

Missionary Exhibition







 Devin family broadsheet, United States of America
Kambot Crucifixion, Keram River, New Guinea

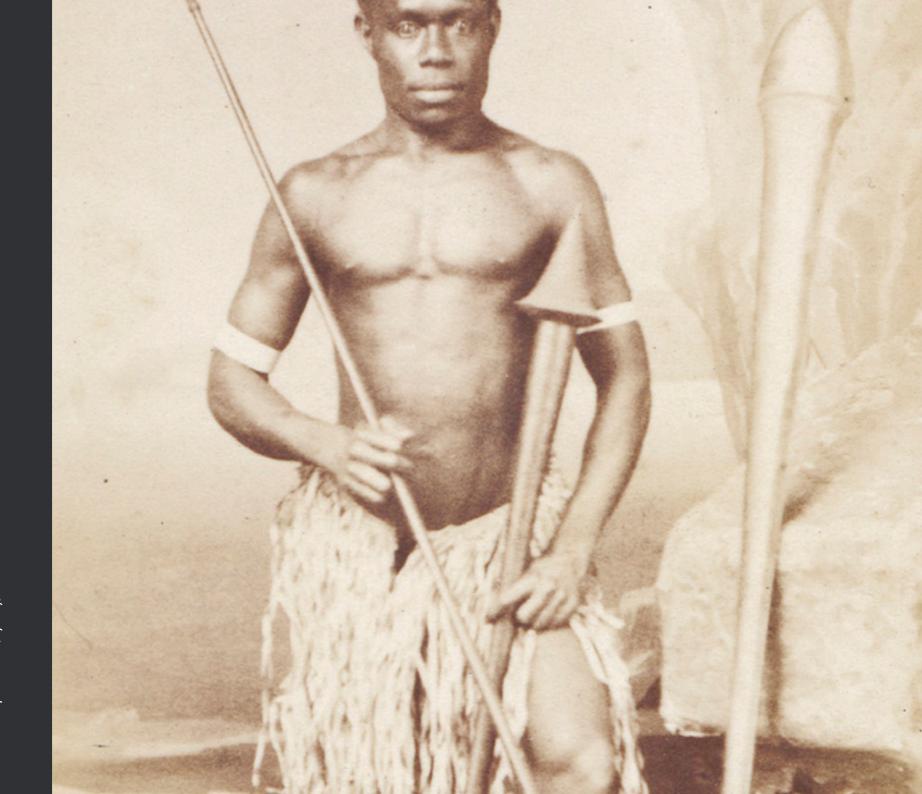






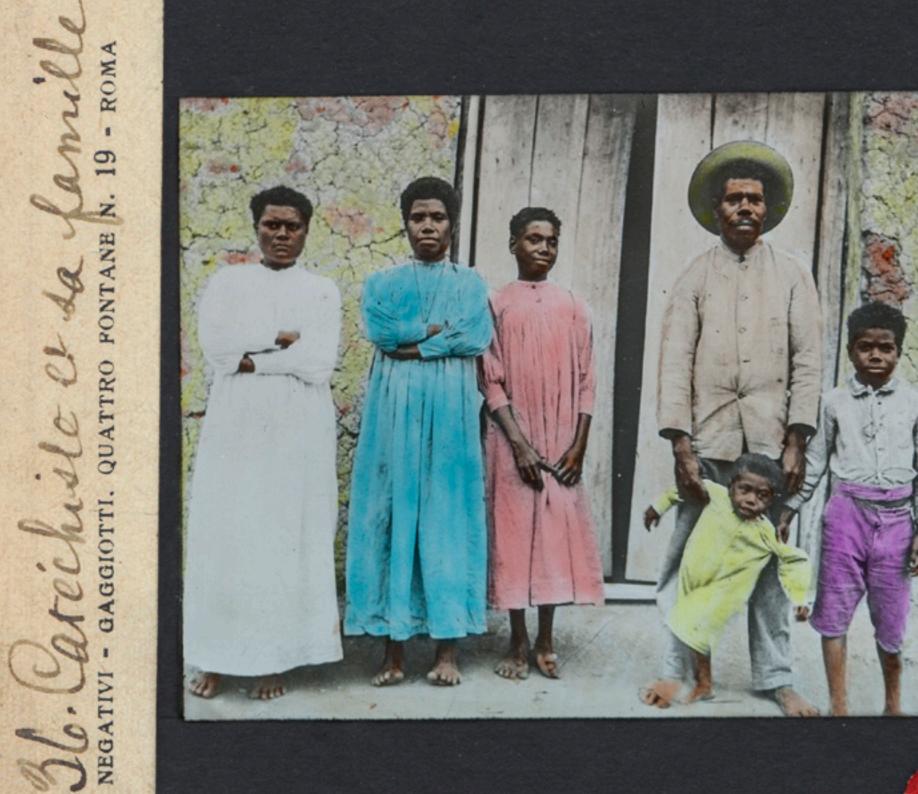


 Rev. George Brown and Penijimani Lelei, Sydney, Australia
Penijimani Lelei, Sydney, Australia





