

the greatest admiration as they leaped to their feet and started their war drill. Unlike the others the Ngatiporou tribes wore white singlets, with blue shoulder sashes and black waist cloths. At their head was the chief Tutu Nihoniko, who fought under Major Bopapa. He led his men with wild gestures, waving his sword. They gave two war dances, also several haka, in a style which drew forth thunders of applause. Their war song action showing how they would punish the Boers by thrusting them to earth was explained to the Duke, who was greatly pleased with the military precision of the warriors, their simultaneous thrusting, brandishing and shaking of their spears, and the regular stamping of five hundred naked feet. Ancient war songs, also compositions in honour of the Duke, were chanted with tremendous effect.

The turn of the Ngatikahungunu dancers, 220 men from Hawke's Bay and Waikarapa, came next. They looked a splendid lot of big made men. During their war dances they flourished taisha, under a tall old chief named Ihala Hutana, costumed in purely Maori style. Their song beginning "Loudly roars the eastern sea, 'tis the Duke nearing land," was typically effective. The chant of the Ngatikahungunu wound up with the great war song, commencing "Ka mate, ka ora."

The presentation to the Duke by the Arawa chiefs followed. Headed by Major Fox they carried their model war canoe and laid it down in front of the Duke. Major Fox made a speech, Capt. Mair interpreting as follows:—"Welcome! Welcome! Welcome. Come hither from your illustrious father and bring your departed grandmother's love to us, her grandchildren. I will present you with a model of the canoe in which our ancestors came hither over the seas from distant Hawaii. It is called Te Arawa. I beg of you to place it in your ancestral halls." Beautiful greenstone weapons, etc., were placed in the canoe as gifts to the Duke, then the whole of the Arawas, in a great shout, led by the Major, sang their formal song of welcome, which they gave the Duke at Ohinemutu yesterday.

Then followed a series of splendid poi dances by select parties of Maori women. First came the Arawa women, numbering fifty. Led by Kiri Matao, they gave the finest exhibition of poi swinging the Arawas have ever performed.

Then came on the scene thirty-four women and girls of the Ngatiraukawa tribe, from Otaki, with four little girls in front. This party danced a very pretty poi, and sang the plaintive song with charming effect. Their swinging of the raupo pots, with the accompanying of the swaying dance, was graceful in the extreme. Their double poi was especially pretty, and they were loudly applauded as they concluded. After again singing their song and making a deep obeisance to Royalty, they laid their poi balls at the Duchess's feet, and then marched off the scene.

Now came more presents, literally piled at the Duke's feet. (Old tattooed warriors, ex-Ihauhau, vied with girls in laying their choicest greenstones, feather mats, flax mantles, and hula plumes at the feet of Royalty. Some beautiful kiwi mats were presented. Their Highnesses were not slow to show their pleasure at the spontaneous and generous offerings of the native race.

After the last dance the natives formed in hollow square and sang the welcome chant, "Bring hither the canoe," as the Royal visitors, accompanied by the Hon. Jas. Carroll, walked round inspecting the ranks. Finally the Duke took his stand behind a table, and presented commemorative medals to 36 chiefs and leading women, including Mrs Donnelly, Wiki, and Toai Kemp, three Maori M.H.R.'s, House Heke, Parata, and Wi Pere, also to Hokomo, Neraha Tamaki, Tamahaou, Mahupuku, and last, but not least, the aged Pokiha, who was loudly cheered when the Duke pinned the medal on his breast.

After the ceremony, the Duke, through Mr Carroll, expressed his gratitude for the grand reception, stating that the Duchess and himself had greatly enjoyed the dances. He promised to mention to the King how loyal the Maoris were, and added,

"We pray for peace and the blessing of God upon you."

The Royal party then left for Rotorua, amid loud cheering, the natives chanting "Ka Mate" choruses as their Highnesses left the grounds. The Royal party drove direct to the station, and left for Auckland at 12.50 sharp, receiving an enthusiastic send-off.

