

It is preparing to swallow up New Zealand, alas!
(The Leader.)
A ha ha! (All.)
Haramai ra ture kino,
Haramai ra ture kino!
(Come, ye bads laws!)
See they are assembled
At Wellington in the den of Hiona
Gaping open for us,
Au-au-ae ha!

The Whanganui armed men, 150 strong, have some effective songs which they intend chanting as they dance before the Duke, as a poetical welcome to the grandson of the Queen:

"Flashes hitherwards
The star Punga;
Whakaho rushes through the sky!
The heart of the island rejoices
At thy coming!
Draw near us!
Approach us!
Indeed 'tis the offspring
Of the great Queen,
Who will uphold
The 'mana' of the Maoria.
Cling tightly—Aue!
Raise heavenwards your spears!"

Arrival at Rotorua.

Punctually at half-past four p.m. on June 13th the Royal train swept round the long curve leading into Rotorua station, and drew up alongside the platform. The reception by the assembled multitude of the Arawas was a sight long to be remembered. As the train steamed up the hill sprang up, and with their women waving green branches and the army of men brandishing, in splendid time, up and down, to right and left, their wooden weapons, they sang, or, rather, shouted, their stentorian "powhiri" of welcome to the King's son.

"Haeremai, haeremai, haeremai" (sang in long-drawn, high notes, a killed chief in the front rank).

"Welcome, welcome, welcome!
"Oh, welcome, ye strangers from beyond the sky.
"Welcome. Come to the Arawa.
"Come to our canoe."

Then all together they chanted, with a splendid shout, which might have been heard a couple of miles away, their greeting song to the Duke:—

"Naumai, naumai, come hither to us.
"Draw to the shore the Duke.
"Bring him hither to our canoe,
"To our waka, the Arawa,
"To our shores, to our sky.
"A ha, ha!
"So that we may be uplifted;
"That this canoe may have high honour.

"Approach ye; draw near us.
Oh, welcome, welcome!
"Aue, aue! Au eha!"

The effect of the welcome song and the combined stamping of many hundred feet and simultaneous drill, with the plumed tewhatewhas, was exceedingly fine, and greatly interested the visitors, to many of whom such a sight was quite a novel one.

Accompanied by Lord Ranfurly and the rest of the occupants of the train, Their Royal Highnesses alighted on the carpeted platform. They were met by Captain Gilbert Mair, an old colonial officer, who is in charge of the Maori encampment, and Captain Turner, Chairman of the Town Council, together with several of the more prominent Maori chiefs.

The Duke was in civilian attire, dressed completely in black. This caused a good deal of disappointment among the Maoris, who had expected that His Royal Highness would appear in uniform. A Maori associates the mana, or prestige of a "tino rangatira" (great chief), with his outward symbols of authority, such as a military uniform. It is understood that influence will be brought to bear to persuade His Royal Highness to wear uniform to-morrow. The Duchess was also dressed in black, wearing a perfectly fitting tailor-made costume and black toque. Lord Ranfurly and the members of the staff were also in muff. Captain Mair wore the uniform of a New Zealand officer of militia.

The proceedings at the railway station were very brief. After Miss Dorothy Turner had presented a bouquet to the Duchess Lord Ranfurly introduced Capt. Turner to the Royal visitors, and then presented to the Duke the two principal representative chiefs of the Arawa "waka," or ancestral tribal canoe,

the high chief Te Heuheu Takino, of Lake Taupo, and Te Keopa Rangipuwhe, the principal chief of the Tuhorangi tribe, of Whakarewarewa. Both these rangatiras wore handsome mantles of native manufacture, and carried valuable weapons of their race.

Te Heuheu is the grandson of the great cannibal chief Te Heuheu, who was killed in the Waipi landlip, Lake Taupo, in 1846, and is a lineal descendant of the wizard priest Ngatororangi, who came to New Zealand from the legendary Hawaiki in the Arawa canoe six hundred years ago. He is a young man of great ability and intelligence, and has been co-operating actively with Mr Hone Heke, M.H.R., and Apirana Ngata, in consolidating the Maori tribes of the colony in the union, or kotahitanga, for political purposes. Te Keopa Rangipuwhe is an old chief of considerable influence. He formerly lived at Wairoa, at Lake Tarawera, up till the time of the eruption of 1886. Both the Duke and the Duchess shook hands with the Maori chiefs.

This brief ceremony over, the Duke and party walked through a carpeted passage to the rear of the station, where the carriages were waiting. There were stationed the Wairarapa Mounted Rifles, the only native volunteer corps in the colony, the Otago Mounted Rifles, Tauranga and Te Puke Mounted Rifles, Whakatake Mounted Rifles, and the Rotorua company of infantry. The mounted men were under the command of Major Morrow, V.D., of the Auckland district staff, Captain Rimene, commanding the Wairarapa Rifles, 90 strong, and Captain Barron, commanded the infantry. The Hamilton and Rotorua brass bands were also drawn up outside the station. As the Duke and Duchess emerged from the station the band struck up the National Anthem, while the troops presented arms. Outside the gates the expectant crowd of Maoris cheered lustily, and chanted their songs of welcome, their "powhiris," to the Duke.