36. 'Wheeling', New Caledonia(?) 35. Catechist and his family, New Caledonia(?)

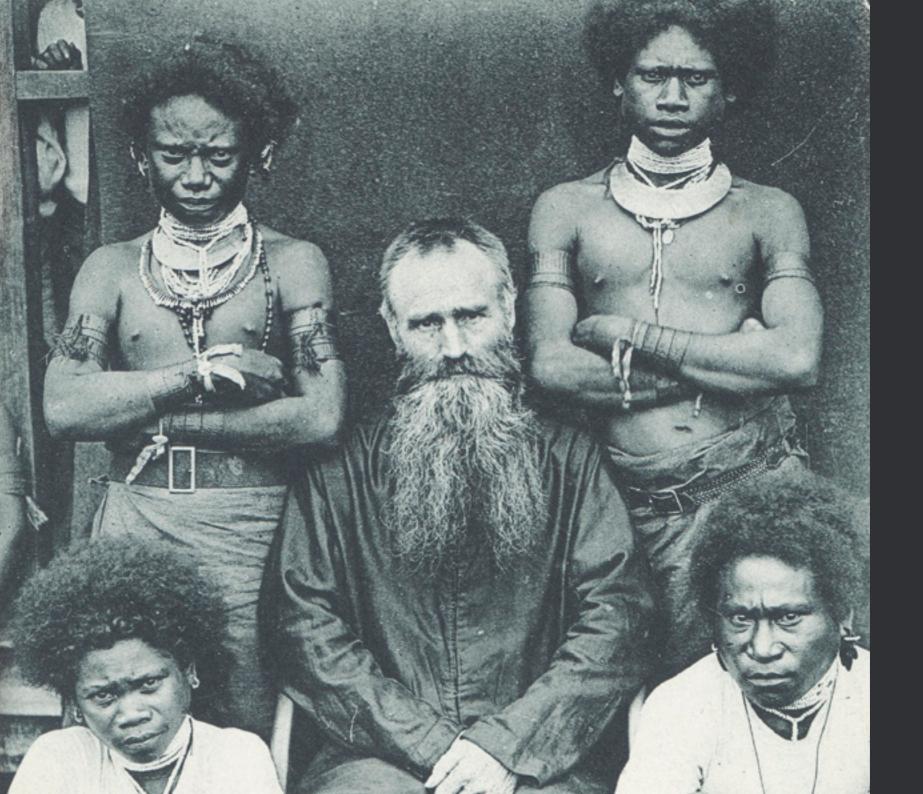




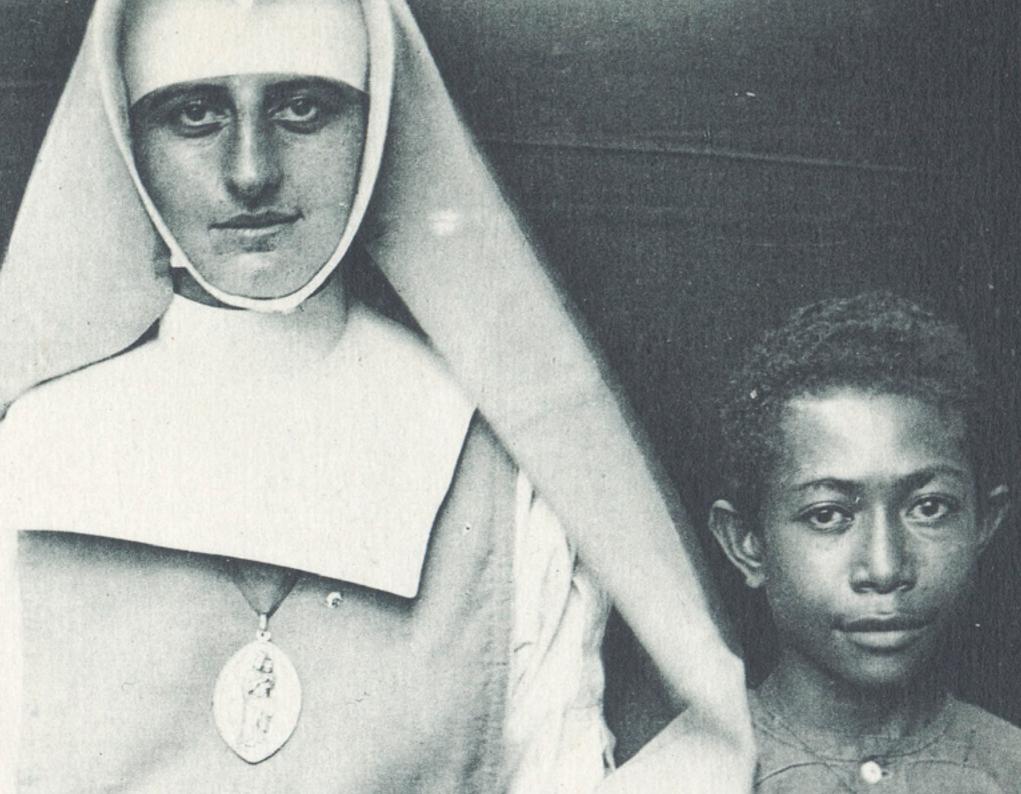


34. Catechists of New Caledonia 42. Christians of Nonouti, Gilbert Islands





Missionary and natives, Papua, New Guinea
Missionary sister, Yule school, Papua, New Guinea



18. 'Wago, Gelang, Kai [people]', Sattelberg Mission Station(?), German New Guinea







12. Polynesian teachers with Piri, Ruatoka, and Maka, Papua, New Guinea 29. Melanesians at St. Barnabas, Norfolk Island





 Group with Koroa-iti(?), Mangaia, Hervey Islands
Group with Gucheng(?), and Elizabeth and Samuel McFarlane, Lifou, Loyalty Islands





25. 'Monilaws Soga, Principal Chief of Bugotu, & wife', Santa Isabel Island 13. Mission Church, Fiu, Malaita, Solomon Islands