The war-dance, or peruperu, given by the Ngatitwharetoa tribe of Lake Taupo on Saturday was one of the finest features of the exhibition of tribal war dances. Their savage entry into the great square, or marae, pursuing their chiefly "tangata-wero," or spear-thrower, was a highly exciting spectacle, and as they halted in a compact company, or "mata," 120 strong, in ranks six warriors deep, their axe-shaped feather-plumed tewhatewhas raised high in the air, they looked a really formidable war-party. Then at the word from Te Heuheu, their fiery-eyed young chief, who bounded lightly along the front ranks, the long narrow company in battle array sprang into ferocious attitudes, and leaped this way and that, thrusting their weapons now one side, now the other, and with fierce grimaces and wild glaring eyes they roared out an ancient war-song, or "puha." This chant is one common to all the Arawa tribes, as well as the Taupo people. It begins "Ubi mai te waeroa," likening the oncoming hordes of the enemy to a swarm of mosquitoes. As this song ended the half-naked ranks, their painted faces turned on one side, with their weapons fiercely brandished, came down on the earth with a tremendous thud that made the earth shake. Then they performed another war-dance in the same thrilling manner, singing in unison to their threatening gestures, their wonderfully precise drill and their violent leaps and turns, this specially composed chant:

Oh, go ye to Rotorua!  
Why carry ye your burdens?  
Your loads for the journey?  
A-ha-ha!  
Oh stricken are we by the cold!  
A-ha!  
What is there on the desert of Rangipo?  
Oh, 'tis snow, 'tis snow!  
What is that lying there?  
'Tis the biting frost.  
What is it ails your limbs?  
'Tis the shivering, the shaking, from the freezing cold!  
A-ha!

This song was an appropriate enough one for these Taupo people, many of whom live in sight of the great snowy mountains Tongariro and Ruapehu, and whose villages extend as far south as the cold inhospitable plateaux around the base of Ruapehu and the bare Murimotu plains.

The combined war dance by the whole of the people (designating themselves for this occasion "Mataatua," the name of the ancestral canoe which landed at Whakatane six hundred years ago) was an excellent one, performed to the stirring battle song beginning "Kia kutia-au-au," in which chorus is yelled by warriors something like the simultaneous barking of so many dogs, and another chant. This party consisted of over 200 men of Tauranga and Whakatane natives and the Urewera tribe, also the Ngatiawa, of Te Teko, Matata, and elsewhere. Their second song, a welcome to the Duke, combined with a reasonable reference to the Boer war, was Ngaiterangi's speciality. It may be translated thus:

Who, who is the man  
Hastening hitherto across the great seas?  
'Tis the Duke of York!  
Ah! Shattered is the high citadel of Africa  
By the English!  
Ha! for the chasing, the smiting  
Of the Boer to the mountains of Death!

In the Ngatiporou war song concerning the Boers, and ending with the old chant, "Kia Kutia," etc., there was a most startling effect when, after the second "au-au!" the whole column instantaneously developed an apparent fury of excitement, and leaped into the air as one man at the first of the words—

"Kia rere atu te Kohuru Ki tua o Awherika,  
Tiroa ma ai!"  
("Let the murderer flee away to the farthest bounds of Africa,  
And turn and gaze at me!")

Their thicket of black spears were thrust high in the air as they leaped at the words "Kia rere," and their wild eyes rolled and their whole bodies quivered with the excitement of this savage song for a flying enemy, as they yelled with furious energy the modern adaptation of an immeasurably ancient "ngeri."

One of the most effective songs given by the tribes was that of the Ngatikahungunu and Ngatiporou, who alternated their dances, both classing themselves as tribes of the Tai Rawhiti ("Coast of the Rising Sun"). They sang a welcome song, which commenced in this poetic way:

"The tide of the Eastern sea is rumbling hitherwards;  
Ah! 'tis the Duke, coming from afar!"

The haka of these two tribes were probably the best of all, but the effect was marred to some extent by the European touch which their dapper white singlets lent to the Maori costume. The singlets were an anachronism. The opening movement of the Ngatiporou's dance, in which the spears are clasped horizontally in one long line, then raised above the head, is an innovation suggested by the military physical drill with the rifle. It was a most effective movement, and was carried through with splendid precision. One of the most singular effects was created by the Ngatiporou when, after emitting their last guttural ejaculation in the haka, they with one accord dropped to the ground.

The poi dances by the women were another special feature. The prettiest dance of all was probably that given by the party of Ngatiraukawa women from Otaki. The fifty Arawa women, drawn up in two long lines, also looked very well in their white blouses and blue sashes, set off with rustling flax piu-piu. The Arawa women sported an orchestra, one "bloke" scraping away at a fiddle, and another hauling vigorously at an accordion. The Arawas were splendidly led by old Kiwi Matae, the "Duchess" of Ohinemutu, who, as a young girl, met the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit to Rotorua 30 years ago. This dance especially seemed to please the Duke on Saturday.

The lament for the dead Queen was another picturesque incident in Saturday's proceedings. The dancing ceased for a time, and all the companies of dancers massed in front of the pavilion, crouched down in mournful attitude, with their heads to the ground, and sang in sorrowful tones their "Taagi-Apakura."

Valuable Gifts.

