

## Tasmanian Mythological Terms

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Our knowledge of the religion of the extinct Tasmanians is very meagre and unsatisfactory. The population had completely disappeared before a thorough scientific research could be undertaken. The natives took most of their spiritual secrets with them to the funeral pyre and to Tini Drini, the island of the dead (3 h).

## 1. Old Reports about Tasmanian Religion

What little has been discovered about their religious heritage has been minutely collected and recorded in the compendious but rare book by H. LING ROTH, The Aborigines of Tasmania 1. LING ROTH quotes many of the contemporary authors who had been interested in the life and thoughts of these unfortunate negritos. Some of these writers were convinced that the Tas-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> H. Ling Roth, The Aborigines of Tasmania, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Halifax 1899.