and offered combat.

The same day the party of constables left at Gadara encountered some natives, when one of the constables had a narrow escape. He allowed a native to throw his spear at him before firing on him; fortunately he evaded it, and he instantly shot his assailant dead.

They returned to camp from Gadara on the 27th without having made any arrest. The natives have all left the Gadara district, and are now at large in the forest.

In two days I hope to again ascend the river to the Tamata junction.
APPENDIX H.

DISPATCH IN CONTINUATION OF REPORT OF ASCENT OF MAMBARÉ RIVER TO EFFECT PUNISHMENT OF MURDERS.

No. 42.] Sanarai, 1st July, 1897.

My Lord,—In continuation of my Dispatch No. 34, of 28th April last, I have the honour to further report as follows:—On the morning of the 28th April the s.s. “Merrie England” left the mouth of the Mambaré under instructions to proceed by way of Sanarai to Port MoreSBay, and thence to take the Chief Judicial Officer to Daru, where a number of prisoners were awaiting trial; after this the steamer was to go to Cooktown for general stores, and then to return to Mambaré Bay. By the steamer there were sent to prison at Sanarai four men of the Mambaré district implicated in the recent murders there, and two women and two little girls from the Tamata district. These women went voluntarily to Sanarai, being related to the Tamata man who acts there as a prison warden.

On the 30th I went up the Mambaré River with the steam launch; we took up some miners with their stores and native carriers.

The lower villages on the Mambaré were completely deserted, and no natives were to be seen near them.

We had to camp about two miles below Peu. Next morning the constabulary were landed a mile below Peu, with the object of approaching that village from the bush behind, to surprise any natives that might be there. There were, perhaps, half-a-score of people about the place, but they crossed the river in three canoes about half-a-mile in front of us, and, abandoning nearly all their baggage, they fled into the forest on the south side of the river.

The Mambaré tribe were friendly as usual, and five of them accompanied us up the river to the Tamata station. The village of Yevu was deserted, but we shouted for the chief, who answered us from the bush on the other side of the river.

A shirt and cloth were left for him in the village.

He crossed the river at once, by swimming, to take possession of these articles, and since that time he and all his people have lived unmolested in their homes. The chief was the first native to give definite information as to the matters on the Mambaré.

The river was so low that the launch grounded above the village of Pinang, but as the water rose during the night the launch was able to reach the Tamata next morning. No natives were observed between Yevu and the Tamata.

Two Europeans, engaged temporarily, had been left at the camp in charge of the constabulary. They had not seen, nor with one exception had they heard, any natives; but they had gone nowhere, and they had not sent out any patrols. Nothing had been done at the station during my absence.

All were in good health.

On the 2nd May the steam launch was sent down to the mouth of the Mambaré, taking Mr. Elliott to take charge temporarily of the station at the mouth of the river and to finish the houses there, a task which he carried out creditably.

On the same day two patrols were sent out in different directions.

One examined the low country that lies between the Tamata and the Mambaré, but found there no trace or tracks of any natives. This party went out on the following day, and, with a similar negative result searched the right side of the Mambaré as far down as the village of Pinang, showing that the natives had abandoned that part of the country. The other party sent out on the 2nd divided into two patrols, one of which crossed the Tamata station, seeing nothing save the tracks of three natives.

This party returned to camp on the evening of the second day. The other division, under the Acting Commandant, proceeded inland from the village of Ubini. They went as far as some villages on the right side of the Gira River, the names of which the Commandant did not learn, where they found the waterproof coat of Mr. Green, cartridges, some shoes, and other European articles.

They made no prisoners, but heard that Dumai was at Kumusi, which the Acting Commandant supposed to mean the Kumusi River, to which it appears there is no road from the Upper Mambaré.

This party returned to camp on the evening of the 4th. In the meantime it was decided to leave the old station site at the junction of the Tamata with the Mambaré, on account of the numerous floods which cover the whole point sometimes with several feet of water.

The formation of a new station was proceeded with at the site Mr. Green had already begun to prepare on ground that no river flood can reach.

The constabulary were now set to work to clear ground round the new station—not a light task, as the trees are large and the forest thick.

On the 6th the Acting Commandant was sent down the river with sixteen constables to the village of Peu, which he was to occupy and operate from as a centre in searching that part of the country.

The expedition had no result, although six days were expended over it.

It appears the weather was not favourable in the Peu district, and little or no travelling was done.

2. On the 12th April I returned to the mouth of the Mambaré, leaving at the station the Acting Commandant and another European with twenty-four constables.

The Commandant was instructed to start after a few days for the villages he had already visited on the Gira watershed. He had a plan for surprising the villages. It was to surround them at night and come to close quarters with the occupants at daylight. He was directed to take twenty men with him on this expedition.

On the 13th a regrettable incident occurred as the steam launch was transporting some miners and their belongings up the river. After passing the village of Pinang a few natives, said to be unarmed, were seen at a place where there are two or three houses on the bank. Inconsiderately they were fired upon and driven off; but it seems that fortunately no one was hit. Mr. Hinchcliffe was instructed to see that unarmed natives were not molested in future.
On the 6th and 7th Mr. Cameron and myself completed a traverse of the coast from the mouth of the Mambare to the mouth of the Gira River.

It was found that at present there are no gardens on that part of the coast.

It appeared that the natives concerned were prepared to concede to us the coast for about a mile from the station, as they had there put up boundary marks, and had built for themselves some huts on the farther side of this line. Our task, however, would not allow us to respect this partition, at that time at least.

On the 10th a corporal arrived at the mouth of the river with a party of constabulary in pursuit of half-a-score of native carriers that belonged to one of the mining parties that had gone up the river. These carriers had stolen a boat and fled with it at night down the river. The steam launch was sent out promptly to search the coast for them.

The river was very rough; the launch party could see no trace of them and returned to the station, passing on the way, off Miré Rock, the vessel that had brought those same carriers from Sanamui to the mouth of the river. The runaways were then actually on board the vessel in question, but as they had hoisted the boat on board which they had effected their escape, and as Mr. Hinchcliffe did not suppose that the vessel that had just brought them up the coast would deliberately take them back again while a fresh breeze was blowing fair for the mouth of the Mambare, he did not think it worth the trouble to board this craft.

Their vessel was wrecked farther down the coast, but apparently without any loss of life.

3. As much difficulty had arisen from our ignorance of the course of the river which enters the sea a little on the German side of the boundary, and as there was good reason for believing that it speedily cut off British territory, it was decided to ascend the river for the purpose of making a traverse of its course. This was now the more desirable because Mr. Cameron and myself had, after not a little trouble, with sufficient accuracy ascertained the geographical position of the station at the mouth of the Mambare.

This boundary river has been named Kiherto "Koele" when referred to by us.

Its real name, however, is Gira. The natives that live on it call it Gira, and so do the natives of the Mambare. It will therefore be known to us in future by that appellation.

