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FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM.

51-80

Country Oceania
Locality Samoa Islands
People Samoaans Polynesian Stock
Name Ava Root (Piper Methypticum?) 3 pieces

.50

For making the native drink "ava", offered like wine on ceremonious occasions. The root is ground or masticated by maidens, after being cleaned, when it is placed in the ava bowl and mixed with water. In appearance the drink looks like bran water with a milky hu.

It is a mark of courtesy for chiefs when making

Collection Gustavus Leonard
a call or visit to present a piece of ava root, as an emblem of friendship.

Notes

Acc. 904

Price