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ADDITIONAL REMARKS CONCERNING ABORIGINAL BORA  
HELD AT GUNDABLOUI IN 1894.

By R. H. MATHEWS, Licensed Surveyor.

IN 1894 I contributed to the Royal Society of New South Wales a paper describing a Bora,<sup>1</sup> which took place at Gundabloui, on the Moonie River, in the colony just named. As stated in that paper,<sup>2</sup> the information from which it was prepared was obtained from a correspondent residing at Mogil Mogil, about fifteen miles from Gundabloui. Although this gentleman gave me his assistance very willingly, he was altogether unaccustomed to the fulness of detail necessary in original research of this character, and was therefore unable to satisfy me in reference to certain parts of the ceremonies. There was the further disadvantage of my correspondent being separated from me by upwards of five hundred miles, which caused much delay and difficulty in obtaining answers to my questions. From my knowledge of the initiation ceremonies of other tribes,<sup>3</sup> I considered that the statements furnished to me were substantially correct, and I had either to accept them as they were, or abandon the idea of publishing the results of my enquiries altogether. As no one had previously attempted to give a connected account of the Bora of the Kamilaroi tribes, and knowing that further details could be supplied in the form of a supplementary article at any time, I determined to prepare a paper from the mass of original information which I had collected.

As the subject of the initiation ceremonies of the Australian tribes was then very little understood either in Australia or in England, I also sent a summarized copy of that paper to the

<sup>1</sup> Journ. Roy. Soc. N. S. Wales, xxviii, 98-129. <sup>2</sup> *Loc. cit.* 105-106.

<sup>3</sup> "The Burbung of the Wiradthuri Tribes"—Journ. Anthropol. Inst., xxv, 295-318. "The Initiation Ceremonies of the Aborigines of the Upper Lachlan"—Proc. Roy. Geog. Soc. Aust. (Q.) xi, 167-169. "The Burbung of the New England Tribes"—Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria, ix, (N.S.), 120-136.

Year	Month	Day	Ship	Commander	Latitude	Longitude	Remarks
174	Nov.	27-32	H.I.M.S. "Sperber"	Lieut. S. Schaefer	170° 2' E.	84° 1' N.	170° 49' E.
175	Jan.	24-33	Ship "Palmyra"	G. Schlüter, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
176	Mar.	31-33	S.S. "Tijena"	H. Langerhans, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
177	June	4-93	"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
178	Aug.	14-93	Barq. "Gustavo Adolpho"	F. Tiedmann	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
179	Sept.	10-92	S.S. "Olanda"	J. Bruhe	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
180	Oct.	9-94	S.S. "Port Hunter"	S. M. Orr	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
181	Aug.	1-96	"	George Ramsay	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
182	Aug.	7-96	"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
183	Febr.	4-96	Ship "Aristides"	W. S. Poppy	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
184	April	5-96	R.M.S. "Australia"	F. M. Tuke, Commander	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
185	May	17-96	"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
186	Aug.	9-96	"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
187	Dec.	21-90	"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
188	June	14-94	S.S. "Thermopylae"	R. L. Routh	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
189	May	6-96	"	Alex. Simpson, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
190	May	29-95	"	George Ramsay	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
191	June	7-95	"	R. W. Whitehead	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
192	Aug.	26-95	C.S. "Port Stephens"	C. O. Mage, Commander	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
193	Sept.	17-95	S.S. "Sherard Osbourne"	Mark Bready, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
194	Sept.	17-95	S.S. "Patricarch"	M. W. C. Hepworth, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
195	Dec.	2-95	S.S. "Port Melbourne"	H. W. Livett, Commander	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
196	June	22-96	R.M.S. "Cuzco"	A. H. Thorpe, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
197	Sept.	12-96	S.S. "Elthamite"	Alex. Simpson	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
198	Febr.	27-95	S.S. "Thermopylae"	J. F. Ruthven, Master	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
199	Aug.	23-96	R.M.S. "Ophir"	J. R. Andrew, Commander	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.
200	July	16-96	Ship "Derwent"	"	172° 10' E.	84° 1' N.	172° 10' E.

† Papers marked with an asterisk will be found on the Chart.