31. Landscape with mission children, German New Guinea

22. 'Rev. Zahn & his brass and shell band', Astrolabe Bay(?), New Guinea

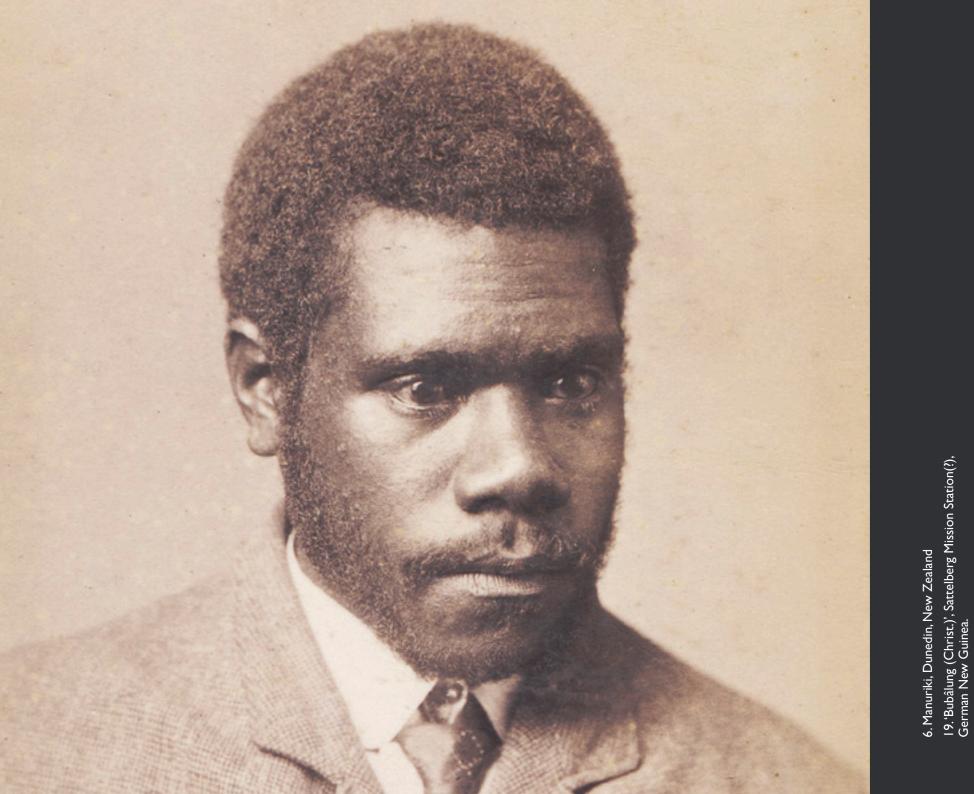








27. St. Faith's Anglican Church, Ohinemutu, Rotorua, New Zealand















Papuans', Papua, New Guinea
Mission group, German New Guinea





45. Marist diorama, Rome 15. Group with Father Aniseto del Carmen, Guam, Mariana Islands





16. Captive murderers of the Catholic Mission, Baining, New Pomerania, German New Guinea 50. Kauri gum bible, New Zealand







Checklist









† 1. Figurehead of missionary ship *Morning Star* J. C. Higgins Bath, Maine, c. 1880s

Albumen print, cabinet card. 164×108 mm. A succession of *Morning Star* ships – built in Boston, and funded by small donations from Sunday school children – served American mission stations across the Pacific. Launched in 1877, this incarnation plied a route from Honolulu to the Gilbert and Marshall Islands.

N.B.

Items marked with an orange cross (⁺) before their numbers are illustrated in detail elsewhere in this publication.

† 2. Rev. George Brown and Penijimani (Benjamin) Lelei Granville A. Wood Sydney, Australia, 1880

Albumen print, carte de visite, 105 x 63mm. Brown (1835–1917) was the central Methodist missionary in the Pacific during the 19th century, serving in the region for almost 50 years from 1860. He learned photography from Carl Walter (perhaps the most sympathetic of the early photographers of Australian Aboriginal people) when the two were fellow passengers on the *John Wesley* in 1875, during a trip from Fiji to the Duke of York Islands, off the coast of New Britain. Brown was an enthusiastic photographer, and 900 of his glass plates have survived. He was also a keen scientist, a prolific writer, and a significant collector of art and ethnographic material. Lelei was Brown's first convert (1878) on Duke of

