

ness and dignity. The people of Tonga are perhaps a little darker in colour, and of rather more hardy make than their northern neighbours, whom they otherwise closely resemble.

Of the New Zealanders, the following description is taken from our notes made on the spot:—They are a fine race, evidently of the pure Polynesian stock, but inferior, as might be expected, to the indolent natives of the tropical islands in the regularity and elegance of their physiognomy. They have neither the round, swelling muscles, nor the soft contour of face, which distinguish the Tahitians and Samoans; but they are strongly formed, with hard, sinewy flesh, and bold, well-defined features. In complexion they are a shade darker than the islanders before mentioned. The forehead is often high, but slopes backward; the eyes are rather small, black, and piercing; the nose, which is their most distinguishing feature, is frequently aquiline, and so prominent, that its ridge forms a straight line with the receding forehead. Altogether, a New Zealander, in complexion, form, and profile, comes very near a North American Indian.

Some voyagers have believed that they saw in the natives of New Zealand at least two distinct races of men, of which one approached the yellow Polynesian, and the other the black Papuan family. The latter, they say, are distinguished by their shorter stature, darker complexion, and frizzled hair. Our observations did not confirm the correctness of these statements. It appeared to us that the physical differences were no greater than are seen in every country between different classes of people,—between the well-fed, luxurious idler, and the half-starved, ill-clad labouring man. We saw many stunted forms and dark complexions among them, but no instance of what could properly be termed frizzled or woolly hair.

The natives of the Society Islands are a handsome, but effeminate people. The difference between the higher and the lower classes is particularly remarkable in the taller stature and bulkier forms, frequently overloaded with fat, of the former. The forehead is of good height, but retreats, and narrows towards the top.

The inhabitants of the Low Archipelago are a very dark-skinned race, with harsh, irregular features, sometimes short and thick, and sometimes aquiline and bold. Their forms usually indicate strength and activity, and the expression of their countenances is stern and fierce.

The Marquesans have the reputation of being the handsomest of the Polynesian tribes; and if we may judge from some individuals of