

have been seen among the inhabitants of New Guinea may have been of this description.

About one-fourth of a mile from Vaturua is another town, called Matainole, which also belongs to Tui Mora, and is in all respects similar to the other. Between the two towns is a kind of causeway, of some width, built by the natives, by throwing the earth up from each side. The paths wind along it, and on each side are extensive taro-patches, which were flooded. Mangroves abound here, while the drier grounds are covered with plantations of bananas and cocoa-nut groves.

On the way from Vaturua to Matainole, a piece of consecrated ground was passed, on which were mounds of stone, with a rude idol, dressed with a turban and the Feejee hair-pins. The idol was surrounded by clubs set up edgewise, and many spears, arrows, trinkets, cocoa-nuts, &c., lay around, which had evidently been placed there as offerings. A large party of natives, who were with our gentlemen, on seeing them approach it, deserted, excepting a man and boy, who, contrary to the others, seemed anxious for them to partake of the offerings which lay about, and offered to sell the idol, which was bought for a paper of vermilion. Neither of them, however, could be tempted to touch a single article himself, although they had no objection to our gentlemen doing so. On the next day, Mr. Peale returning from his jaunt, took his purchase and carried it on board.

Tui Mora attended to the disposal of the different articles that were brought for sale, consisting principally of taro, yams, fruit (shaddocks, bananas, lemons, and cocoa-nuts), but not a pig was to be seen of any size; in fact, these people had but little food to spare.

The houses are by no means as substantial as those at the principal towns of Ambau and Rewa; their framework is much smaller, and the eaves extend to the ground. Both the walls and roof are of reeds, thatched.

The chiefs of the Mbua district are not considered as belonging to the nobility of the islands, but to the class kai-si; it is only since the whites have frequented the islands, that this place has become of any note. Formerly Rawaike, Tui Mora's father, the Tui Mbua, or lord of Mbua, governed the whole district, which comprises the coast from Buia Point to beyond Nalua on the north shore, or about one-sixth of the island of Vanua-levu, and is next to that of Nandi on the west, although there are two or three independent towns between them near Buia Point.

In 1809, when Mr. Vanderford, who was master's mate on board the Vincennes, was there, Rawaike was very powerful, and exercised