Lelei was Brown's first convert (1878) on Duke of York Island, and one of first five from the present-day Bismarck Archipelago. The two men translated the Gospel of St. Mark, and produced a dictionary of the Duke of York Island language, issued in 1883. 3. Penijimani Lelei Granville A. Wood Sydney, Australia, 1880

Albumen print, carte de visite. 105 x 63mm.

† 4. Penijimani Lelei Granville A. Wood Sydney, Australia, 1880

Albumen print, carte de visite. 105 x 63mm.





† 6. Manuriki London Portrait Rooms Dunedin, New Zealand, 1885

Albumen print, carte de visite, 102 x 62mm.

† 7. Daniel Bula Crown Studios Sydney, Australia, 1916

Photographic postcard. 136×88 mm. Unused. Signed in ink.

Bula (c. 1895–1922) became the Rev. Reginald C. Nicholson's first convert on Vella Lavella (in the presentday Solomon Islands), after the missionary cured him of an eye infection. The pair toured Australia and New Zealand in 1916, and on his return, Bula married, and worked as a catechist and medical assistant. Nicholson wrote a biography of Bula titled *The Son of a Savage*, which was published in 1924.





† 8. Daniel Bula Crown Studios Sydney, Australia, 1916

Photographic postcard. 136 \times 88mm. Unused. Signed in ink.

5. Manambalea London Portrait Rooms Dunedin, New Zealand, 1885

Albumen print, carte de visite, 102 x 62mm. Manambalea, paramount chief of Selembanga, and Manuriki were converts of the Presbyterian missionary Oscar Michelsen (1844–1936) from the island of Tongoa, New Hebrides.They accompanied him to the Otago Synod in October 1885. Manambelea, who was described by Michelsen as his right-hand man, drowned saving a girl caught in a rip tide.



Gelatin silver print. 109 x 155mm. Mounted on card.

+ 9. Fijian missionaries

Rev. George Brown

1889



+ 10. Group at Mission Station Lifou, Loyalty Islands, c. 1860s New Britain/New Pomerania, German New Guinea, July

> Albumen prints, stereo card. 85 x 173mm. The central figures are Elizabeth McFarlane, her husband, the Rev. Samuel McFarlane (1837–1911), and two of their five children. The squatting figure is most likely Gucheng, the Rev. McFarlane's star pupil and right-hand man.