We left the station at Mambare mouth on the 18th. There is at present a bar at the mouth of the Gira, which boats cannot pass when there is much wind or a heavy swell from the south-west. We landed the instruments for astronomical observations, and many other articles, in the bay, and carried them three or four miles round the beach to the mouth of the Gira, thus sending in the boats nearly empty. The weather being not unfavourable on that day, the boats passed the bar without difficulty.

We met with five or six men seen on the Gira, a quarter of a mile from the sea, but they refused to communicate and retired up the river. We camped at the mouth for the night.

In our party we had sixteen native constabulary or volunteers in two whalobas. As we started up the river on the 19th, two canoes with a number of men retreated before us up stream, watching us, but declining to enter into relation with us. When, after a mile or two, they saw that we were really ascending the Gira, they blew their conch-shells and were answered by others further up the river.

The first three or four miles of the Gira runs through land that is low, swampy, and useless. There the current on the river is from one to two knots, and it contains only a few snags.

Just above that, however, the current becomes faster, and snags more numerous, to diminish again in number after two or three miles.

Some four miles from the sea there is an old village site, on which are a number of small fishing huts, and there were then some canoes, but no people there. The latter were in the bush blowing their conches.

At some half-dozen miles from the sea there is a small hill, on the left bank on which is built a village called Tctu, consisting of a score of scattered huts. The occupants had fled.

This village is in clearly British territory, and so are all huts at present on the Gira between that and the village on the river, the latter at the latter spot being, of course, in German.

The mouth of the river is undoubtedly on the German side, the boundary of this part of the colony being the 8th degree of south latitude. But before the river has gone a mile it crosses the boundary to the British side; but a couple of miles further up a small loop of it seems to run into German territory, after which it makes a general south-west course, and soon leaves the boundary many miles to the north of it, being some fifteen geographical miles inside the British colony at the highest point visited.

The villagers of Tctu had probably excellent reasons for their distant reserve. They had stolen a rifle, blankets, belts, and other articles from the constabulary some time ago near the mouth of the Gira, and they were suspected of being concerned in other thefts and robberies committed in Mambare Bay. Just above Tctu there is a native settlement on the first high ground on the right bank. These entered at once into friendly intercourse. They called their place Kotoa.

We camped for the night some seven miles from the mouth of the river, in a taro garden, where we were visited by about two score of men, who appeared to be friendly.

From the first the natives on the Gira were put on their good behaviour. A fishing-line was put round our camp, inside of which visitors were not allowed to enter; and no person was permitted to remain in sight with weapons in his hand. It would be highly advisable for future travellers on the Gira to adopt the same plan, to which the tribes there are now accustomed. At night the geographical position of the camp was obtained to facilitate the plotting of the river's course.

The country passed through on the second day was very attractive. The river banks are generally above flood mark, and the soil is very fertile. There are many small hills near the river, and not a few villages.

We camped on that day some dozen miles from the sea. Many natives accompanied us all day. They sung, dance, and shout "Orondas" with a persistency that becomes lurid.

None carried weapons, and all were very friendly.

There seems to be but one language in use on the Gira, and that one is practically the same as the Mambare language.
The men wear the T-cloth, of native manufacture. All the women we saw, probably married women, wore a cloth, but very ungraceful it is in its serrated, tight, undraped form, compared to the very becoming ordinary grass petticoat of the south coast. The men wear the eyebrows, but not the beard. Kingworm is common, and bent-buri and elephantiasis are not unknown. The majority of the men are, however, strong and well built.

In manners, customs, and disposition they are to be classed with the natives of the Mambare.

On the third day we ascended another five miles, past many small villages, the country presenting the same inviting characteristics, but the river current becoming stronger. It could then be seen that in point of size the Gira is a little smaller than the Angabunga in the Moko district, decidedly smaller than the Mambare, Kumasi, or Musa.

The banks of the river became perhaps still more inviting higher up the river, with numerous gardens, villages, and people. The Gira is the most populous and certainly by far the most pleasant of our north-east coast rivers.

On the third day it was ascertained that many of the Mambare natives had been on the Gira, but it was supposed they had decamped on hearing of our approach.

I asked in vain for a village of the name given by the Acting Commandant to the settlement visited by him on the Gira watershed.

No one had ever heard of it. The name of the river had been mistaken for the name of the village.

On Saturday, the 22nd May, we camped some two dozen miles from the sea, about half a mile above Mopi village, which turned out to be the highest one seen by us.

Here we spent Sunday.

At first the people of this district were timid and shy, but, reassured by others that had accompanied us for two or three days up the river, they brought us plenty of taro for sale.

From what transpired later, there can be but little doubt that the reason for their shyness was the presence of many of the Mambare men among them. It was impossible for anyone possessing even very slight knowledge of the Kiwai and Turi-turi language in the west to observe that place names on the Gira, amongst others, were in constant use in the west—for example, Wado, a village name on the Gira, means “good” at Kiwai; D1wara, another Gira village name, signifies “casawary” in the west; and Onono, also a village name, is the western word for “river,” and so on.

It would not be safe, under our present limited knowledge, to try to account for this striking fact.

The Fly Estuary man does not resemble the Gira man in disposition, in feature, nor in the shape and size of the head.

Their weapons are different; their houses have no resemblance to each other.

In colour of the skin it is, however, sometimes not easy to see any distinct shade of difference between a Gira man and a Fly River man sitting side by side.

The food they brought us for sale consisted chiefly of taro, cocanuts, and sugar-cane. When we first visited the north-east coast rivers, they had no tobacco, and did not seem to know it. Tobacco appears to be grown now in every village, and so is maize—cotton-bushes are to be found in the gardens on the Upper Gira. It bears fairly well, although uncultivated.

It is not easy to believe that it is not indigenous.

It grows side by side with the Piper methysticum, the use of which is unknown in this part of the country.

There is also on the Gira, the staple food is taro.

The different villages seem to be on speaking terms with each other, at least in our presence, for the men of different tribes did not hesitate to pass on from one village to another with us for two or three days.

It was very well understood on the Gira that the Manatu tribe of the Mambare were friendly to the Government. Wherever there was a Manatu man on the Gira he promptly came forward and presented himself as such; but no one announced himself to be an Uni man.

On the 22nd, trails were made for the first time of the river shingle for traces of gold. These were found to be present in favourable spots in a greater degree than had been noticed in any of the other rivers.

The presence of gold was by no means unexpected, as it appeared clear enough already that the Gira was comparable to the great mountain Albert Edward.

Sunday, the 23rd, was spent in the camp just above Mopi, not far from a cone-shaped hill 500 to 900 feet high, which stands on the right side of the river, is named Kosi, and is a good land-mark. We were visited during the day by the chief men of Mopi, who brought us much food, chiefly excellent taro. Next day two canoes accompanied us up the river to mid-day, when we fairly entered among hills. The natives assisted us up the rapids.

These hills are generally of sandstone, as far as one could see from the river, but there are outcrops of conglomerate.

