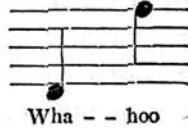


made of this scene. The whole number of dancers in the procession was upwards of a hundred. At the end of each strain of music they advanced three steps at a time, bowing gracefully to us, and changing the position of their clubs. When all had entered the square they became more violent in their actions, jumping, or rather treading the ground violently, at the same time joining in the song. Each dance was finished with a kind of war-whoop at the top of their voices.



The clown was, in the mean time, very active in mimicking the chiefs and the most remarkable of the dancers. The whole exhibition lasted fully an hour, and when the dance was over, each brought his club and laid it in front of us as a present. These weapons formed a very large pile; and it was amusing to me to perceive many of them change their clubs for those of much less value before they brought them to present. In return for these, they expected presents, which were given them.

John Sac, or Tuatti, our New Zealander, was desirous of showing the dance of his country, which excited great astonishment among them. John's dance was one of great energy and violence, and as opposite from that we had just witnessed as could well be conceived. We had afterwards several dances by young girls and children, with which the afternoon's amusements ended.

The flute, although much in use among them, was not played on this occasion. It consists simply of a piece of bamboo, both ends of which are stopped; it has five holes, one of which is placed near the end, to which the left nostril is applied. Of the other holes, two are in the middle, and two at the other end, for the fingers. This instrument produces a low plaintive note, which is but slightly varied by the closing and opening of the holes. It is sometimes accompanied by the voice, a union which the whites informed me was greatly admired by the natives, who not unfrequently applaud the performance by clapping their hands. No other instrument but the flute is played by the women as an accompaniment for the voice. They likewise have a kind of Pandean pipe, made of several reeds of different sizes, lashed together.

The next day, Tui Levuka paid me a visit for the purpose of receiving the presents, which I told him I was desirous to give him, in return for the clubs we received at the exhibition of the dance. He remained late in the evening, in order, as he said, to prevent the