

a quantity of blood, which at once afforded the native great relief. He soon afterwards returned to Ambau, where he related the circumstances to his friends. In the course of a few days several large double canoes arrived at Levuka from Ambau, and some of the people proceeded to David Whippy's house, informing him that they had come to be bled, and that there were a number with them on the same errand. Whippy endeavoured to dissuade them, as they were all stout-looking fellows. He told them it would do them more harm than good, and that they did not require it; but all he could say was of no avail; they had come from Ambau to be bled, and bled they would be. Finding all his remonstrances fruitless, the old sheath-knife was again put into requisition, and the next morning the one hundred and fifty Ambau men returned to Ambau, having each left behind him a tin pot of blood. Many of the natives, since then, have become bleeders, but occasionally a canoe still arrives from Ambau, with subjects to undergo the operation by Whippy.

While young, both sexes indulge in a variety of amusements. Among the girls, the sports, are: vimoli, which is a species of legerdemain performed by keeping five or six oranges circling around the head; garali, similar to our hide and seek; libigilla, or forfeits, in which there are two parties, one of which wraps a girl in a mat, and carries her to the other, who is to guess her name; if the guess be not correct, yams and taro must be paid for a treat. Meke (dancing) is also a favourite amusement. For instruction in this there are regular dancing-masters and mistresses, who are much esteemed, and receive high prices for their services. Those who can invent new figures are most in request. The performers in the common dance (nuka i ndina) are generally girls, from ten to fifteen years of age. These arrange themselves in a line, in a place selected for the purpose, which is usually a green in the village. One of them acts as leader, and stands in the middle of the line, a little in advance of the rest. The feet of the performers are seldom moved from the place, and the dance consists altogether of movements of the body, bowing, twisting, writhing, from side to side, and backwards or forwards. All join in a song, and, towards the close, arrange themselves in a semicircle, when the dance is brought to a conclusion by a simultaneous clap of the hands.

The boys have a game which is played with sticks. One is set in the ground, and another, sharpened at the point, is thrown at it; the first person who succeeds in striking it, wins. They have also the game of hide and seek, and another called vitaki, which consists in throwing a stick from a hollow reed. He who throws farthest is the winner. Men of two different towns also play this game in parties.