McFarlane was stationed on the island from 1859 until a bitter dispute with French Catholics led him to relocate to Cape York, Queensland, in 1871. From there, he oversaw the expansion of the London Missionary Society (LMS) into Papua, New Guinea, where he established 12 mission stations in the 1870s. He retired in 1886.

Gucheng led a group from present-day New Caledonia that landed in Papua. He died on the Fly River there in 1884, aged about 42.



+ 11. 'A Native Teacher and wife, and Natives' Mangaia, Hervey Islands, c. 1850s

Albumen prints, stereo card. 83 x 172mm. The standing man is almost certainly the pastor Koroa-iti (also called Mamae or Sadaraka), whose portrait appears in Te Rangi Hiroa/Peter H. Buck's Mangaia and the Mission (1993, 23). Koroa-iti was a teacher and pastor at Tamarua village from the death of Anania in 1848 until his own passing in 1889. From 1852, his supervisor was the Rev. William Gill. The two became friends, continuing to correspond regularly after Gill's departure for New Guinea in 1872. Koroa-iti was Gill's primary informant for ethnographic information. He also recorded a series of histories of pre-Christian Mangaia, which are remarkable for their lack of censure.







† 12. Polynesian teachers Rev. William George Lawes Papua, New Guinea, 1870s

Albumen print, 109×158 mm.

The image ostensibly shows a group of six pastors from the Hervey/Cook Islands who served in Papua from 1872, being the first Polynesian men to do so. Seated, left to right, are Piri, Ruatoka, and Maka. The standing men have yet to be identified precisely.

Ruatoka (1843–1903), a Mangaian, trained at the Rarotongan Theological Institute under James Chalmers. With his first wife, Tungane, he was a key figure at the mission at Port Moresby, Papua, having already worked closely with both the supervising missionaries, Chalmers and Lawes. Tungane took over Ruatoka's duties during his frequent travels, and converted the first Papuan to be baptised, Aruadaere. Ruatoka is credited with ensuring that the inevitable clashes arising from the discovery of gold inland rarely ended in violence. He was said by Lawes to be capable of 'discharging all the duties of a bishop'. Maka came to Papua as the Rev. William Gill's interpreter: He had previously worked as a pastor in Tokelau, Maré, and Samoa, but had been sent home disgraced, due to interactions with women. In New Guinea, he married a Papuan girl, said by Gill to be the first native to be engaged in the Lord's work.

Piri was from Rarotonga, and was another graduate of the seminary at Takamoa. He had married a Mangaian, the widow of a teacher who had served in the New Hebrides. and prior to moving to Papua, they had administered to migrant Cook Islands workers in Samoa. Chalmers described the couple as two of the finest missionaries he had ever known. Piri died at Boera, Papua, in 1878. Lawes was not only an important missionary, but also the LMS's first and pre-eminent photographer, and the first permanent white resident in Papua. Nothing is known about his photographic training, but he is recorded as ordering equipment and supplies in 1870, when serving in Niue. His photographs reached a wide audience, the LMS showing them as lantern slides during lectures, and the Sydney firm of Henry King selling copies. In 1885, Lawes met the photographer J.W. Lindt in Melbourne. He later provided crucial assistance on the Papuan leg of the tour that resulted in the publication of Lindt's Picturesque New Guinea (1887).

† 13. 'The Mission Church' Fiu, Malaita, Solomon Islands

Gelatin silver prints, stereo card. 88 × 176mm. Published by Underwood and Underwood, London.

14. 'The interior of the Mission Church' Fiu, Malaita, Solomon Islands

Gelatin silver prints, stereo card. 88 × 176mm. Published by Underwood and Underwood, London.







† 15. 'Mariannen-Inseln, Missionar' (Mariana Islands, Missionary) Gustav Adolph Riemer Guam, 1870s

Gelatin silver prints, stereo card. 89 x 178mm. Published by the Neue Photographische Gesellschaft, Steglitz, Berlin, about 1900.

The standing man is Father Aniseto del Carmen, Archpriest of the Mariana Islands. He is shown with a group of converted boys. Riemer travelled in East Asia and the South Sea Islands from 1874 to 1877, taking over 300 photographs. † 16. 'Gefangene Mörder der kath. Mission, Bainingen, Neu-Pommern' (Captive murderers of the Catholic Mission, Baining, New Pomerania) German New Guinea, c. 1905

Lithographic postcard. 92 x 139mm. Signed and inscribed. Used. Postmarked Sydney, 1905. The image shows Governor Hahl's troops with men accused of killing the authoritarian priest Pater Matthaus Räscher, nine missionaries, and several local sympathisers, following an incident that culminated in the flogging of an ex-slave convert, To Maria. 17. 'Senior Flierl Would Lead Black and White to Jesus' German New Guinea, 1929

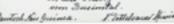
Photographic fundraising card. 87×46 mm. Text printed verso.

