

arrived at Alexandra at a quarter past 12. Sir George Grey, though ill, bears up with wonderful pluck. His courtesy to all Europeans who travelled with him has been a general theme of gratification.

The reason why the Natives the first day did not demand the restoration of Waikato was that they feared to offend Sir George Grey, knowing at the same time the request could not be granted. Several influential chiefs say this is the first time the Hauhaus have been known to ponder over any proposal submitted by Europeans. They argue that the signs are hopeful of the acceptance of Sir George Grey's proposals.

Tu Tawhiao, the King's son, and Te Ngakau accompanied Sir George Grey to Alexandra.

OFFICIAL TEXT OF SIR GEORGE GREY'S PROPOSALS.

The following is the official text of Sir George Grey's written terms to Tawhiao yesterday: "From the answers given by me before about the giving back of Waikato you must know perfectly well that it is impossible for me to do so; but I will tell you what I can do for you. These are the proposals of the Government. You are standing in your position with authority, and the Government will add that you are to manage the affairs in your own district, and the Government will assist you with the chiefs of your own districts, so that matters may be conducted in order that peace and good will between the two races of the Island may exist. The Government will always watch. They will not look to the one side or the other. It remains with you to say the word "to lease," and leases will be allowed; "to sell," and sales will be allowed within the boundaries of your district. The Government will give you an allowance and the chiefs who are to be your assistants in conducting the affairs within your district. The Government will give you, Tawhiao, £500 a year. The money for distribution within the district will be paid in a lump sum to you, Tawhiao. It is for you to distribute it as you like to the chiefs within your district. The Government will give you 500 acres of land near Ngarua-wahia, so as to be close to the grave of your father, Potatau. The Government will erect a house for you at Kawhia, so that you can hold the meetings of your council in it. The portions of land not disposed of by the Government to Europeans on the western sides of the Waikato and Waipa will be returned to Tawhiao. In addition to that, as I am very anxious that you should have means to meet your wants, the Government propose that town acres be selected in each one of the townships established on the Waikato and Waipa Rivers, to be given to you, Tawhiao, in trust, for the use of all the people; the money to be appropriated in such manner as you will choose. My desire is that you may speedily have means, as these lands will soon be of value. With regard to the roads, my desire is that all the roads should be managed between Tawhiao and the Government, and that no one else shall interfere—that no one shall attempt to make a road until that matter has been settled by Tawhiao and the Government. With regard to the surveys: It is for you to direct surveys to be made, and where they?

VENERATION OF SIR GEORGE GREY.

The proposals of Sir George Grey were, with some trifling modifications, thought out by him two years ago, when he proposed to settle the Native difficulty, if the Government then in office had permitted him. It is astonishing to observe the universal veneration in which Sir George Grey is held by all classes of Natives. The Natives appear to regard him as a parent. Tawhiao's son is Sir George Grey's godson. Tawhiao knew that the request for Waikato would be impracticable, and feared to wound Sir George Grey's feelings by making it; but it was drawn out by Sir George Grey's straightforward conduct, and of course then rejected.

REWI'S MOVEMENTS.

Rewi had arranged a meeting privately after the present meeting, but the letter from Rewi this morning says the Ngatimaniapotos are dissatisfied with that arrangement, and desire to be present. The meeting cannot take place before the session. The Ngatimaniapotos see through the selfish attempts speculators made by lavish presents, so as to thwart Sir George Grey and will not be made tools of.

[From the *Auckland Weekly News*, 18th May.]

THE MAORI MEETING AT HIKURANGI.

SUCCESS OF SIR GEORGE GREY'S PROPOSALS.—REWI SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

Alexandra (*viâ* Hikurangi), Friday, 10th May, 10 a.m.

YESTERDAY evening was occupied in discussing the very brief speeches made during the forenoon's meeting. When Tawhiao walked forward to the cleared space in front of Sir George Grey he picked up a small piece of the stalk of a fern, and used it to illustrate his statement that Sir George was at one end and Tawhiao at the other, while God was over all. There was thus, the Natives say, the two positions put before the meeting; but he did not answer this part, but simply referred to the mutual affection which should exist. There was no doubt that in the mind of every Native at the meeting the feeling was present that Waikato should be asked for back again; but they considered it better not to do so at that meeting. They say that Sir George Grey, in answer to Tawhiao, should have stated why Tawhiao should make any change in his position as King of his people.

How the meeting of to-day will proceed you will probably learn in a second message, but if nothing more is done than was done yesterday it will be a long time before any business is got through. If lands are occupied beyond the confiscated boundary, where these people have claims, they will undoubtedly fight. So far, there seems no hope of their looking on quietly while the land goes—while it is sold by loyal Natives who have claims and is occupied by Europeans. Yet, at the same time, it may be said that they have practically acquiesced in the confiscation of Waikato by remaining for years in sight of confiscated lands without committing a single murder to assert any claim or title,