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978-0-521-17987-4 - Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Straits, Volume III

A. C. Haddon and Sidney H. Ray

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CAMBRIDGE ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPEDITION
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TORRES STRAITS.

VOLUME III.
LINGUISTICS

BY
SIDNEY H. RAY.

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PREFACE.

DURING my first Expedition to Torres Straits I collected a large number of native words of the Eastern and Western languages, as well as some from the neighbouring coast of British New Guinea. The Rev. A. E. Hunt, then resident Missionary on Murray Island, kindly permitted me to copy the English-Miriam Vocabulary he had compiled, and the Rev. E. B. Savage similarly allowed me to copy his Vocabulary of Miriam, Mabuiag and Daudai, in which the English equivalents were not given. I also had access to the Rev. Dr S. MacFarlane's Vocabulary of English-Mabuiag and Miriam, and finally Mr Robert Bruce permitted me to transcribe his copy of a valuable Vocabulary of Saibai-English compiled by James Sharon, who for a short time was the schoolmaster appointed by the Queensland Government to teach English to the natives of Saibai. The late Hon. John Douglas, C.M.G., the Government Resident, gave me permission to make what use I pleased of the Sharon MS. In addition to these manuscripts I obtained various printed books, such as translations of Gospels and service books.

On my return home I offered all my material to the Rev. Dr Codrington, whose name is so well known to all those who interest themselves in Melanesia, in the hope that this distinguished scholar would undertake its elucidation and publication. This he was unable to do, but he suggested my applying to Mr Sidney H. Ray, whom he recommended as a careful and diligent student of the languages of Oceania. I immediately followed Dr Codrington's advice and Mr Ray kindly consented to work through my material as well as that which was previously available in books. In due course we conjointly elaborated "A Study of the Languages of Torres Straits, with Vocabularies and Grammatical Notes," which was published by the Royal Irish Academy. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking that illustrious body for printing so large a memoir on a subject which was certainly remote from the ordinary interests of the members. I would also like to assure the Members of the Academy that if that memoir had not been printed it is extremely probable the present volume would never have been published; at all events it greatly reduced the labour which would subsequently have been entailed and it certainly led to a more clear conception of the languages with which it was concerned.

When I determined upon a second Expedition, my first thought was to endeavour to secure the co-operation of Mr Ray. At considerable sacrifice to himself he consented to

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PREFACE.

join the Expedition, and the thorough study of the languages of Torres Straits published in this volume demonstrates the excellent use he made of his opportunities.

Mr Ray acknowledges the help given him by various colleagues, and thanks especially Mr John Bruce, of Murray Island, for assistance in many directions.

An account of the gesture language of the Western Islanders by Dr C. G. Seligmann and Mr A. Wilkin, and one of that of the Eastern Islanders by myself are given at the end of Part I. Dr Seligmann and I also contributed notes on fire signals. Dr Seligmann and Mr G. Pimm supplied the Otati Vocabulary in Part II. With these exceptions Mr Ray is responsible for the whole of the present volume.

Thanks are due to various friends who have helped me in the identification of plants and animals. Especially would I mention the great assistance rendered by the authorities at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; many of the plants we collected were in a very fragmentary condition, so any uncertainty there may be in identification is due solely to the imperfection of the material.

I would like to take this first opportunity to record my regret and that of my colleagues at the death of the Hon. John Douglas, C.M.G., Government Resident at Thursday Island. He passed away on July 22, 1904, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, to the sorrow alike of Europeans and natives. For nearly twenty years he administered his archipelago with consideration and conciliation. He treated the natives with fatherly benevolence, never needlessly interfering with them, but always endeavouring to train them to govern themselves, and he strove to give efficacy and dignity to the rule of the Mamooses. The Expedition owes a considerable debt to him for hospitality and for various facilities, and it was through his good offices that the Queensland Government made a special grant of £100 towards the expenses of the Expedition. He has been succeeded by Hugh Milman, Esq., who was Acting Resident at the time of my first Expedition, and to whom I, personally, am much indebted for assistance and hospitality.

A. C. HADDON.

May, 1907.