The figures are, left to right, William Flierl, Johann 'Senior' Flierl (1858–1947), and Bofuenuc. Born in Bavaria, Johann Flierl was a Lutheran missionary. He spent seven years at the Bethesda Mission Station at Killalpaninna, South Australia, from 1878, before moving to German New Guinea, where he set up three stations for the Neuendettelsau Mission Society in the vicinity of Finschhafen, Huon Peninsula – the first at Simbang in 1886, the second on Wanam (one of the Tami Islands) in 1889, and the third at Sattelberg (Belahaluc) in 1892. A major force in the Mission, he steered it through the period of the First World War by developing links with Australia and the United States. His *Forty Years in New Guinea* was published in 1927. Numerous members of the Flierl family continued his missionary work.

Theye Stail Filence



Ar alt James





† 18. 'Wago, Gelang, Kai [people]' Sattelberg Mission Station(?), German New Guinea

Photographic postcard. 160 x 89mm. Unused.

† 19. 'Bubâlung (Christ.)' Sattelberg Mission Station(?), German New Guinea

Photographic postcard. 160 x 89mm. Unused.

20. 'Der alte Seung vom Busimtal' (Old Seung from Busimtal) Sattelberg Mission Station(?), German New Guinea

Photographic postcard. 160 x 89mm. Unused.

21. 'Buameng, Kai [people] – Christ.' Sattelberg Mission Station(?), German New Guinea

Photographic postcard. 160 × 89mm. Unused. This and the previous three postcards may show photographs taken by Christian Keysser, a Lutheran missionary of the Neuendettelsau Mission Society, who worked with Johann Flierl among the Kai, or Kâte, at Sattelberg for over 20 years. Keysser is said to have understood the Kâte better than Flierl, developing a form of group conversion that was considerably more successful than earlier efforts.



† 22. 'Rev. Zahn & his brass and shell band' Astrolabe Bay(?), New Guinea, c. 1930

Gelatin silver print. 87 x 137mm.

Heinrich Zahn (1880–1944) served as a Neuendettlesau missionary from 1902 to 1932. Musically gifted, he published *Mission and Music* (1920), an indigenised mission hymnody; sent over 200 cylinder recordings of local music to the Volkerkunde Museum, Berlin; and started brass and conch bands (shown together here).



† 23. 'At Bogadjim' Astrolabe Bay, New Guinea, c. 1930

Gelatin silver print, 87 x 137mm.

Roland Hanselmann (1901–1971) – partially obscured by the table – was an American Lutheran, author of *In the Jungles of New Guinea* (1935). Albert Hoffman was a Rhenish missionary, based at Bogadjim. The Rhenish Mission Society landed at Bogadjim beach in 1887, achieving a first baptism 12 years later.



Gelatin silver print. 137 x 87mm.

As in the previous photograph, Anang is centre stage, directly below the popular Rev. Hanselmann. Anang is referred to as a catechumen (an individual receiving instruction before baptism) by the German missionary Johanna Diehl in a 1908 diary entry.









† 25. 'Monilaws Soga, Principal Chief of Bugotu, & wife' Santa Isabel Island, c. 1891

Albumen print. 204 × 154mm. Mounted on album page. This photograph was probably taken by a member of the crew of HMS *Royalist*, possibly by Captain E. H. M. Davis, who is known to have been a photography enthusiast. Soga (d. 1898) was baptised about 1890. He is credited with bringing peace to Santa Isabel (in the present-day Solomon Islands), and enabling the Melanesian Mission to extend its influence. Soga's wife was called Anika. † 26. Schoolchildren and nuns French Polynesia(?)

Albumen print. 147 x 202mm.

† 27. St. Faith's Anglican Church Burton Brothers Ohinemutu, Rotorua, New Zealand, 1880s

Albumen print. 149 x 205mm.







28. 'Maori monument to Q.Victoria (Ohinemutu)' Rotorua, New Zealand.

Lantern slide. 82 x 82mm.

