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Recent Dissertations

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primary source.

Another of Fison's significant contributions to the preservation of knowledge about old Fiji was his encouragement of island converts to write their autobiographies. Some of these he translated. Joel Bulu (1871), a straight translation, and Old Sefanaia (ca. 1895), assembled from vernacular material, are Fison's work under the pseudonym "A Friend of His."

After Fison had received his M.A. from the University of Rochester (New York) for work on the Australian aborigines, he gave up writing under pseudonyms. The pseudonym period lasted for a quarter-century (1857-1883) and covers material of prime value for any ethnohistorical reconstruction in the anthropology of Fiji.

Recent Dissertations

Since dissertations are not always easily accessible, we will in the future, as space permits, include brief summaries when these are provided by the authors.

Banks, Judith Judd (M.A., anthropology, University of British Columbia, 1970) "Comparative Biographies of Two British Columbia Anthropologists: Charles Hill-Tout and James A. Teit."

Bynum, William F., M.D. (Ph.D., history of science, Cambridge University, 1974) "Time's Noblest Offspring: The Problem of Man in the British Natural Historical Sciences, 1800-1863." The dissertation treats the work of William Lawrence, J. C. Prichard, George Combe, Robert Chambers, Richard Owen, Robert Knox, Thomas Huxley and Charles Lyell, with specific reference to two related sets of queries: 1) What is the significance of the anatomical similarities between man and the anthropoid apes? Do animals possess minds? Is the difference between men and other animals qualitative or quantitative? What are the implications of classifying man as a member of the animal kingdom? 2) Why are some men white and some black? Are all men descended from a single pair, or are racial characteristics aboriginal? Are the different races members of the same species? If so, how have the striking racial variations occurred? Despite good theological, scientific and humanistic reasons for considering man a single species, there was little direct historical evidence on the formation of human varieties, and the major racial types existed at the time of the earliest written and pictorial records. Therefore, anthropologists commonly appealed to the "analogy of nature," pointing out that domestic animals also exhibited marked variation, and since man was also a domestic animal, it could be proved analogically that human varieties were "accidental," not aboriginal. Medical anatomy and physiology also depended on this analogy, since many

data were derived from animal dissection. Physicians assumed that relations between anatomical structure and physiological function obtained in both men and animals, but the issue was complicated theologically and philosophically when this seemingly innocuous method was applied to the comparative anatomy of the brain. Darwinism intensified these tensions without materially changing them.

Erickson, Paul A. (Ph.D., anthropology, University of Connecticut, 1974) "The Origins of Physical Anthropology" (cf. HAN I:2).

Reingold, Judith C. M. (Ph.D., anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, 1973) "German Nationalism and the Inquiry into German Origins during the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries."

Recent Work by Subscribers

Subscribers are encouraged to submit full citations or offprints of recently published work to supplement our own erratic efforts.

Darnell, Regna, ed. Readings in the History of Anthropology (New York: Harper and Row, 1974) includes, among others, articles by Meyer Fortes ("Social Anthropology at Cambridge since 1900"), Jacob Gruber ("Brixham Cave and the Antiquity of Man"), A. I. Hallowell ("The History of Anthropology as an Anthropological Problem"), Dell Hymes ("On Studying the History of Anthropology"), Margaret Hodgen ("Retrospect and Prospect in History"), John Rowe ("The Renaissance Foundations of Anthropology"), George Stocking ("Empathy and Antipathy in the Heart of Darkness" and "Some Problems in the Understanding of Nineteenth-Century Cultural Evolutionism"), and Fred Voget ("Man and Culture: An Essay in Changing Anthropological Interpretation").

Hymes, Dell, ed. Studies in the History of Linguistics: Traditions and Paradigms (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1974) includes, among others, George Stocking, "The Boas Plan for the Study of American Indian Languages" and "Some Comments on History as a Moral Discipline: 'Transcending Textbook Chronicles and Apologetics'."

Lepenies, Wolf, "Eine vergessene Tradition der deutschen Anthropologie: Wissenschaft vom Menschen und Politik bei Georg Forster," Saeculum 24 (1973), 50-78.

Moore, J. H. "The Culture Concept as Ideology," American Ethnologist 1 (1974), 537-549.