The hills passed through by us reached an altitude of probably near 2,000 feet, but generally they are considerably lower than that.

They are extremely steep, frequently projecting great scarped cliffs into the edge of the river. They are all covered by forest trees. The river there is an endless succession of rapids and deep pools.

It was not very difficult to tow the boat up the rapids with a rope sufficiently long; but two or three long and crooked rapids, in which the boat has to be taken across the stream from one side to the other, could probably be serious obstacles in the way of a weak and inexperienced crew.

On the 26th we reached the mouth of an affluent some 60 yards wide coming into the Gira from the south-east side. Some quarter of a mile above this there is a rapid in the river that appeared to be impassable to the boat in the then condition of the river. The second boat had already been left behind on account of the risk that would be incurred were it brought further. This highest camp is in latitude 8 degrees 15 minutes 20 seconds and longitude 117 degrees 44 minutes 24 seconds, and is by the river course thirty-eight statute miles from the sea. For half-a-score of miles below this there is next to no flat land on the river.
Travelling overland among these hills near to the river would, if possible at all, be very difficult. The easiest way of ascending further would be to use canoes or skiffs so light that they could be carried past the rapids.

There does not seem to be any native occupation in the hills; they are too steep to be of any use for agricultural purposes.

During the night from the 26th to the 27th there was much rain, and in the morning the river had risen high, and was still raising our camp, which had already been converted into an island. Of necessity we proceeded down the river at once. There were then, owing to the rise in the river, many strong eddies, sufficiently powerful to whirl my boat round as if it were a cark. As it raised in the forenoon, the natives were all in their houses as we descended the river. They seemed to be friendly. The most friendly man on the river is the chief of Toba, a village on the right bank, some eight or nine miles from the sea. The people of Tetu again fed "to the bush." Efforts were made on the 27th to get the boats out of the Gira, but the sea was breaking so heavily for about half-an-hour out from the bar that we had to abandon the attempt. On the 28th another failure was experienced, in which one or two natives nearly lost their lives.

I left the boats there and returned overland to the station at the Mambare mouth. The boats arrived there two days later. During my absence the steam launch had taken another party of miners up the Mambare; and Mr. Hinckscliffe reported that the Acting Commandant had again visited the village formerly searched by him on the Gira watershed.

He had made four prisoners, but two of them had escaped, each with two pairs of handcuffs on his person.

This they managed to effect, though chained to a house-post, by the simple expedient of scrapping away the earth at the foot of the post and slipping the irons under it while the sentry slept.

But the most unsatisfactory news was that as the Commandant's party withdrew as the natives followed them with spears and yells to a point some four or five miles from the village, where preparations were made to receive their attack on a position of great strength. According to the statement of the Acting Commandant, one of the corporals of his party showed great cowardice, and began firing off his rifle from the top of the trees, over thy, near the heads of the yelling threatening assaulting; this state of panic became contagious, but luckily a lively fusilade at nothing stopped the charge of the native apemen before they arrived at close quarters. It was quite clear that I could not leave the district so long as the assault was in a position to beat to the other tribes, with some show of reason though not literally with truth, that they had chased the constabulary out of their district. It was decided at once that I should reascend the Mambare.

On the 4th June I began accordingly to go up the river. We saw no natives until we reached the friendly village of Manani, where a man joined himself to our party, and remained with us till I left the district. No natives were seen between Yeva and the station. The Acting Commandant was ill of fever, from which it appeared he had suffered a great deal. He did not speak favourably of the constabulary under his command.

He confirmed the report that the natives had followed them some miles along the return journey, and that the cowardice primarily of one of the corporals had made it impossible to inflict any check whatever on their pursuers. The man charged with this poulamoonery had hitherto been regarded as no coward. Of seven or eight men that were with me recently when a large snake made straight for us, he was the only native that did not retire. I decided to take him back to the same place again to see how he would conduct himself. On this occasion he was both bold and active, and I had no reason to be dissatisfied with him, although he was sent out with a smaller party than that under the Acting Commandant.

4. Sunday, the 6th, was spent at the station, and on Monday morning I started to find the tribes that had followed up the constabulary when returning from the Gira. The Acting Commandant was too sick to accompany me, so that I had no European with me except Mr. Elliott, a surgeon.

Three lb. of rice and a 2-lb. tin of meat were served out to each man.

We went by boat as far as Apooh village, and then turned inland in a direction that would lead us about the nearest part of the Gira River.

After about three miles along a path fast becoming obliterated by undergrowth, and which crossed low flat ground, we reached two villages on little hills, some 50 or 60 feet high, on Apooh Creek. The houses were all unoccupied, but there were good two gardens near them.

There we had lunch. As I was ill of fever when we started, and as the path was bad on account of the heavy rain that had fallen recently, we camped about four miles beyond the two empty villages. As I was too ill to be able to reach our destination next day, I sent the sergeant ahead at mid-day with all the canoes except four, in order to surprise the natives if possible. I followed in the passage at a slower pace. The road all day was over ground consisting uniformly of a ridge and a swamp. The swamp was sometimes not easy to cross; but in the afternoon we came to a part of the country where bamboo about 1 to 1$ inches in diameter grew into dense thickets. The natives had cut down large trees across the path and blocked the whole by masses of this bamboo, so that it was not easy, by climbing, creeping, and crawling, to get past some mile or two of these obstructions.

I was unable, on account of fever, to reach the villages on the 7th, and had to camp in the forest again and resume the journey next morning. At many places the natives had taken advantage of the presence of large quantities of "lawyer" cane, of the most thorny sort, to block the path with these. On the 9th I reached the villages before noon. The whole of the country between the Apooh villages and the Gira consists of ridges separated by narrow swamps. The soil is poor and seldom adapted for agriculture. The special characteristic of the forest is a great abundance of small palms, and the small bamboo mentioned above. The hills we crossed just before arriving at the villages are of conglomerate, but there is some quartz in the creeks. It was found that the large village was not occupied when the constabulary arrived there, but there were people in the gardens, who fled and swam across the river.

In the afternoon Mr. Elliott went out with a patrol party, which succeeded in capturing one of the prisoners that had escaped from the Commandant, with a woman and a little girl. It was a little surprising to find that we were camped in the village of Wodi And that the Gira River was only a quarter of a mile from us. Had the Acting Commandant found out either of those facts during his two previous visits to this village, I should have adopted a totally different plan of operations, although
it is possible that the course actually followed produced a more profound impression on the natives of the river than any other could have done. On finding out where we actually were, I sent three constables back to the Tamata station, where the steam launch had been left, with instructions to Mr. Hincheiffe to proceed up to the mouth of the Mambare, to send Mr. Cameron up the Girs again with two whaleboats. On the 9th a patrol party went up the Wade side of the river, and another down it; but the natives were all camped on the opposite side of the river, and had taken away all the canoes, so that the constabulary could not reach them.