Every one was astonished to see the way in which the Maori people divested themselves of their choicest possessions in the way of heirlooms and treasured native garments to lay at the feet of Royalty. The gifts tallied hundreds of pounds in value. The Wanganui and Ngatikahungunu tribes were especially liberal in their presentations. Victoria Kemp (Taitoku) and her people gave some beautiful mata, besides greenstone weapons and ornaments. They have also given to the Duchess all the waist-mats (piu-piu) that they wore when dancing. These garments were left at the camp, and will be sent on after the Ophir. Every dancer in the Wanganui and allied tribes gave his piu-piu as a gift to the Duke.

The venerable Major Fox's gift to His Royal Highness was an especially valuable family treasure—a "toki-hohoupu," or short-handled greenstone adze, ornamented with the long hair of the long-since extinct Maori dog. It is a family heirloom from the very old days of Maoriland. All the kiwi mats were very valuable ones. Some of the other mats were rather too European in style, being, in fact, made specially for presentation.

Te Hira, the leading chief of Taupo, presented a greenstone mere on behalf of the Tuhoungiri tribe, and Mr Arthur Warbrick placed on Her Royal Highness' chair on the

pavilion a pure white native kowesi, a kind of mat. Three whitebone two-handed swords (hoonoo), very rare and valuable weapons, were among the gifts, besides six or seven greenstone clubs (muru), and mata, kaita, and ornaments in great profusion.

The Royal Medals.

Among the thirty-six chiefs who received medals from the Duke were Major Fox (Pohika Taranui), Te Heuheu, Pene Tahi, Raniera Wharearau, Te Houkamao, Tamahaou Mahupuka, Neraha Tamaki, and old Hori Ngakipa te Whanaunga, who was one of the party of natives that made the hostile demonstration against Auckland in 1851. The aged Pokiha (Major Fox) was the last man to be decorated by His Royal Highness. The old man, wrapped in his korowai, sat in a chair before the table where the Duke presided. When his turn came Pokiha rose to his feet, leaning on his taisha, and the crowd cheered loudly as the Duke, with Royal courtesy, advanced from the table and himself pinned the medal on the aged warrior's breast. The Maori M.H.R.'s, Wi Pere and Te Parata, were also decorated, and special gold medals were presented by His Royal Highness to House Heke, M.H.R., Victoria Taitoko (daughter of Major Kemp), and Mrs Irene Donnelly, a well-known Hawke's Bay chieftainess. All the medals were stamped with the heads of the Duke and Duchess, and inscribed in commemoration of their visit to the colonies, with the date, 1901.

A Parting Message from the Duke

Before leaving Rotorua on Saturday His Royal Highness the Duke was kind enough to express to the natives, through Mr Carroll, the delight which both the Duchess and himself felt at the splendid reception accorded them at Rotorua. His Royal Highness was particularly pleased with the great native demonstration. Much as he had read, he could never have believed the haka and the poi dances could reach such a degree of perfection as he had witnessed. He was pleased to know that the Maoris were all happy and contented, and in the enjoyment of good health. It also pleased him to know they were increasing in numbers. He would never forget his visit and the manifestations of loyalty demonstrated by the valuable presents they had made—rare gifts connecting the present with the past—which would be treasured for all time in the archives of the nation. His concluding wish was that the Giver of all things would bless them and support and maintain them. The Duke's parting message was received with acclamation.

Farewell to Rotorua.

On the termination of the Maori display Their Royal Highnesses were escorted to the railway station by Captain Remene's Mounted Native Corps from Waikarapa, and were received there with a Royal salute by the Rotorua Rifles, under Captain Barron. His Royal Highness afterwards inspected the company, accompanied by His Excellency the Governor and Major Morrow, and expressed himself much pleased with their soldier-like appearance. The following officers were subsequently presented to His Royal Highness by His Excellency the Governor, viz., Major Morrow, D.A.A.G., officer commanding the troops, Captain Davies, staff, Captain Barron, Rotorua Rifles, Captain Lewis, Tauranga Mounted Rifles, Captain Reid, Whakatane Mounted Rifles, Captain Clay, Opotiki Mounted Rifles, Captain Cameron, Masterton Mounted Rifles, and Lieut. Jury, after which His Royal Highness addressed Major Morrow as follows:—"I am much pleased at the manner in which the military guard and escort duties have been carried out during my stay. Will you thank the officers and men for me." His Royal Highness then shook hands with Major Morrow and wished him good-bye, Major Morrow replying as follows:—"Permit me to thank your Royal Highness for your kind expression of opinion, and to assure your Royal Highness that we have esteemed it an honour and a privilege to have had the pleasure of waiting upon you." The Royal train then left the station amidst much cheering, after which