

The most remarkable fact about the Admiralty islanders is that of their having no bows and arrows, slings, throwing sticks, or throwing cords for their spears, no ulas, clubs, spears for hand-to-hand fighting, and no shields. Many other Melanese have no bows and arrows, as the New Caledonian Loyalty Islanders, and apparently the New Britain and New Ireland races, and the same is the case with the natives of the south-east of New Guinea; bows and arrows seeming to commence on the coast only at Humboldt Bay, but all seem to have slings or other additional means of defence.

The only domestic animals possessed by the natives of the Admiralty Islands in any abundance are pigs. These are partly kept in enclosures around the houses, partly run half wild over the inhabited islands. The pigs are small, lean, and black coloured, and appear never to develop large tusks. No ornaments of large pigs' tusks were seen in the possession of the natives. If therefore, as I believe, from signs made by the natives, is the case, there are wild pigs on the main island of the group, they must be unlike the Papuan pigs in this respect, and resemble more the New Hebrides breeds. Two Dogs were seen on Wild Island. The one which I saw was a puppy. It was white, smooth haired, like a Fox Terrier in appearance, and very like a dog that was in the possession of the natives at Humboldt Bay. No dogs but these two were seen amongst the natives. No Rats were seen on any of the islands. No Fowls were seen in the possession of the natives, but I obtained a plume of cock's feathers worn as a head-dress from one native. Fowls must therefore exist in the islands somewhere, but are probably scarce, as only this one plume was seen.

With regard to the Zoology of the islands, two species of Fruit-Bats (*Pteropinae*), and an Opossum (*Cuscus*), were procured. A Dugong and a Dolphin are also killed by the natives. Of birds the most abundant are the Fruit-Pigeons (*Carpophaga rhodinolæma*), which feed upon the Wild Coffee and Nutmegs, and roost in vast numbers upon one of the small outlying islands. We saw or procured about 28 other species of birds, including two Eagles, a Lory, and a Kingfisher, many of which appear nearly allied to, or identical with those of the Echiquier Islands. They have been described by Mr. P. L. Sclater, F.R.S., who finds several new species amongst them.\*

Small Tree-Swifts (*Collocalia*) fly about amongst the Coconut-trees, and all day flocks of Terns and Noddies (*Sterna lunata*, *Anous*), follow in the still waters within the reefs the

\* P. L. Sclater, "On the Birds of the Admiralty Islands," Proc. Zool. Soc., June 19th, 1877.