The bust of Queen Victoria, installed near St. Faith's Anglican Church, was presented by Her Majesty in 1870, as a token of thanks to Māori who fought on the British side in the wars of the 1860s. † 29. 'Melanesians at St. Barnabas' John W. Beattie Norfolk Island, 1906

Lantern slide. 82 x 82mm.

This slide shows Melanesian Mission students from St. Barnabas College outside one of their gamals, or club houses. It is one of a large series of photographs taken by Beattie during a tour of Melanesia aboard the *Southern Cross*, a mission vessel operating out of Auckland, New Zealand. Norfolk Island was the first stop, and the Hobart-based photographer's favourite. He wrote in a November 1906 diary entry, '[It] is the most beautiful place in God's earth! Life is worth living there – you seem to breathe life and health and enjoyment.' 30. Mission girl

Lantern slide. 81 \times 81 mm. Published by E. G. Wood, London.







† 31. Landscape with mission children German New Guinea

Lantern slide. 85 × 85mm. Published by L. Schaller, Stuttgart, Germany.

† 32. Mission group German New Guinea.

Lantern slide. 85 \times 85mm. Published by L. Schaller, Stuttgart, Germany.

† 33. 'Papuans' Rev. Edward Baxter Riley Papua, New Guinea

Lantern slide. 82 x 82mm.

Born in Lancaster, Riley (1868–1929) originally trained as a pharmacist. He was placed in charge of the LMS's Fly River Mission on Daru Island in 1901, after James Chalmers was killed by men from Goarbari Island while trying to expand the Mission's territory. Riley became an expert on Papuan languages. His *Among Papuan Headhunters* was published in 1925.







† 34. 'Missions Maristes, Catéchistes de Nouvelle Caledonie' (Marist Missions, Catechists of New Caledonia)

Lantern slide. 84 × 99mm. Published by Maison de la Bonne Presse, Paris. † 35. 'Catéchiste et sa famille' (Catechist and his family) New Caledonia(?)

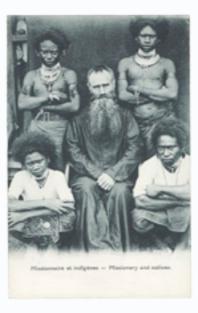
Lantern slide. 85 x 98mm. Published by Societas Mariæ – Missiones Oceaniæ, Rome.

† 36. 'Wheeling' New Caledonia(?)

Lantern slide. 85 x 98mm. Published by Societas Mariæ – Missiones Oceaniæ, Rome.









37. 'Un Missionaire et ses Catéchistes' (A Missionary and his Catechists) Papua, New Guinea

Lithographic postcard. 138 x 88mm. Used.

† 38. 'Sœur missionaire école de Yule, Missionary sister Yule school' Papua, New Guinea

Lithographic postcard. 137 x 88mm. Published by the Missionaires du Sacré-Cœur d'Issoudun. Unused. The Sacred Heart Mission established its headquarters on Yule Island in the Papuan Gulf in 1885. Their agreed 'sphere of influence' was between two LMS-dominated coastal areas, thus they established stations inland, towards the Papuan Mountains.

† 39. Missionaires et indigènes – Missionary and natives'. Papua, New Guinea

Lithographic postcard. 137 x 88mm. Published by the Missionaires du Sacré-Cœur d'Issoudun. Unused.

40. 'Frère Georges – Brother Georges' Papua, New Guinea

Lithographic postcard. 137 x 88mm. Published by the Missionaires du Sacré-Cœur d'Issoudun. Unused. Note that Brother Georges is holding a bamboo tobacco pipe.



† 41. 'Ononghe – L'École – Boys' school' Papua, New Guinea

Lithographic postcard. 137 x 88mm. Published by the Missionaires du Sacré-Cœur d'Issoudun. Unused. Note the crosses worn by many of the individuals depicted.



† 42. 'Chrétiens de Nonouti' (Christians of Nonouti) Gilbert Islands

Lithographic postcard. 88 x 137mm. Unused. Sacred Heart missionaries established a station on Nonouti in the 1890s.



† 43. 'Called to God' United States of America, 1938

Lithographic broadsheet. 205×291 mm. Ralph Devin was the owner of an office furniture store in Seattle when he felt the 'call'. Told he was too old for missionary training, he and his family travelled independently to Ambon, where they set up a mission station. Evacuated to Brisbane on the eve of the Japanese invasion, Devin was determined to return. He finally did so in early 1951, crossing the Pacific from the United States in a surplus naval rescue vessel. He died in Ambon later that year, but other family members continued the mission.



