VOCABULARY

OF THE

TANGOA DIALECT. ESPIRITU SANTO. NEW HEBRIDES.

COMPILED BY

SIDNEY H. RAY.

Espiritu Santo, the largest island of the New Hebrides, is situated between 14° 15' and 15° 40' S. lat and between 166° 28' and 167° 16' E. long. It is about 70 miles long by 40 broad, with lofty mountains and numerous streams. The soil is extremely fertile and the inhabitants are more advanced in the arts than any other natives of the New Hebrides. Pottery, *kuro*, is made, and long aqueducts of bamboo carry water for a considerable distance. The women are tattooed; they carry the children in a strip of mat fastened over the shoulders. The villages are clean, and the people have the usual weapons, the spear and bow, with arrows tipped with human bone. An account of the people by the Rev. J. D. Gordon is given by Dr. Steel.¹ The Rev. J. D. Gordon spent four months at Nogogu on the West Coast in 1871. His grammar was published by Rev. D. Macdonald in 1889.² Rev. Dr. Codrington gives a grammar and vocabulary from the Bay of S.S. Philip and James on the north.³ The present vocabulary, which I owe to the kindness of the Rev. J. Annand M. A. is from Tangoa in the Central part of the South Coast. Mr. Annand's grammar of the same will be found in Rev. D. Macdonald's South Sea Languages.⁴

¹ The New Hebrides by Robert Steel DD. London, 1880, pp. 331—337.

² Three New Hebrides Languages by Rev. D. Macdonald. Melbourne, 1889, pp. 85—134.

³ Melanesian Languages. Oxford, 1885, pp. 441—449.

⁴ South Sea Languages. A series of studies on the languages of the New Hebrides and other South Sea Islands. By the Rev. D. Macdonald. Melbourne, 1891, pp. 1—14.