On the 11th I was able to examine our immediate surroundings and to walk as far as the river, at the mouth of Wade Creek. The village of Wade proper consisted of about a score of houses. There had been a fine large clubhouse in the middle of the village square, but this had been burnt by the Acting Commandant, because the warriors of the tribe met there, and because the constabulary found in it a large number of shields, and also an old waterproof coat, the property of the late Mr. Green. I expressed my disapproval, as I have consistently forbidden the burning of houses and the cutting down of coconut trees as a punishment of natives.

Near Wade there is a considerable amount of fine alluvial land, on which are probably fifty or sixty acres of gardens, containing large quantities of food. From the river bank at the mouth of the Wade creek one could see that the natives were present in great force in the village of Diware, and that they would have to come to the gardens on our side of the river for food. It was then about full moon. About 7 p.m. the constables were sent out in two patrols—one under the native sergeant to watch the gardens down the river, and the other under a corporal to watch those up the water.

The former saw no one. The latter at once found a large number of armed natives in the garden, when a skirmish immediately began, which ended in two of the bushmen being shot dead. It had been learned from one of the prisoners in the morning that the warriors that massacred Mr. Green and his men were all or nearly all in this party. The fact of our sending back the female prisoners during the day seemed to lead the braves of the tribe to think we were afraid, and at sundown one could hear some orator haranguing them before they set out for the Wade gardens. The constables were, however, by no means afraid, but speedily drove them into the river. One constable was so close on one of them when they fell into the edge of it down that both fell into a bank about 5 feet high. The bushman got up first, and had his spear already nearly raised to kill the constable when a brother constable shot the spearman dead at a distance of about 3 feet. Next day we kept quiet indoors, without fire, to give out the appearance that we had returned to the Mambare. The patrols went out again at night to watch the gardens, but their experience of the previous evening had determined the natives not to cross again to our side of the river.

On the 16th I had so far recovered as to be able to walk down to the river bank directly in front of the Diware village, where all the warriors of the Upper Mambare were assembled. There were only sentries in the village, but others could be seen in the forest just above it. On a second attempt a place was found where the men could, though with some difficulty, ford the river with their rifles, their loading on the left, by the help of a few men on the Wade side of the river. As soon as the bushmen saw that the river could be crossed in this way, they fled upstream along the left bank. In the village were found a number of shot and Martini- Henry unused cartridges. The sergeant with sixteen men remained in occupation of Diware, which the natives had thought we could not reach. They were now practically cut off from the tribes of the Lower Girs, and could only go in the direction of Mopi for shelter and food.

The sergeant's party could not find them next day.

On the 14th Mr. Cameron and Mr. McDowall arrived at Wade with two whaleboats.

The natives below that had been friendly, and had given them much help in towing the boats up the rapids, and in providing them with food.

As it was now almost certain that the fighting men must have assembled near Mopi, a score of constables were selected and directed to that point along the left bank of the river.

The natives were met with near where they were expected to be, and a fight at once began, in which the bush warriors soon had to flee, leaving four of their number shot dead, and throwing away spears, shields, tomahawks, &c. It did not appear to me desirable to push matters any further at that time. It was very certain that these warriors would not again pursue the constabulary. They were completely humiliated in the eyes of the other tribes. With time and good management their pacification and settlement may be effected through the intervention of friendly tribes, and the ringleaders still at large may be delivered up. Time was also passing, so I decided to leave the district for the moment.

Next day there was a flood in the river, and of this we took advantage to descend to the sea. All natives below Wade were friendly, and wished to sell us food; even those of Tetu made advances to us this time. We went back in the river, above Tetu, from the "Merrie England," which had arrived from Port Moreby. We could not, however, get out of the river that day on account of the heavy breakers on the bar. It was very plain that the natives had been much impressed by seeing that my party had gone up the Mambare, crossed from the Upper Mambare to the Upper Girs, and descended the latter, thus going right round the country where most of their villages are situated. They were certainly left strongly disposed to be friendly.

5. On the 21st I left the mouth of the Mambare to proceed towards Samarai. At the station at the mouth of the river there is now a good galvanized iron house, 40 by 15 feet. A native corporal with six men are stationed there. On the 20th I received the resignation of the Acting Commandant. A seaman of the "Merrie England," who has had considerable experience of an armed service afloat, has been left temporarily in charge of the Tamata station as European officer of constabulary.

He has three twenty constables and a European assistant. This assistant is Mr. O'Brien, one of the three men that crossed from the Vanapa to the Mambare lately. Unfortunately the leader of this little party deliberately left the cut track thinking he could easily find a better one for himself. They soon got into difficulties, and could not find the cut track they had so imprudently left. They succeeded in reaching the Upper Mambare, but with food and strength exhausted. They tried to descend the river on rafts.

They were all specifically captured, and the others were drowned. O'Brien with much difficulty reached some of the miners on the river, and obtained assistance from them. A copy of the instructions left with Mr. Ford is attached.
Unfortunately one of the means by which it was hoped to get the north-east coast brought well under control during this season has already failed me. It was my intention to leave the launch "Ruby" on the coast and rivers, and a third engineer had been obtained for that purpose, instead of a driver as formerly.

This officer had to leave the "Merrie England" at Cooktown on account of sickness, with the result that the launch has now to be held up at Samarai.

6. I had already shown that the Gira River enters the sea on the German side of the boundary. In the hurried observations made at the mouth of the Gira formerly a considerable margin was allowed to prevent all appearance of encroachment on the part of this Government.

A more exact determination of the geographical position of the mouth of the Mambare has now been completed both by Mr. Cameron and by myself, observations which fix the observation spot with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes.

From this point the bay has been traversed to the mouth of the Gira, the position of which depends in our chart on that of the mouth of the Mambare.

The Gira would be useless to either colony for commercial or travelling purposes. I shall have the honour to submit for consideration certain suggestions with the view of making the river free to both the German and the British colony. Copies of the chart of the Mambare Bay and of the traverse of the Gira are enclosed herewith, with copies of the field books showing how the geographical positions have been arrived at.

I would respectfully suggest that these extensive computations should be submitted to the Surveyor-General of Queensland for recalculation before they are finally transmitted to the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

7. I enclose a return showing the number of miners with their stores and carriers taken up the Mambare by the steam launch. Most of them have built houses at the new station, on the Taauta, for their own use. The three men that went up the Mambare at the beginning of the wet season in the end of last year, and that declined to leave after the murder of Mr. Green, have been supported by the natives of Neneka. A copy of a short report by one of them is attached to this, from which it will be seen that rain was nearly continuous, and that they were very hospitably treated by the natives.

8. The miners that have gone up the Mambare are said to have returned to the old ground, but doubts there will go further. I attach a short report by Mr. Nettle and his "mate," from which it will be seen that they reached the Scratchley field by coming from the Vanapa round the west end of the Owen Stanley Range, but after some ten weeks' travelling.