† 44. South East New Guinea G. W. Bacon & Co. Ltd. London

Silk map. 1130 x 1500mm.



† 45. Marist diorama Rome, 1925

Lithographic postcard. 142 × 90mm. Printed verso: 'Esposozione Missionaria Vaticana. Missioni dei PP. Maristi in Oceania. Un battismo tra le tribù dei Cannibali.' (Vatican Missionary Exhibition. Mission of Marist Fathers in Oceania. A baptist among cannibal tribes.) Unused.



+ 46. 'Le courrier du missionaire' (Missionary mail)

Lithographic postcard. 90 × 140mm. Published by Edition de la Propagation de la Foi, Lyon, France. Unused.



† 47. Crucifixion with the Virgin or Magdalene Kambot people Keram River, New Guinea

Wood. 540 x 305mm.







† 48. Madonna and Child with serpent latmul people Sepik River, New Guinea

Wood. 540 x 230mm.

49. Crucifixion latmul people Sepik River, New Guinea

Wood. 690 x 270mm. A handful of other works in the same style are extant, one of which is held by Tāmaki Paenga Hira/Auckland War Memorial Museum (#55266). † 50. 'Holy Bible' New Zealand

Kauri gum. 146 x 97 x 32mm.





† 51. Church at Titikaveka(?) Rarotonga, Hervey/Cook Islands

Tapa/bark cloth. 2260 × 1280mm. Inscribed on attached label: 'A flag made by a little boy for the juvenile May meeting. These are not fair specimens of native manufacture as all have been injured by the hurricane. Rosanna E. Corrie, March 1853. Wheeler gave it me.' It has been suggested that this piece was deaccessioned by the Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey, although this has not yet been confirmed. A tapa in a Rarotongan style, showing a very similar building is held by the Cuming Museum, London. (It is recorded that this was collected by Captain James Wilson of the *Duff*, but, as with other materials in the Cuming credited to the *Duff* voyage, this cannot be correct.)

The label on this example requires further research, as the identity of Rosanna E. Corrie is still to be determined. The mention of a Wheeler points to the family of Quaker Daniel Wheeler (1771–1840), who travelled extensively throughout the Pacific with his son, Charles (d. 1840), in the 1830s.

In Extracts from the Letters and Journal of Daniel

Wheeler... (1840, pp. 235–250), Wheeler recounts a visit to Rarotonga in August 1836, during which he was hosted by the missionary Charles Pitman, whom he had met previously in Tahiti. He notes, 'On our return to [Ngatangiia], we stopped to examine a new place of worship... This structure is carried on under the direction of A. Cunningham.'

Alexander Cunningham (whom Wheeler also knew already, having met him in Mo'orea) was staying with Pitman while trying to establish a plantation on land allotted him by Judge Tupe. Cunningham left Rarotonga on the *Camden* (the same vessel that landed the missionary William Gill) in 1839, following a 'moral lapse', but before that he had designed and started to build another church, along the coast at Titikaveka. This was inaugurated in 1841.

Pitman describes the building in the *Missionary Magazine* and *Chronicle* (1 July 1842, 97), noting, 'The walls are 25 feet high and three feet thick; there are 17 windows and 3 doors, all arched with the same stone. To guard against storms, it is covered with three roofs, supported on four iron-wood columns.' His article is accompanied by a sketch (see above).Volume II of Gill's *Gems from* the Coral Islands (1856, 41) includes a slightly different illustration. Both show the same arrangement of doors, windows, and unusual tripartite roof (at some point in the 19th century, this was replaced with a more conventional, single gable structure). Juvenile meetings appear to have been held annually

in Rarotonga during the early 19th century.Volume IV of the *Missionary Repository for Youth [etc.]* (1842, 200) records that at one such event, in May 1842, the children 'ranged themselves under their banners'.

The hurricane mentioned in the label text is presumably the one that struck Rarotonga in March 1846. The church at Titikaveka was one of the only buildings on the southeastern coast to survive the storm – among the worst ever recorded on the island.

The evidence is circumstatial only, but the similarity of this tapa to the more obviously Rarotongan cloth held by the Cuming, the date and the allusion to a member of the Wheeler family on the label, and the closeness of the building depicted to the idiosyncratic design of the church at Titikaveka strongly suggest that this is an uncommonly early tapa.





Michael Graham-Stewart m@mgsart.net

Text by Michael Graham-Stewart & Francis McWhannell Design by Francis McWhannell Photography by Sjoerd Langeveld Published 2016





