

**THE ISLE OF VANISHING
MEN: A NARRATIVE OF
ADVENTURE IN
CANNIBAL-LAND**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649616848

The Isle of Vanishing Men: A Narrative of Adventure in Cannibal-Land by W. F. Alder

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

W. F. ALDER

**THE ISLE OF VANISHING
MEN: A NARRATIVE OF
ADVENTURE IN
CANNIBAL-LAND**

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA



"Uhmen!" From their manner it is evident that we are *de trop*

THE ISLE OF VANISHING MEN

A NARRATIVE OF
ADVENTURE IN
CANNIBAL-LAND

BY
W. F. ALDER

ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS
BY THE AUTHOR

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

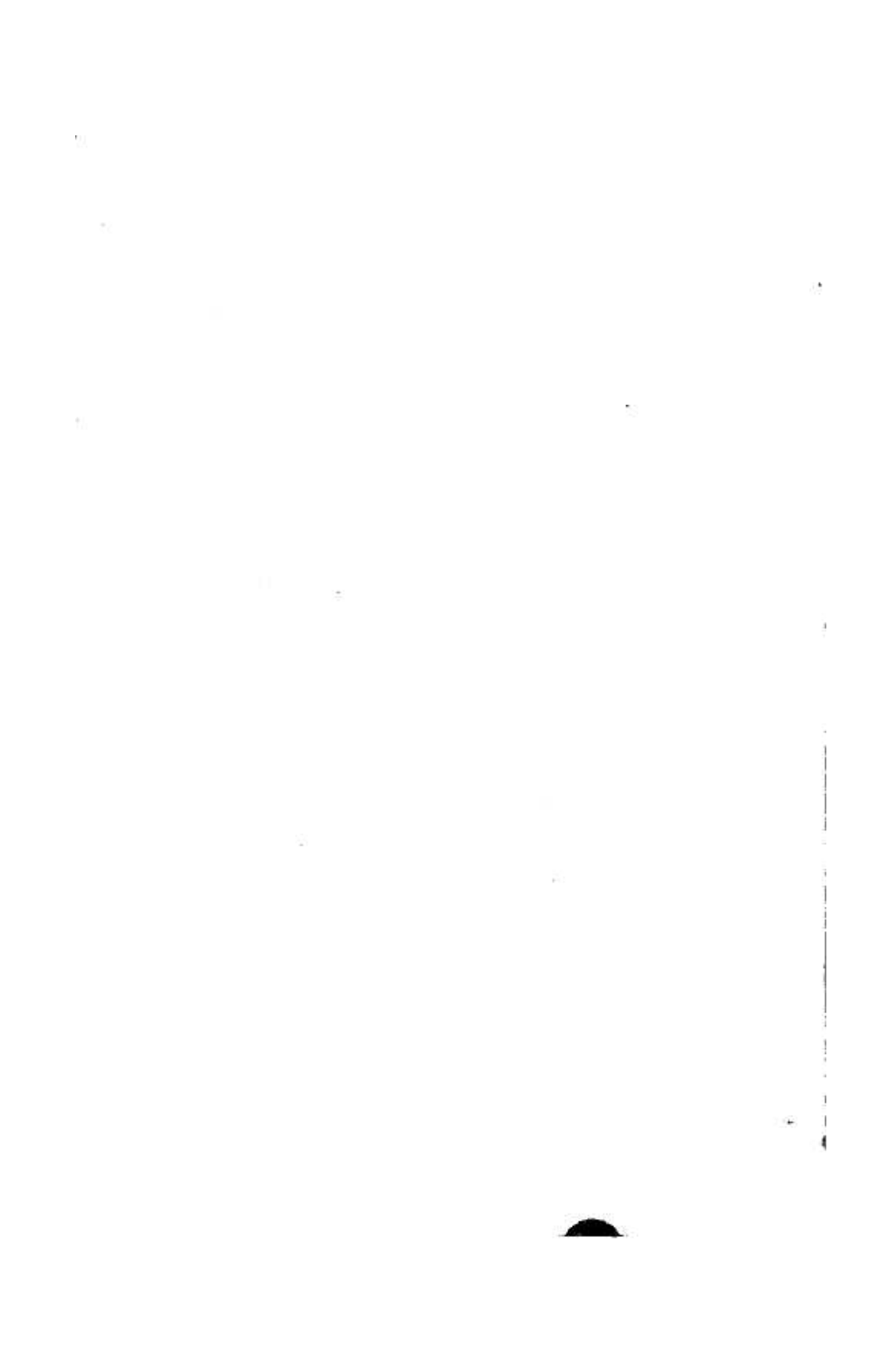


NEW YORK
THE CENTURY CO.

1922

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I	WE LEAVE AMBON	3
II	THE PARADISE-HUNTER	13
III	THE KAMPONG	32
IV	THE ASSISTANT AND THE NAUTILUS	45
V	WE'RE OFF!	53
VI	SHIPWRECKED AMONG CANNIBALS	67
VII	WE ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS	85
VIII	WE TAKE UP QUARTERS IN THE KAMPONG	97
IX	THE STORY OF THE SWISS SCIENTIST	116
X	OUR CONSOLATION PRIZE	129
XI	THE FEAST	140
XII	THE HEAD DANCE	148
XIII	A KANGAROO HUNT	160
XIV	THE BIRD OF PARADISE	167
XV	THE COMING OF THE BURONG MAS	173



LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	FACING PAGE
<i>"Uhumen."</i> From their manner it is evident that we are <i>de trop</i> <i>Frontispiece</i>	16
Malays bringing on board their varied possessions	16
As the last of the <i>praus</i> was cleared of baggage they clustered on the gangway, shouting adieu	16
The prison-yard in Merauke, New Guinea	24
Each of the men has perforated the septum of his nose to permit inserting a pair of boar-tusks	33
A pair of alligator-teeth make a wonderful nose- ornament	33
Enormous nose-tubes of bamboo which entirely close the nostrils, making breathing possible only through the mouth	36
The women wear in many cases a tiny breech-clout but no other covering	36
A long platform which entirely encircles the kam- pong	45
During the day the men occupy the sleeping- benches, while the women sit upon the sandy floor of the shacks	45
Seated at a discreet distance, watching our camp- making intently	80
There had been a disagreement in the village	80

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
Those who failed to get a package come to the dead- line and asked for one	85
They may be friendly at one moment and turn upon one the very next	85
We made presents of tin jewelry to the natives, but what they wanted was tobacco	92
Feathered head-dresses moving through the tall grass told us of the natives watching our prog- ress toward the kampong	92
Twice we encounter stalwart warriors standing like sentinels, as though disdainful of concealment	97
The body is placed in a sitting position after being gaily decorated for the funeral	97
The native climbs a cocoanut-palm in a series of humps and stretches, like a giant inch-worm	100
Making fire. A piece of hard wood is rotated by hand while in contact with a softer piece	100
One little fellow takes great delight in hearing his mother describe the battles in which his father collected his trophies	109
After the heat of midday the men gather in the shade to discuss the latest scandal or politics	109
Eating mud! That's it, just plain dried mud	112
"Little Playmate" re-adjusts his nose-tubes	112
The hairdresser plaits long strands of raffia into the kinky wool of the Kia Kias	116
The shiny inner surface of a Malay tobacco-box serves them as a mirror	116
The deserted Jesuit mission which formerly was the pride and hope of its unfortunate builder	125