Mr. Whitten, of Samarai, has imported half-a-score of horses from Sydney, with a small steam launch for the Mambare route. It was, I believe, intended by him to open a track suitable for horses from the Government station on the Taauta to the surfingous country in the interior. It is, however, by no means certain that a bridle track is practicable. Horses cannot pass over the existing path.

After seeing such promising prospects of gold in the bed of the Gira, it seems to me to be of great importance to try to open a track from the Taauta station that would, if possible, be practicable to horses proceeding towards the interior between the Gira and the Mambare, and which would serve Mount Scratchley, the Wharton Range, and Mount Albert Edward. At present I do not know whether this is possible, but, if it can be managed, I intend to send a party of twenty prisoners, under proper surveillance and protection, to assist in opening a path in that direction. I attach a note on the subject of transport by horses on the present path by Mr. Frost, who has had a distinguished experience of such matters on the Australian continent, where his name is well known. It will be seen that Mr. Frost is not more sanguine than I am as to horse transport; but I am quite satisfied that it should be tried in the way indicated above, as long and as far as the means available will permit.

9. On the evening of the day we left the Mambare mouth the steamer anchored in Douglas Harbour.

I had sent a boat and some constables there a day or two before to look for another body of carriers that had run away from the miners to whom they were engaged. One of their employers had come down the river looking for them and to report their escape. He announced that six of them had been murdered by the Gazara natives.

The runaways I found with the constables in Douglas Harbour, apparently including the six supposed to be murdered. They had stolen a rifle and cartridges and a bag of rice from their employers, and got away during the night. Most of them were lame, and they looked altogether a weakly, sickly lot. It is much to be feared that the miners will have great trouble through the desertion of their carriers.

10. Next evening we anchored in Porlock Harbour.

It appeared that the "Merrie England!" had come into contact with an unsuspected shoal in Porlock Bay, right in the track of vessels. We must have often passed close to it before.

It was very important that its exact position should be charted, and I accordingly remained next day in Porlock Harbour, when Mr. Cameron and myself made a sufficiently accurate survey of the harbour and its principal surroundings, a map of which will be forwarded in due course.

The following night, when anchored in Yassawai Harbour, a boy came to report that he and three others had been five moons with some miners on the Mambare, and had been dismissed without any pay. This matter is under investigation.

It is not improbable that they may have run away from their employers, but due inquiry will be made.

I have, &c.,

W. M'GREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., &c.
Having asked my opinion of the track, as far as horses or mules, it is impossible as far as I have been, which is only as far as Simpson's Creek. There is also a difficulty in the way, as there is no food. The present track might be improved by keeping more to the westwards; however, I cannot say for certain, as I have not been over the country.

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM FIGHT.

His Excellency Sir William Macgregor, Administrator British New Guinea.

Your Excellency—

Sir,—Thinking you may be interested to learn of our journey overland from Darwin to this goldfield, we take the liberty of sending you a short report of our experiences on the way.

As may possibly be known to Your Excellency, we accompanied Mr. Gignan, as far as the village of Sikubi. After the departure of that gentleman for Port Moresby, we continued our journey in a north-easterly direction through a large and thinly populated valley from village to village. The natives were very friendly, but were rather averse to carrying our goods, and would use all manner of artifices to induce us to return by the way we came. These good people, while professing their willingness to carry us on our journey a stage, would tell us shortly by gesturés of the extreme did and hunger we should experience, also of heavy rains, and bad men who would kill us, and would advise us to return. Finding that their forebodings had not the desired effect, they would usually after some delay carry us on to the next village, where the same hospitable treatment would be experienced as in other villages. Food was very plentiful, and the people appeared cheerful and well fed. There seemed to be some veneration in their replies to our questions as to the route to be followed by us. We had heard from Mr. Gignan that the Chirina (north branch of Manubor), and all were agreed that there were five villages of the Chirina tribe on the other side of a large mountain named Kiam (Mount Saratcliley).

On 12th April we arrived at the villages of the Kelapi people, and were well treated, but were by them taken in a wrong direction, i.e., to the north by west. After five hours' travel in this direction, crossing a range of mountains about 8,500 feet high, we found ourselves in another large valley, which stretched away to the northward for seemingly a great distance. The people who dwelt in the above district are named Waiapu; they have five large villages and are very numerous. These natives were quite different in their demeanour to those previously met with by us, and were insolent in their behaviour, and were probably only kept from becoming aggressively so by our firm and watchful attitude. On the third day of our arrival in the Waiapu district some of the influential men of the tribe one to us and wished to shift our camp near the village; but, as from their previous behaviour we suspected foul play, we did not accede to their request, and in our turn used persuasion and offered presents to induce them to take us back to Kelapi. After some delay they agreed to do this, and we left Waiapu very glad to have got away with our supplies, &c., intact. On 17th April we started from Kelapi, and crossed the northern end of Mount Saratcliley on the 18th; track very tough all the way. On the 26th we arrived at a Chirina village called Yangervena, and found to our surprise a very great number of people (mostly visitors, we afterwards found), and dancing going on.

Our carriers took the goods into the village, and dropping them in a heap fled into the houses, while the men (some hundreds) surrounded us, and all were armed with stone club or adzes; we did not feel very comfortable, nor especially as we were regarded with some fear looks by the savages near us. However, we took things coolly, and, offering a few small presents to those around, soon had the satisfaction of seeing some of the weapons laid down, and shook hands with the good men, who, calling for our carriers, led us out of the village, in accordance with our desire, to our camping-ground. As in other villages visited by us, we were here regarded with much curiosity; our looks, clothes, and colour of skin all exciting much admiration.

We now commenced to inquire the distance to the goldfield, and were sorry to learn that we had some five or six days' travel ahead of us.

However, we proceeded, and, calling at the villages of Kundinana, Simonu, Sinorana, Fofana, and Neneba we arrived on Gold Creek on 2nd May—two months and nine days from Port Moresby.

Traces of gold were found in many of the creeks between Chirina and Gold Creek, and the country appears to be worth prospecting. Of the route followed by us on this trip nothing favourable can be said. It is a long journey and had in the native tracks followed by us. As we have no means of replenishing our food supply, we shall soon have to return to Port Moresby or Samarai. The health of the party has been fairly good up to the present.

We have, &c.,

WILLIAM NETTLE.

W. J. KELLY.

Gold Creek, 7th June, 1867.

His Excellency Sir William Macgregor, K.C.M.G., M.D., &c.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Villages Visited during Journey from Sikubi to Gold Creek</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abulyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gendi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sinorana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neneba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neneba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neneba</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Samarai and Neneba on bad terms.
RETURN OF MINERS TOWED BY THE LAUNCH "RUBY" FROM MAMBA BAY TO TAMATA JUNCTION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Completion</th>
<th>Last Address</th>
<th>Amount of Gold</th>
<th>No of Carriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>A. Clunes</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>Cooktown</td>
<td>6 tons</td>
<td>14, and 1 Queens-land boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May</td>
<td>J. C. Davies</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Dark</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter Sherlock</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No carriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wm. Gleson</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May</td>
<td>F. N. Newman</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John McKenzie</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooktown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 June</td>
<td>James Patience</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norkoping, Swedien</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Nelson</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td>Woollooganon, Warwick</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 June</td>
<td>W. B. Becker</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kaliz Zollieh, Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wm. Simpson</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td>Samanu</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moses McCollin</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S. McCollin</td>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Returned Miners (no boys).