Anthropological Institute of Great Britain,<sup>1</sup> in order that the subject might be prominently brought before the members of that body, for comparison with the initiation ceremonies in other countries. Being desirous of making my description of the Bora as complete and accurate as possible, I then determined to travel into the district in which it took place, and make personal enquiries among the tribes who had been present at it. From the comprehensive particulars gathered by me direct from the natives on that occasion, I forwarded to the Anthropological Institute a second paper,<sup>2</sup> supplying some omissions, and correcting some inaccuracies of detail, which had been made in my former memoir. The two papers referred to in this paragraph taken together, contain a complete narrative of everything which took place in connection with the Bora held at Gundabloui.

There still remains the further duty of correcting the account of that Bora which was published in this Journal.<sup>3</sup> With regard to the statement of Mr. J. A. Glass, at p. 103, that a half-caste named Billy Clark was allowed the option of either having a front tooth knocked out, or eating human ordure, I am now satisfied, from enquiries which I have since made from old blackfellows at Gundabloui, that Billy Clark was not initiated. These old men told me that in those days, some thirty or forty years ago, half-castes were not allowed to go through the Bora ceremonies—that innovation having crept in after the half castes became numerous. They further told me that there was no option, and if any novice had persisted in refusing to eat what was offered to him or to have his tooth extracted the *kooringal* would have killed him on the spot.

The following lines should be struck out: At p. 107, all the words commencing with "which" in line 6 to the word "head-man" in line 14; also from the word "and" in line 29 to the

<sup>1</sup> Journ. Anthropol. Inst., xxiv., 411-427.

<sup>2</sup> *Op. cit.*, xxv., 318-339.

<sup>3</sup> Journ. Roy. Soc. N. S. Wales, xxviii., 93-129.

word "arranged" in line 4 on page 116; word "and" in line 16 to the word "Every" in line 29; word "the" in line 14 on page 117. Also at p. 118, line 19 to the end of page 118. "After" in line 10 to the word "c" at p. 120, from the word "During" in line 28; and the words "and" in lines 3 to 16 inclusive. At p. 122, line 123, from the word "The" in line 1 on page 124.

When the foregoing corrections contributed to the Royal Society of Victoria, it is recommended to peruse it in the memoir on the Bora<sup>1</sup> communicated to the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain, when it is published. On the other side, will be found to contain a description of the Gundabloui Bora. Another Bora, held at Queensland, is described in a paper published in the Royal Society of Victoria,<sup>2</sup> which contains additional information respecting the Kamilaroi tribes.

<sup>1</sup> Journ. Anthropol. Inst.

<sup>2</sup> Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria

Great Britain,<sup>1</sup> in order that the thought before the members of that initiation ceremonies in other making my description of the Bora sible, I then determined to travel place, and make personal enquiries present at it. From the compre- me direct from the natives on the Anthropological Institute a omissions, and correcting some been made in my former memoir. his paragraph taken together, con- everything which took place in con- undabloui.

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xv., 318-339.

Wales, xxviii., 93-129.

word "arranged" in line 4 on page 108. At p. 109, from the word "and" in line 16 to the word "top" in line 18. At p. 114, from the word "Every" in line 29 to the end of page 115. At p. 116, from the word "the" in line 23 to the word "ring" in line 14 on page 117. Also at p. 117, from the word "As" in line 19 to the end of page 118. At p. 119, from the word "After" in line 10 to the word "circle" in line 1 on p. 120. Also at p. 120, from the word "During" in line 25 to the word "hunt" in line 28; and the words "and boys" in line 34. At p. 121, lines 3 to 16 inclusive. At p. 122, lines 15 to 18 inclusive. At p. 123, from the word "The" in line 8 to the word "come" in line 1 on page 124.

When the foregoing corrections have been made in the paper contributed to the Royal Society of New South Wales, the student is recommended to peruse it in conjunction with my second memoir on the Bora<sup>1</sup> communicated to the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain, when the two articles, read side by side, will be found to contain a compendious account of the Gundabloui Bora. Another Bora, which took place at Tallwood, Queensland, is described in a paper contributed by me to the Royal Society of Victoria,<sup>2</sup> which contains much important additional information respecting the initiation ceremonies of the Kamilaroi tribes.

<sup>1</sup> Journ. Anthropol. Inst., xxv., 318-339.

<sup>2</sup> Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria, ix., (N.S.), 137-173.