

primary cell-wall has small triangular spaces at the places where neighbouring cells meet, and always shows a tendency to split (as in the ripening of fruits in which the cells separate one from the other by splitting of primary cell-wall), little difficulty will exist in separating the fibres one from the other if the walls are strong and thick enough to bear it. The thick-walled fibres used by the Natives, and in which the fibres are separable, demonstrate this fact clearly. As the cells of the *Phormium* differ in no way from all other tissue-cells in the way in which they are united, it is hardly necessary to say more on this point.

N.B.—All measurements in fraction of an English inch.

§ 11.—MEASUREMENTS OF FIBRES OF NATIVE-DRESSED SAMPLES OF NEW ZEALAND FLAX.

No. 1.—*Harakeke*, washed.

No. 1a. 8 Fibres examined.

				Diameter of Fibre.	Diameter of Cavity.
A	...	...	...	·0006	·00015
B	...	...	...	·0007	·00015
C	...	...	...	·00065	·000125
D	...	...	...	·00065	·00015
E	...	...	...	·000625	·00015
F	...	...	...	·00075	·00015
G	...	...	...	·0008	·00015
H	...	...	...	·000675	·00025
			Mean ...	·000681	Mean ... ·000159

No. 1b. 5 Fibres examined.

				Diameter of Fibre.	Diameter of Cavity.
I	...	...	...	·0009	·000625
J	...	...	...	·0008	·00045
K	...	...	...	·000825	·0005
L	...	...	...	·000725	·0003
M	...	...	...	·0008	·000325
			Mean ...	·00081	Mean ... ·00044

No. 1b was selected from a sample of No. 1. The fibres were closely adherent, and very difficult to separate. In the mass it appeared as a dull white thread wanting lustre. Only one was observed in the sample.

No. 2.—*Harakeke*, unwashed.

9 Fibres examined.

				Diameter of Fibre.	Diameter of Cavity.
A	...	...	...	·0007	·0002
B	...	...	...	·0007	·0001
C	...	...	...	·00065	·000125
D	...	...	...	·00025	·000175
E	...	...	...	·0008	·00025
F	...	...	...	·000055	·00015
G	...	...	...	·0005	·00015
H	...	...	...	·0006	·0001
I	...	...	...	·0006	·00012
			Mean ...	·00063	Mean ... ·00015

No. 3.—*Harakeke*, back of leaf.

No. 3a. 3 Fibres examined.

				Diameter of Fibre.	Diameter of Cavity.
A	...	...	...	·0005	·000125
B	...	...	...	·00055	·0001
C	...	...	...	·00055	·0001
			Mean ...	·00053	·000108

Best looking samples of No. 3 fibres stained in places.