William Frost... Michael Mahoney... Luke Sichel... John Hayes...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount of Gold</th>
<th>No of Carriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th November.</td>
<td>Gold cut clean out; got 51 oz. in four days. Dave and the boys arrived to-day with rations; boys been away fifteen days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th November.</td>
<td>Been to bushmen (Nenubi); got sweet potatoes and pig; they were very friendly; been away five days; sent four boys down for rations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th December.</td>
<td>Boys arrived yesterday; been away twenty-two days; landed here with one and a-half bags rice and about 16 lb. bacon; been getting a little gold lately. Dave been sick again seven or eight days; all right again now; sent the boys down again to-day; suppose it will be their last trip, for their time is up on the 31st.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th December.</td>
<td>Two boys came back to-day; left the other two on the road. I licked against a sharp stone, and some bone broke inside. I got a piece out about the size of a dice, but it still keeps sore. This happened on the 18th; had a few days of the fever. Dave been laid up since the 16th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st December.</td>
<td>Dave went down to sign the boys off; two have not arrived yet, took three, left one here; am afraid he will die on my hands.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th December.</td>
<td>Boys arrived to-day with half bag rice; they started with three bags. I told Calhoun he would have to stop to look after Peter, the sick boy, but he must have advised him to start on the road, for I did not see either of them again. I expect he will get along the road a piece, and then leave him to die; he is a cunning rascal. I can't do anything, my foot is very bad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th January, 1897.</td>
<td>Only three left on the Creek—Rya about one mile up the creek, and Burns one mile down the creek from my camp. Very wet, thunderstorms every day; beautiful mornings, but sun very hot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28th January.</td>
<td>Rya come back to-day with the news that Mr. Green and four police boys and three prisoners got killed at the new police camp on the 14th. The.man in charge of Whiston's store says he is going down the river on the 20th. I am afraid I could not be down in time to catch the boat, so we intend to stop here till relief comes; we have got about nine weeks' rations; sent the boys down with a letter to that effect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st January.</td>
<td>Rya come back to-day with the news that Ned Crow had died on the road going down; also that the boy Peter had died at the crossing of the Clans. I thought my foot was right, so I went to work two days, but it got bad again.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th April.</td>
<td>Been up at the village six weeks; sick all the time; made three attempts to get back, but could not manage that. I thought somehow we would be up before now, but there is none come yet.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mambare River, 18th June, 1897.

Six—I have the honour to report my experience since I arrived on the river. I and my mate, David Davis, left the police camp, Tamata Junction, on the 23rd September with six carriers, and took us ten days to get to McLaughlin Creek. Davis a bit sick. I am all right, but knocked up by the worst track I ever travecl on. 18th October.—Have been prospecting two weeks, and got 15 cwt. gold; the creek is a roaring torrent every night. I can't do anything in it till the wet season is over; it is too rock-bound. 22nd October.—Just got a prospect; will get a little gold if there is any extent of it. Enoch Sayre sick, and going away. I bought his provisions. 23rd October.—Boys arrived to-day with rations, been away twenty-one days. Dave sick down at the police camp. 7th November.—Gold cut clean out; got 51 oz. in four days. Dave and the boys arrived to-day with rations; boys been away fifteen days. 12th November.—Been to bushmen (Nenubi); got sweet potatoes and pig; they were very friendly; been away five days; sent four boys down for rations. 6th December.—Boys arrived yesterday; been away twenty-two days; landed here with one and a-half bags rice and about 16 lb. bacon; been getting a little gold lately. Dave been sick again seven or eight days; all right again now; sent the boys down again to-day; suppose it will be their last trip, for their time is up on the 31st. 29th December.—Two boys came back to-day; left the other two on the road. I licked against a sharp stone, and some bone broke inside. I got a piece out about the size of a dice, but it still keeps sore. This happened on the 18th; had a few days of the fever. Dave been laid up since the 16th. 21st December.—Dave went down to sign the boys off; two have not arrived yet, took three, left one here; am afraid he will die on my hands. 26th December.—Boys arrived to-day with half bag rice; they started with three bags. I told Calhoun he would have to stop to look after Peter, the sick boy, but he must have advised him to start on the road, for I did not see either of them again. I expect he will get along the road a piece, and then leave him to die; he is a cunning rascal. I can't do anything, my foot is very bad. 13th January, 1897.—Only three left on the Creek—Rya about one mile up the creek, and Burns one mile down the creek from my camp. Very wet, thunderstorms every day; beautiful mornings, but sun very hot. 28th January.—Rya come back to-day with the news that Mr. Green and four police boys and three prisoners got killed at the new police camp on the 14th. The man in charge of Whiston's store says he is going down the river on the 20th. I am afraid I could not be down in time to catch the boat, so we intend to stop here till relief comes; we have got about nine weeks' rations; sent the boys down with a letter to that effect. 21st January.—Rya come back to-day with the news that Ned Crow had died on the road going down; also that the boy Peter had died at the crossing of the Clans. I thought my foot was right, so I went to work two days, but it got bad again. 27th April.—Been up at the village six weeks; sick all the time; made three attempts to get back, but could not manage that. I thought somehow we would be up before now, but there is none come yet.
APPENDIX I.

DESPATCH REPORTING VISIT TO KIRIWINA.

No. 44.]  S.S. "Terrie England,"

Off Kiriwina, B.N.G., 8th July, 1897.

My LORD,—I have the honour to report that on account of information received from different sources, I deemed it very desirable that I should make a flying visit to Kiriwina before returning to the Central district, even though I was already behind time. I arrived in the group on Saturday, 3rd July.

Next day I attended divine service at Kavatari, the site of the new Wesleyan Mission, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Fellowes. A large plain church has been erected, capable of receiving about 600 persons. The weather was not good, but there were then present about 200 women and 250 men. Their demeanour during the service was on the whole decent and attentive.

The resident magistrate had been at Kavatari for a couple of weeks, and had caused the natives to remove over a score of dead bodies from graves in the villages to places in the cemeteries, where they were re-interred. In this district there is, in addition to the usual sentimental reasons for the village burial, the economical consideration of having the corpse convenient to obtain from it the edible bones to be converted into lime shampoo. As the natives themselves had to perform the exhumations and reinterments, they may probably on this account be more inclined to bury their dead in future. During the first few years of my residence in this country no case of dysentery became known, but lately these villages, probably caused as much as possible, by village burial. The villages are built on raised, decayed, broken up old coral, with a layer of brown humus, the result of decomposed vegetable matter, on the surface. This soil and subsoil are exceedingly porous, and would speedily become infiltrated with the products of animal putrefaction. Water is obtained from sources that rise nearly at the high-water mark on the foreshore, thus at a lower level than the plane in which the dysenteric corpse is buried. The enforcement of the cemetery interments is thus of much importance, and Mr. Moreton seems to have been successful in dealing with it at this point.