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Language Map of the Eastern part of British New Guinea „	288

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

- Page 3. Line 10 for 'Kauralag' read 'Kauralaig.'
- „ 8. „ 6 from bottom, for 'both' read 'all.'
- „ 9. „ 15 from top, for 'tanamunngu' read 'tanamunngu'; for 'tanemunngu' read 'tanamunngu.'
- „ 10. „ 8 for 'imi' read 'imai.'
- „ 17. „ 16 from bottom, for 'burud' read 'burdo.'
- „ 31. „ 19 from top, for 'make fire' read 'blaze.'
- „ 32. „ 23 for 'present' read 'prevent.'
- „ 32. „ 9 from bottom, for 'utimi' read 'utumi.'
- „ 33. „ 8 „ „ for 'aimin' read 'aimdin.'
- „ 35. „ 8 „ „ for 'two' read 'things.'
- „ 38. „ 22 „ top, for 'muleuman' read 'muleunaka.'
- „ 79. „ 6 „ bottom, for 'baido' read 'baidoa.'
- „ 95. „ 20 „ „ for 'dimiden' read 'dimidem.'
- „ 108. „ 17 „ „ for 'knai' read 'guai.'
- „ 113. After 'na' add 'na, conj. if.'
- „ 114. „ 'kuiku-nidai' add 'sib-nidai, v. comfort.'
- „ 114. „ 'nukunuku-ia-muli' add 'nungai, v. grope.'
- „ 116. „ 'pai' add 'pai, pwai M. demons (Gr. p. 11).'
- „ 122. „ 'suai' add 'suasu, a. barren, suasu-asi-gig, n. a barren woman.'
- „ 125. „ 'tortai' add 'tota, n. a prong.'
- „ 127. „ 'tabaia-uradi' add 'urai, a. wet, damp.'
- „ 139. „ 'doakri' add 'dobdob, a. thick.'
- „ 146. „ 'kaigob' add 'kaimeg, n. a companion.'
- „ 189. Lines 8, 9. The Lifu word *kenithe* means 'to pull down,' the opposite of *xupe*, 'to build.'
- „ 196. Bottom line, for 'out of' read 'to.'
- „ 200. Line 24, under 'iaro' read 'throat'; under 'kapul' read 'good.'
- „ 200. Bottom line, after 'my' add 'throat is good.'
- „ 211. Line 17, under 'iaro' read 'throat'; under 'kapul' read 'good.'
- „ 211. „ 5 from bottom, for 'good' read 'throat is good.'
- „ 216. „ 6 „ „ for 'goes' read 'went.'
- „ 217. „ 3 „ „ for 'it' read 'the neck.'
- „ 222. „ 8 „ „ for 'always' read 'only.'
- „ 222. „ 4 „ „ for 'her' read 'his.'
- „ 274. „ 3 „ „ for '276' read '277.'
- „ 285. „ 10 for 'appeared' read 'been published in several New Guinea Languages.'
- „ 285. „ 10 from bottom, for 'Koitapu' read 'Koita.'
- „ 286. „ 5 „ „ after 'glue' add 'l' (cf. p. 418)'; after 'the' add 'd' as *nth* in "in this,"'
- „ 286. „ 3 „ „ after 'quite' add 'q as *nkw* in "inkwell."'
- „ 320. „ 7 „ „ for 'Lakekumu' read 'Lakekamu.'
- „ 355. „ 12 „ „ add 'A final *a* in composition often becomes *e*.'
- „ 359. Lines 7, 8 from bottom, for 'shell' read 'coco-nut.'
- „ 414. Line 6 from bottom, for '1890-1' read '1889-90.'
- „ 416. After No. 33, add 'Nissan, Sir Charles Hardy Island, North East of Solomon Islands.'
- „ 416. After No. 37, add 'Ponape, Ascension Island, Caroline Islands.'
- „ 423. Line 21, add 'In Waima syllables are often inverted: *kaimata'a* or *ta'akaima*, sweet potato; *anepaka* or *anekapa*, old. The village of Waima is called Maiva by the Motu people.'
- „ 442. „ 2 of Note 2, for 'case' read 'care.'
- „ 458. „ 3, for 'dhaka' read 'd'aka.'
- „ 474. „ 15 from bottom, for 'reciprocal' read 'instrumental.'
- „ 474. „ 14 „ „ after 'in' add 'Motu *i-ha-rua-na, i-ha-toi-na*.'
- „ 474. „ 13 „ „ for 'made' read 'that which makes,' and delete 'to something.'
- „ 474. „ 12 „ „ delete 'Motu *rua-na* or *toi-na*.'
- „ 483. „ 12 „ „ for 'Motu' read 'Mota.'
- „ 486. Bottom line, delete the comparisons with Mota *saloa*.

