# THE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL AND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649741397

The Australian Aboriginal and the Christian Church by Herbert Pitts

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

# **HERBERT PITTS**

# THE AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL AND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Trieste



BROOME NATIVES WITH SPEARS AND ECOMERANGS. [Frontispice.

# THE

# AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL AND THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

BY

# HERBERT PITTS,

Assistant Curate of St. Matthew's, Douglas, sometime S.P.G. Missionary in North West Australia.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

#### LONDON:

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, W.C.; 43, QUEEN VICTORIA ST., E.C. BRIGHTON: 129, NORTH STREET NEW YORK: E. S. GORHAM 1914

JUN 1 5 1992

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

						PAGE
Preface	-	2 <b>9</b> 3	1.0	 3 <del>9</del>	 -	ix

#### PART I.-ABORIGINAL CUSTOMS AND BELIEFS.

#### CHAPTER I

Introductory—How and when the "Blacks" first came to Australia, and drove out an earlier People—How the White Men came and the Blacks were "dispersed" and driven back— The Remnant To-day - - - - II

#### CHAPTER II

The Tribe and its Divisions-A Camp-Tribal Messengers-Languages-Position of Women - 21

#### CHAPTER III

Birth and Infancy — "Churinga" — Infanticide— Treatment of Children—Games - - 26

## CONTENTS

PAGE

# CHAPTER IV

Savage E	ducation-	-How	the	faculty	of	Obser	va-	
tion	is Trained-	-Some	Illu	stratio	ns	Weap	ons	
whic	h a Child le	arns to	mal	ce and u	ise	-		32

#### CHAPTER V

Adolescence-Food	Prohib	ition	s''	Bora "	Ce	ere-	
monies-Cicatriz	zation	¥0	2	¥3	-	: <del>14</del> 5	40

### CHAPTER VI

Marriage Customs and	Laws	÷	<u> </u>		20	46
----------------------	------	---	----------	--	----	----

# CHAPTER VII

Daily Life of the Natives :	I.	How	they	Catch	and	
Cook their Food -	1	-	-	-	-	49

#### CHAPTER VIII

Daily Life of the Natives :	11.	Warfare	≻Co	mbats	é.
-Cannibal Feasts -	17	-	-		55

## CHAPTER IX

Daily	Life of	the	Natives :	III.	Corrobborees	<b>7</b> 0	61
-------	---------	-----	-----------	------	--------------	------------	----

# CONTENTS

PAGE

#### CHAPTER X

Belief in Magic-	-" Ir	itichi	uma "	$\rightarrow$	Bone-P	oint	ing	
-Medicine	Mer	-Re	lation	be	tween	Ma	gic	
and Religion				÷.	÷	÷	-	65

#### CHAPTER XI

Ideas and Customs relating to Illness and Death - 73

#### CHAPTER XII

How	the	Dead	are	Disposed	of	1122.5	02	-	1	79
-----	-----	------	-----	----------	----	--------	----	---	---	----

#### CHAPTER XIII

Belief in Spirits and in the Supernatural - - - 84

#### CHAPTER XIV

Some Curious Myths and Legends 9	Some	Curious	Myths	s and	Legends		100		91
----------------------------------	------	---------	-------	-------	---------	--	-----	--	----

#### PART II .- MISSIONS AND MISSIONARY WORK

#### CHAPTER XV

v

## CONTENTS

PAGE

# CHAPTER XVI

Anglican Missions To-day—Yarrabah—Mitchell River—Roper River—Forrest River - - 110

# CHAPTER XVII

Roman	Catholi	С	Missic	ons-	New	Nor	cia	and	
	gle Bay			19					120

# CHAPTER XVIII

A Final Plea	130
--------------	-----

1.50

vi