

WHITSUNTIDE OR PENTECOST ISLAND

2. Pentecost Island is situated between $15^{\circ} 23'$ and 16° S. lat. and between $168^{\circ} 4'$ and $168^{\circ} 14'$ E. long. It is about thirty-six miles long and the greatest breadth is about ten miles. It was discovered by Bougainville on Whitsunday, 1768. The native name is "A Raga."

3. The language was first learned by Patteson from natives at the north-western corner at Vunmarama. He printed two galley-slips of words and sentences¹, which formed the material for a notice by Gabelentz in 1873². Goodenough obtained a vocabulary in 1875³. Thomas Ulgau, a native of Mota, was landed as teacher in 1878. In 1882 his version of the Prayer Book in Qatvenua was printed in Norfolk Island⁴. Codrington's vocabulary and grammar were based on this and independent notes⁵. Hagen and Pineau published a Ninebulo vocabulary in 1888⁶. The locality of Macdonald's Pentecost numerals is not stated⁷. I published vocabularies of Qatvenua in 1889⁸ and 1893⁹, and in 1894 I received from the Rev. A. Brittain a longer vocabulary.

4. Since Ulgau's translation other books have been printed in the language of Northern Raga. They include the book of Genesis¹⁰, portions from the New Testament¹¹, St Luke's Gospel¹², and an enlarged Prayer Book containing most of the Psalms¹³.

Some native stories are among Dr Codrington's MSS., and

¹ New Hebrides, Vunmarama, north end of Whitsuntide Island, Araga.

² *MSpr.* 1873, pp. 42-50.

³ Goodenough, pp. 352-354.

⁴ *Tataro gaha avoana ata Raga*, St Barnabas, Norfolk Island, 1882. Cf. *ML*.

p. 431.

⁵ *ML*, pp. 39-52, 431-441.

⁶ *Études*, pp. 308-319.

⁷ *NHL*, p. 55.

⁸ *Ray, Api*, p. 303.

⁹ *Ray, LNH*.

¹⁰ *Datauleo ata tuai*, (Raga), 1908.

¹¹ *Avoana vagahi*, (Raga), Melanesian Mission Press, 1909.

¹² *Girigiri non Luk huri les tavuha*. (No title or date. Printed at Melanesian Mission Press, 1910.)

¹³ *Leon tataro*...Norfolk Island, 1911.

I have received others from the Rev. H. N. Drummond. To the Rev. Dr Fox I owe a Mota-Raga (north end) vocabulary by M. Tarileo.

Dialects

5. There is apparently little variation of dialect in Whitsuntide Island, although the language at the south end is said to resemble that of Ambrim. The following names appear: Vunmarama and Loltavola at the northern extremity; Qatvenua at the north end; Ninebulo in the south. These are illustrated by the numerals: (1) from v. d. Gabelentz, i.e. Patteson, (2) Codrington, Brittain and Tarileo, (3) Hagen and Pineau. I have added: (4) Macdonald's indefinite list.

	Vunmarama	Qatvenua	Ninebulo	?
One	<i>tea, tuwa</i>	<i>tea, tuwa</i>	<i>assia</i>	<i>tual</i>
Two	<i>rua</i>	<i>rua</i>	<i>a lu</i>	<i>elu</i>
Three	<i>tolu</i>	<i>tolu</i>	<i>attieul</i>	<i>etol</i>
Four	<i>fasi</i>	<i>vasi</i>	<i>afiet</i>	<i>epiet</i>
Five	<i>lima</i>	<i>lima</i>	<i>alim</i>	<i>elim</i>
Six	<i>ono</i>	<i>ono</i>	<i>lussia</i>	<i>lowat</i>
Seven	<i>vitu</i>	<i>bitu, vitu</i>	<i>yelu</i>	<i>liphu</i>
Eight	<i>welu</i>	<i>welu</i>	<i>yetiul</i>	<i>liptol</i>
Nine	<i>siwo</i>	<i>siwo</i>	<i>yapat</i>	<i>lapat</i>
Ten	<i>hanwul, hanawul</i>	<i>hanwulu, navul</i>	<i>sianful</i>	<i>siamnoh</i>

These should be compared with the Ambrim on pp. 330, 331, and with the Lepers' Island and Maewo.

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