

as shall be determined at such annual meeting. Special meetings to be arranged by the executive.

Notice of all meetings of Grand Council shall be posted by the Secretary to the President of the Association, the Auditor, and Chairmen of all branches one month previous to the date of meeting.

PRESIDENT AND AUDITOR.

9. The President and Auditor of the Association shall be elected at the annual meeting of Grand Council.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.

10. Nominations of candidates for the several offices of the Association, signed by at least three members, must be received by the Secretary one month previous to the date of the annual meeting of Grand Council. If there are more candidates for any office than are required for the same, an election shall take place by ballot.

BRANCHES OF ASSOCIATION.

11. Branches of the Association may be established in the various parts of the colony, to which the local Maori branch will be affiliated. These branches may each regulate their own local affairs, subject to approval of the Central Executive; but all business appertaining to the Association in general, with the names and addresses of each member of each local committee, must be communicated in writing to the Secretary of the Central Committee of Management, by the Secretary of the local branch to which the Maori branch is affiliated.

ASSISTANCE FROM AND TO ALL.

12. All members of the Grand Council are requested to further the objects of the Association by every means within their power, especially in exciting public interest in the objects of the Association; and all members are invited to communicate with the Secretary of the Central Committee on all matters referred to in article 4.

QUORUM.

13. One fourth of the Grand Council and four members of the Central Committee shall form a quorum. The chairman of each shall have a deliberative and a casting vote.

SUBSCRIPTION.

14. A subscription of two shillings and sixpence shall be due from each member, male or female, immediately on joining the Association; and on the third Wednesday in December of each succeeding year.

The Association is seeking to obtain redress of grievances by petition to the Legislature of the Colony, and in matters where Maori rights protected by treaty are menaced, by prayer to the Crown. Subject to revision, the following are the lines upon which the Association proposes to move and for their own protection in affairs connected with their lands all Maoris are recommended to adopt them and assist the Association which is endeavouring to assist them:—

SUGGESTIONS.

(1.) It is suggested the Legislature should be moved to establish a Central Board of Control for the administration of Maori lands, the Board to consist of three colonials, and two Maoris, to be appointed by the Governor and to be responsible to the Audit Department of the State only.

This Board should have large discretionary powers to deal with all Native lands, and beyond its decisions there should be no appeal.

Subordinate to this Board three supervisors to be appointed to each tribe, consisting of one colonial, to be appointed by the Governor, and two Maoris to be elected by the tribe.

Subject to approval of these Boards, the Maoris to have the absolute disposal of their lands in the settlement thereof, but it must be an obligation that all partition of lands must be completed within a given period, the period to be extended in proportion to the number of claimants and area of lands.

The first duty should be to ascertain the share each individual has in all lands belonging to the tribe, then to divide such lands into hapus and again to apportion to each individual sufficient land for a papakainga. These with the lands which have already been through the Native Land Courts, should have the individual papakaingas pegged out for immediate occupation, and papakainga certificates conveying an indefeasible and alienable title to the same issued by the Central Board of Control. The Maoris who have no claims upon lands to be provided for by their tribes in the partition of the land into papakaingas.

All surplus lands to be surveyed and cut up into convenient blocks to be leased or sold, the returns from such sold or leased lands to be divided into shares and allotted to individuals in due proportion, and each individual's share deposited in a Bank in the joint names of the owner and the commission supervising the tribes. This Bank account to be operated upon by the same joint signatories for purposes of improving each owner's estate; or, with his consent, provide for institutions for the general betterment of the tribe.

The Central Board of Control may on the recommendation of the Supervisors of the tribe issue certificates giving to owners the absolute disposal of their property surplus of their papakainga subject only to the common law of the colony.

All expenses of administration to be borne by the land as assessed.

Disputes arising out of partitions, sales, or leases of lands to be referred to and settled by the Board of Supervisors, who may, however, if they should consider it necessary, refer the matter in dispute for the final decision of the Central Board of Control. These Boards of Control and Supervision should remain in being so long as by common consent they were considered necessary, the Governor to decide when they may be dissolved.

(2.) All Acts passed by the House of Assembly, and amendments thereof, referring to Maori lands to be modified and reduced to a code.

(3.) The present Parliamentary representation by four Maori members to be abolished, and the same parliamentary privileges extended to all British subjects of the colony alike. This of course to carry with it the Maoris' right to vote at all local elections, including the local option poll, and voting for licensing committees.

(4.) The present Native School system to be modified and the curriculum to include education in agriculture and the useful arts.

(5.) The Native Land Court, and the Native Land Court of Appeal with the District Maori Land Councils, to be abolished and replaced by a Central Board of Control, and Committee of three Supervisors to each tribe.

We postpone any comment. Doubtless, with so thorny a subject, many of the suggestions bristle with debatable points. A new Native policy is not to be created

perfect and complete on a first suggestion. Any person who has a theory to propound, or an amendment to make, either in the existing or proposed Native policy, has now an opportunity of getting his ideas ventilated and fairly debated, by joining the Association. The aim is simplification of existing methods together with a larger economy of both time and money. At present there is an immense waste of both, to the utter impoverishment of the large majority of those Maoris who prosecute their every claim through the Native Land Courts.

Kidnapped!

The following account of the abduction of George Bruce and his native wife, shows how in the beginning of last century, to the lawless sea-captains who visited the shores of New Zealand, the liberty of the British subject or the native freedom of the aboriginal counted less than a slant of wind. The introductory, too, is not uninteresting to the student of early New Zealand history. The whole is an extract from "Turnbull's Voyage Round the World, Between the Years 1801 and 1804."

"Conceiving that it may not be altogether uninteresting to our readers, and as it in some degree falls within the order of our work, we shall in this place take some notice of the active and friendly intercourse that has of late years taken place between the colonists at Port Jackson and the neighbouring country of New Zealand; an intercourse that promised the most beneficial and important consequences, namely, the gradual civilization of a whole people, but by a melancholy fatality, over which humanity mourns, through the indiscretion of an individual, was rendered wholly abortive.

In our account of the settlement of New South Wales, we stated that the whale and seal fishery on that coast has of late years been a very profitable branch of enterprise both to the colonists and the whaling trade from Europe. We also stated that, at the time of the Government of Spain being forced into a union with France, the whalers were impelled by necessity to try the coast of New South Wales. Their first efforts so far rewarded their industry, that their number have been ever since upon an annual increase, so that this harvest, which at first proved so productive, after a time began to fail them. Necessity, however, being the mother of invention, some of them tried a new field, on the coast of New Zealand, where they were very successful.

Notwithstanding the ferocious character that had been assigned to the natives, some of our countrymen, after a time, ventured with great caution on shore, where they found them vigilantly on the alert, but at the same time without any disposition to offer hostilities, unless provoked to it by