

**TWENTY-ONE YEARS IN
PAPUA A HISTORY OF THE
ENGLISH CHURCH, MISSION
IN NEW GUINEA (1891-1912)**

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Twenty-One Years in Papua a History of the English Church, Mission in New Guinea (1891-1912) by Arthur Kent Chignell

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ARTHUR KENT CHIGNELL

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TWENTY-ONE YEARS IN PAPUA



[Photo, P. J. Moser.]

SAMARAI—THE PATH ROUND THE ISLAND.

To face title.

First impression, 1913

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

THANKS are due to the Reverend F. W. Ramsay (of Samarai), to the Reverend S. R. M. Gill (of Boianai), to Mr. Percy J. Money (of Sydney), to the Secretary of the Australian Board of Missions (Archdeacon Lefroy) for the loan of photographs reproduced in these pages, and to Miss Madeline E. King (of Sydney), for the map of the district.

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AN OPEN LETTER

"My dear King,

"It is one-and-twenty years to-day since you and Albert Maclaren left Sydney on the first stage of your journey to New Guinea.

"Any one who knows anything at all about New Guinea knows that you are the man who ought to have written this book for the coming of age of the New Guinea Mission: and that your name should stand by rights as prominently on the title-page as it does in the first paragraph of the text: and that though I now make what amends I can by dedicating it more or less to you, the book is half yours already in the sense that very many of the earlier pages are mere extracts from the *History of the New Guinea Mission* which you published in 1901.

"And yet, after all, perhaps it is just as well that the story of these one-and-twenty years should be written by a comparative outsider like myself, rather than by you, or Tomlinson, or even by Bishop Stone-Wigg, or Newton. Generals and pioneers and colour-sergeants and

captains and engineers and private soldiers and regimental adjutants and drummer-boys and buglers and bandsmen give the orders and blow the trumpets and wave the flags and do the fighting and all the hard work of the campaign, but there is work also for the war correspondent, if the people at home are to be made to understand what their soldiers at the front are doing.

"I have been here long enough to know the ground and the fighters and to understand something of the plan of the campaign, but my own share in things has been so insignificant that I can afford to write quite plainly and dispassionately on matters at which you other fellows, for sheer modesty, could do no more than hint, just because yourselves have been great parts of what is now accomplished—because it is you yourselves who have been playing the game, and making the blunders, and putting up the splendid scores.

"I have merely sifted and made up my material from Maclaren's letter books in the library at Dogura, and from your writings, and from the *Annual Reports* and magazines like *Missionary Notes* and the *A.B.M. Review*, and from the collection of newspaper cuttings compiled by Bishop Stone-Wigg.

"Even if you are angry with me for using your name, and for criticizing your work,