

Notes:

Teiibi and the lizard

unmarked

n f 4

no. 71

1.

Unattributed: English title in Gribble's hand

Notes:

Teiibi was a Tamoan of the Tree who married Teburang and had a son called Tematantaratara. When the Tree of Tamoā was burnt, Tematantaratara travelled on Taburimai's canoe to Ternabong on Seru where he married Nei Tituabine. They went away to Taratai on Tarawa where a tree which he called Teiibi took root on the reef flats.

Tematantaratara and his wife continued their travels and landed at Aiuwa<sup>Aiuwa</sup> on Tahiteua where their children Komae, Tetabea and Teatuanimwemwe were born. The time came when Teatuanimwemwe wished to visit Taratai and Tematantaratara told him, 'when you get there, celebrate your arrival with Teiibi, your grandfather'. The canoe returned to Tahiteua and brought with them Nakibaina and Nei Immao.

2.

Teiibi

1. Teiibi, a tree like itai (Calophyllum inophyllum) ...  
myth. names Teiibi n Tamoā ... n Tarawa  
(Sato)

The point of the story and relevance of lizard in Gribble's title not obvious.

Ad. There are two phrases in the text which must be idioms not recorded in the dictionaries:

(a) Korea ramani wam Teiibi and Tubum, some analogy of Korean ka maneaba, cutting, thatch of maneaba with customary festivities, the phrase is likely to refer to a celebration connected with a voyage.

(b) E tamarakea ramani waiā te aomata, is likely to mean 'bring someone (additional & perhaps related) on board their canoe'.