1. On the 5th I tried to reach the village of Oburaka. That tribe had lately had a dispute with a neighbouring village. At first they went at night and cut down each the banana of the other village; then they met and fought with spears. Oburaka is numerically the stronger tribe, and they killed two of their opponents. Unfortunately it was found that the water is extremely shallow between Kavatari and Oburaka, with a tidal rise and fall of some two feet only. My boat stuck fast at something more than half way off with a falling tide, so that we had to wait there for five or six hours. Whilst thus detained we were informed that Oburaka wished to fight the Government and to kill its chief, a threat that was by no means regarded seriously. On our arrival at Oburaka only a few people were visible. The chief had absented himself, but he was eventually induced to come in. Of course he wished me to understand that the fault lay exclusively with the other village, and that he and his people were blameless. In a hesitating way he promised to procure and deliver up the two men of his tribe that were said to have killed the two that fell in the fight; but he insisted that he did not know whether they had killed anyone or not.

It appears that a Greek trader has regularly married the daughter of this chief, and that the trader has a number of over fifty, are absented himself, but he was eventually induced to come in. He is almost without a parallel in modern times.

We could have arrested some men at Oburaka, but I desire now to confine arrests on Kiriwina to the principals concerned in all serious crimes. The chief will delay the surrender of the two men wanted now, but the probability is that before long they will be delivered up. There was of course no approach to the hostilities on the part of the natives.

2. The evening of the 5th, however, the chief brought yet another couple of men, one of
whom was the right man, but the other had disappeared and no one could find him. I visited both villages on the 6th, and informed them that in future they must reserve the settlement of these disputes for the decision of the Resident Magistrate, and that this same dispute would be inquired into and the land be given to the rightful owners without reference to the result of the recent fight. The chiefs and people of the two villages soon sat on quite friendly terms. The Reverend S. B. Fellowes exerted his influence after the fight, and probably a continuance of the dispute would have been avoided. The chief of the village next day; he was not able at the time to leave the station, otherwise he might have prevented any fighting. We were received in a very friendly manner by all these villages. They concurred with the admonition administered to them.

4. On the 6th as we entered the village that lies nearest to Enamakala, the abode of the great chief Enamakala, several men promptly took up their spears and shields. They fled almost immediately, apparently not knowing what to do, most of them leaving their spears and their wives were taken and broken. What was the cause of this sudden panic it was not easy to see. The chief fled with his shield. The men of this village were lectured and scolded by Pulliari, and by the more sensible chief of a neighbouring village who happened to arrive there then. I did not lend to make my visit to Enamakala one of complacent politeness, as he has done but little to further Government work. As I approached this chief's quarters I was met by one of his brothers, who spat all round me to preserve them or us from sorcery. The chief was seated on a high bench in the small porch of a small house, with three or four of his principal men sitting in front of him. When I at once turned out and took the high bench, while Enamakala was seated on the ground below. He was warned not to interfere with the villages that belonged to the province of Pulitari. He denied that he had sent to certain villages for further additions to his stock of wives. I knew he was lying, but was satisfied by informing him, in the presence of the other natives, that I had ordered the several villages to refuse to let him have any more women, because the domestic life he leads is already a discredit to a chief. He was so alarmed that the perspiration came streaming down his face. He is the nearest approach the Kiriwina people have to a sacred being, and he has an instinctive idea that his importance and tastes would receive a check by the development of a mission. He has therefore remained on begging terms with the mission, but has not assisted the missionary and his teachers, and he has steadily refused to grant a mission site at his own headquarters. I informed him frankly that I would not support any chief that kept from the Mission his district, but that I would not hesitate to support the mission to overcome any difficulty he might try to create. When the question was then put to him as to whether he would grant a mission site at Enamakala he faltered, and endeavoured to put me off with an evasive answer; I insisted on a clear declaration of yes or no, and at last he said "yes, the mission shall have land here." I requested him to proceed at once to show the land to the Rev. Mr. Fellowes, which he did. It was fully explained to him that it is not desired to diminish his authority as a great chief, but rather to maintain it and enforce it, provided that his own conduct is such as to merit support. He is to send his brother regularly to visit and report on the islands to windward of Kiriwina. These acknowledge the sway of Enamakala in an easy sort of way. After leaving Enamakala we proceeded to Kobbu, at the north end of the island, where I met the steam launch. All seemed quiet and peaceful in that district of Kiriwina. There were no quarrels, but the harvest of yams all over the island, so that food is superabundant, saw at two or three villages where the men have been engaged largely in the pearl fishery, an employment that has undoubtedly done them no little harm, though they have procured through it much more trade goods than they ever had before, in the shape of beads, tobacco, tomahawks, &c. Had the conduct of the traders been from the first less equitable the injury to the natives would have been less.

5. The lay teacher that was stationed on Vakuta Island has left on account of sickness in his family, and his place has been taken by a coloured teacher, but Nafi thinks his dignity requires the presence of a European. This may also be a source of future dissatisfaction to Enamakala, who will doubtless also wish to have a European missionary, especially as Pulliari has one. Nofi, of Vakuta, Pulliari, of Kavatari, and Enamakala, are all members of one family called the Labai line, because their ancestor, a being of supernatural origin, like the founders of so many great houses in Europe and elsewhere, first descended at that place, and there framed and promulgated family laws which secured liberal privileges to his own heirs and successors. These are to some extent recognized by the people, and it is therefore advisable to train and educate these leading men if this is practicable. Pulitari has much improved through being so closely associated with the Rev. S. B. Fellowes. A teacher will, I trust, be stationed soon with Enamakala, but that chief will require much tuition to reduce him to a condition of respectability.

Only two other teachers are so far stationed outside Kavatari. Mr. Fellowes and the teachers preach each on every Sunday at a large circle of villages. There can be no doubt that the mission has gained very substantially in influence since my last visit here. The time is already within sight when the indigenous profusion of the villages under their influence will be at least veiled, and it will no doubt be materially lessened by-and-by.

A note by the Rev. S. B. Fellowes is attached which sets out clearly the present state of the Kiriwina mission. Side by side with mission extension will proceed the development of the village police. There are at present only two on the island, but there will be plenty of men soon capable of this work, some cluanted in prison, others in the constabulary, and some by the mission. Owing to the impulsive nature of these people it is even sometimes before grave crimes are wholly suppressed amongst them. In a quartet over the pettiest trifles one of them will himself into a foaming passion, in which condition he will without a moment's warning throw a spear at another, or run up a tree to kill himself by jumping down.

