

some acute disease of the lungs. This was said frequently to attack fine stout and healthy young men, who would be seen engaged in all kinds of sports with their companions, and apparently as active and in as good health as any around them, and would suddenly contract a cough, become emaciated, and in a few days it would prove fatal to them.

Fevers, whether intermittent or remittent, are unknown.

Ophthalmia is less common here than in the other groups.

Hernia is as frequent as it is in the United States.

Primary syphilis does not exist among the people, as far as the information of the whites goes. No case of it occurred among our crew during our visit; nor are the other diseases of this kind found here.

Bad ulcers on the extremities are frequent, and this is one of the most disgusting things about the Feejee men. I might say, that almost every third man has either his fingers or his toes ulcerated; but, though more common among the Feejee men, it is also frequent among the natives of the other groups. These ulcers are often neglected, even among the chiefs. Our friend Mr. Phillips had a very bad one on his finger. The whites who reside among the natives, told me that they frequently had them, but that when treated in time they were easily cured. The natives, however, generally leave them without any application.

They have no physicians, but were anxious to receive medical advice from our surgeons; and, when the kings or chiefs took medicine, it sometimes happened that all their people were desirous to take it also.

They occasionally suffered great distress from gunshot wounds, but the nature of their climate, and the vegetable diet to which they are at most times restricted, operate to effect cures in cases that would elsewhere be dangerous under the most skilful treatment.

By their constant use of human subjects, they have become somewhat acquainted with the anatomy of the human frame. They can, therefore, perform several surgical operations, in a rude way, and are, at times, successful in their treatment of diseases, although, from the following anecdotes, they have more confidence in the skill and knowledge of the whites than in themselves, however rude the practitioner. One of the natives of Ambau being taken sick at Levuka, David Whippy (who told the story to me himself) proposed to bleed him from the arm, to which the native consented. Not having any lancets, Whippy sharpened his sheath-knife (such as is used by sailors) to as fine a point as he could get it, punctured the vein in the arm, and drew