

One feature of interest in the Fijis, which I have forgotten to mention, arises from the importation of labour. At Levuka are to be seen men from the New Hebrides and Solomon Islanders. Further, the curious straight-haired, most characteristically featured Tokelau race, or Union Islanders, mostly girls: also Tongans and Samoans and a few Negroes from the United States. Representatives from almost all Polynesia assemble here, and may be studied by the Anthropologist.

Nothing surprised me more than the great power of the chiefs in Fiji, and the absolute subserviency of the lower classes to them. The reality of the various grades of rank amongst such savages, and the abject condition of the slaves, were facts which I had not previously realized.

Facial expression is far less marked in the Fijians than the Tongans. Amongst the lower classes there is a remarkable want of expression; there is also, as far as I saw, entire absence of gesticulation during conversation. The methods of affirmation and beckoning are the same as in Tonga; the throwing up of the head in affirmation is common to many races, being used by the New Zealanders, Abyssinians, and Tagals of Luzon.* The forehead muscles are little used, at least by the ordinary people. Amongst the families of the chiefs there is much Tongan blood. Thackombau wrinkled his forehead constantly during his conversation with our party, and one of the mountaineer prisoners whom I saw at Livoni in Ovalau, knit his brows frequently when I was asking him about his eating human flesh.

Our interpreter, an Englishman, who had married a Fijian woman, and who knew the people well, told me that old women sometimes clap the hands twice in expressing astonishment. This habit of expression is evidently derived from the clapping of hands in expressing respect to a chief, and is interesting as showing how peculiar means of expression may thus be of entirely artificial origin. The clapping of hands is used as a ceremony of respect to superiors in Japan, as at the funeral of Okubo, the minister lately assassinated in Yedo, at which "all present saluted the deceased with three claps of the hands." †

The interpreter further said that the mountaineers in expressing astonishment, shake backwards and forwards transversely once or twice, the right hand held hanging back foremost from the half-extended arm; a similar gesture is stated by Darwin to be used by Northern Australian natives, to express negation.

A short click made with the tongue and repeated severa

* C. Darwin, "The Expressions of the Emotions," p. 275.

† "The Japan Mail," June 6, 1878, p. 306.