It has always struck me that the Kiriwina people more nearly resemble the line islander than any other tribes in this part of the world. They have the same mental characteristics, including a tendency to suicide. At Kiriwina, among twenty or thirty boys there will always be two or three with very black and blue faces, which is distinctly noble. They reach their head almost entirely free in many habits—for example, they pressure abortion in the same way, and that by the only effective method I have ever known to be practiced by savages. With all their shortcomings they will eventually become useful and spirited citizens.
6. The pearl-fishery has now reverted to smaller proportions than it formerly possessed. There has been some trade in pearl-shells, but that cannot become important. Large quantities of yams can be obtained at present at Kiriwina, and their surplus will soon be widely distributed over the east end of the colony.

7. On the 6th, while I went overland from Karatari to Kiniola, the Resident Magistrate went to the village of Kaiapa in Pulitari's province to arrest some men that had risen against and killed a reputed sorcerer. A struggle ensued, and some of those seized by the police had to be let go while the latter had recourse to their rifles. They succeeded in arresting and bringing off three men, and it is said four were wounded, but not mortally, by the shots fired at them. It was intended that we should sail next morning for Samaru, but it did not seem to me desirable that we should leave immediately after a scrimmage of that kind. I sent all the constabulary present to Karatari, and instructed the magistrate to proceed again to Kaiapa, and to visit also some of the neighbouring villages, to show the natives that when necessary a strong force can be brought to bear upon them at any place on the island. The party visited Kaiapa, which they found deserted, and then proceeded to certain other villages, where they found the people all very greatly frightened. Fear will diminish and finally put an end to these crimes on Kiriwina; nothing else will.

8. On the 7th I was visited by the son of Eneamaka that lives at Kadiwangs as its ruler. He reported that all is quiet on Kiniola, but simply because they are afraid of the Government, from which they could not get away owing to the limited size of the island.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency The Governor of Queensland.

KARATARI WESLEYAN MISSION.—HEAD STATION AT KAVATARI.

Staff.—One European missionary and his wife, three Polynesian teachers. Two missionaries at Nkpana, and three at Kiniola. The latter have been absent from Kavatari, the missionary station, for some months.

The Mission Work.—Average attendance Sunday morning at church during the last two months over 350—i.e., since the traders have been away from the place: afternoon over 200. Previously the morning congregation barely averaged 200. Pulitari attends church regularly, and latterly has taken a great interest in all the work of the station, especially giving his influence to help us in keeping the children under our care at the mission house. These children at present number twenty-six.

Sunday and day schools have been started, but the children are irregular in their attendance. Personally I am anxious to have a nursing sister to give her whole time to the sick natives, and so help us to break up the secrecy superstitions. At present Mrs. Fellowes gives all her spare time to this work.

Out Stations.—Two teachers' stations have been established, one at Gunjanika, inland, the other at Tukuwani, on the beach in the corner of the bay. The two Fijian teachers on these stations have both gained influence over the respective chiefs of their villages and are working well. Each has built a house and a church in his village.

From our three stations we give Sunday services to seventeen villages in the district about Karatari called Kepuma (Pulitari's district), and the actual congregations that gather each Sunday are over 2,000 in the aggregate.

This week two station sites have been secured in Eneamaka's district—Kiriwina. Two teachers will be placed there in the course of a month or two. Tuna was opened as a lay missionary's station, and an English house was built. Owing to family sickness the man had to leave, and his successor has not yet arrived. At present a Fijian teacher is there; he reports well of Lopi and his people.

(Signed) S. R. FELLOWES.

APPENDIX J.

DESPATCH RECOMMENDING THAT THE GIRA RIVER BE MADE TO FORM THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN GERMAN AND BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

No. 40.] Samoana, 16th July, 1897.

My Lord,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a traverse of the Gira River, plotted by Mr. Cameron from notes and observations made by him and myself during the recent examination of that river.

It will be noticed at once that the principal mouth of the Gira opens into the sea in German territory. Of this we were practically aware from the first, but in the earlier cursory astronomical observations some margin was left to avoid all appearance of encroachment on our neighbours. The position of the mouth of the river has now been determined with much greater scientific accuracy, so that for all ordinary practical purposes it may be accepted as sufficiently correct.

In round numbers it may be said that the mouth of the river lies two-thirds of a mile north of the boundary line—the eighth degree of south latitude.

After proceeding through swampy land for about a mile, the river enters British territory, to again project a small loop, three or four miles from the sea, slightly across the boundary; it then follows a south-westerly course to the highest point to which I could venture to take my boat—more than fifteen geographical miles inside this Possession, and in longitude E. 147° 44'.

2. From what precedes it will be gathered that a rigorous exercise of territorial rights would make the navigable part of the Gira useless to both Kaiser Wilhelm Land and to British New Guinea. I respectfully wish to propose an arrangement that would make the river free for navigation purposes to both. It is quite clear that any steps taken by one of the Governments to settle the tribes of this district will be advantageous to the other Government. Up to the present time the relations subsisting...
between the Government authorities on the two sides of the boundary have been of so friendly and neighbourly a character that each has been very glad to assist the other in any way possible. If this question is now approached in the same neighbourly spirit, there will be no difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory arrangement.

3. I would suggest that the middle of the bed of the river be the boundary of the two colonies, from the sea to the most westerly point at which the river last crosses the eighth degree of latitude before entering into British territory. From that point the boundary would proceed along the eighth degree as it does now. The loss or gain of the small portion of useless land thus transferred from one side to the other would be of no importance to either. The navigation of the river should then be left free to both colonies, it being understood, however, that a citizen of the one could not trade, or settle, or exercise any calling in the territory of the other without complying with its laws in all particulars. It might be thought sufficient to limit the right of the German colony to navigate the river up to the point where it last crosses the boundary; but seeing that the presence of German settlers or authority in the district would be of some advantage to us, and that a fuller use of the river might be of advantage to them, it seems to me to be best to adopt the more neighbourly course of making the navigation of the river free to both as far as it is navigable.

4. I trust that your Lordship may be able to join with me in calling the attention of the Secretary of State to this question, with the request that, if he sees no objection to the proposal, he may cause it to be submitted to the Imperial German authorities for consideration. As the technical details of this adjustment may occupy some time after the acceptance of the principles, I would suggest that, if the latter are adopted, the free navigation of the river might at once begin from that date.

I have, &c.,

WM. MACGREGOR.

His Excellency The Right Honourable Lord Lamington, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

APPENDIX K.

DESPATCH, SUBMITTING ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1897.

No. 24.

Government House,

Port Moresby, 11th June, 1897.

My Lord,—I have the honour to submit the Estimates of Expenditure for the several services for the financial year ending with June, 1897.

Civil List salaries.

There is no change proposed in the Civil List salaries. These are—

1. Administrator .......................... £1,500
2. Private Secretary .......................... 300
3. Judicial Officer .......................... 1,300
4. Government Secretary .......................... 500