The Duke and Duchess entered the first carriage, accompanied by Lord Wenlock, and drove through Fenton and Hinemoa streets to the Grand Hotel, which had been reserved for accommodation of the Royal party. The rest of the party followed in carriages. The Mounted Infantry acted as escort to their Royal Highnesses. The Maoris were wildly enthusiastic, and swarmed in hundreds along the route behind the Royal pair. Many broke through the lines, and ran along behind the Royal carriage, waving their wooden battle axes and spears and chanting songs of welcome. It was a great pity that the weather was so bad. The effect of the decorations, and indeed of the whole reception, was marred by the drizzling rain, and the fast-gathering darkness. The hue of route tramped by the swarming crowd was literally a sea of mud, and the unfortunate visitors who had to follow the procession on foot had rather a lively time of it in getting up to the Grand Hotel. But neither rain nor wind seemed to damp the enthusiasm of the Maoris, who splashed along the road as fast as their legs could carry them. Some pushed right in among the horses, and the large staff of policemen had their work cut out to curb the exuberance of the excited throng.

The drive to the hotel occupied about five minutes, and the procession travelling at a walking pace. The Hon. J. Carroll, the Native Minister, met the Royal party at the entrance to the hotel, and was presented to the Duke and the Duchess. The ceremony of presenting the United Maori tribes' address of welcome took place at the verandah steps. As the Royal couple reached the steps the band struck up again, and the irrepressible natives broke out in another dance of welcome. Both the Royal visitors seemed pleased with the cordiality of their reception, and the quaint Maori gathering was evidently full of interest.

It was some little time before the shouts and chants of welcome subsided, but presently the natives managed to restrain their enthusiasm for a while, and the formal welcome was proceeded with. Mr Carroll, mounting the steps of the verandah, read in clear tones the following address of welcome from the Maoris of the colony:—

Maori Address of Welcome.

The address presented by the Maoris at Rotorua is handsomely framed in New Zealand wood, and the execution of the lettering is admirable. The main design surrounding the address takes the form of the old style of native carving is well depicted. Over the door is the inscription: "Haere mai e te kotuku, rereanga tahi te manu hire tuarangi." In the top corners are pictures of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, and at the bottom corners are, on one side a pretty little sketch of Mount Egmont, and on the other a tattooed Maori in the old style costume of mata, with his mere. The dark red colouring of the Maori carving, shows on the where, is relieved with a tri-coloured design in the National colours, red, white and blue. The whole is interwoven with a background of the beautiful bush of New Zealand. The wording of the address is typical Maori, being as follows:

"Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York: Welcome, welcome, welcome. O son, welcome to these isles, A-o-te-a-roa and Te Waipounamu! Welcome to Maoriland! Welcome thou who art of the blood, the emblem of the mana, the majesty of the Empire, under whose benign rule we are proud to abide. O Royal daughter of Princess, joined to him who is son of our Lord King, we likewise greet you! We heard with our ears, and hoped that we might see with our eyes, and rejoice that this thing has come to pass in our day and generation. This is a great day—a day that will live in the memory of our race while God permits their existence.

Yet it is a day of mourning. We mourn the Great Queen to whom our fathers ceded by treaty the sovereignty over these isles; who was the guardian of our rights and liberties from that time until she slept with her fathers. We, the humblest of her children, alien in blood yet kin by law and allegiance, mourn the loss of a mother who sought the good of high and low alike; who loved peace, that by peace among her peoples they might rise yet higher in greatness. She was all that our fathers knew in their day. Her name is a gift they bequeathed to us ere they passed. Pass, oh Mother, to thy rest with the mighty dead who went before thee!

Welcome! welcome! in the name of the King your father! We hail the new King in your person! He has succeeded to the throne of his mother, to be our Chief, our Lord, our Sovereign. Here in the presence of Your Royal Highnesses we renew our oath of allegiance; we confirm the act of our fathers, who gave all to Queen Victoria and her successors.

Hear, O ye peoples, to-day we make a new treaty; new and yet old, inasmuch as we confirm the old, to which we but add expressions of continued loyalty from our generation, and pray that our sovereign and our white brethren may give us of their strength to live and thrive with them, and among them.

Hear, O Prince, hear, O Princess, from the far ends of the earth, from remote Hawaiki across the great seas of Kiwa you have come to see these lands and peoples. It is well, for by so doing you have drawn closer the bonds of love which knit us all together.

Welcome and farewell! Farewell, since you must pass on! It is enough that we have seen. We wish you a safe return to our King and his Queen, from whose presence you have come to gladden our eyes in this the most distant part of the Empire. (Signed) J. Carroll, Hone Heke, Wi Pere, Tami Parata, H. R. Taiaroa.

To this the Duke replied at some length. His Royal Highness' remarks were interpreted in Maori by Mr Carroll, for the benefit of the assembled natives, who listened with keen attention, punctuating the speech with cultural ejaculations expressive of evident appreciation. The following is the full text of

The Duke's Reply.

"To the chiefs and tribes of the Isles Aotearoa and Waipounamu: The warm words of welcome which you have spoken to the Princess and myself have gladdened our hearts. From

the far ends of the earth, over the wide seas, we have been sent by the great King, my father, to hear and behold in their own beautiful land his children, the Maoris. The great Queen whom your fathers knew and loved, and for whom you mourn with us, and with all the natives and races under the mana and majesty of the Empire, had, before she passed to her rest, desired us to visit her people beyond the seas, to tell of her great gratitude for the aid of those brave young men in the cruel war into which she, who ever loved and worked for peace, had been driven. Proud and glad was the great Queen also that the sons of her Maori children, eager with love and loyalty, longed to stand side by side with their brethren in the field of battle. The King, my father, though his cup was full of sorrow, and parting with us, his children, but added to its bitterness, could not endure that her wish should pass unfulfilled, and I come in his name and on his behalf to declare to you the deep thankfulness of his heart for your loving sympathy in his loss, and for the noble and tender words in which you spoke your love and reverence for her memory. The words of the Maoris are true words, the words of the generous and chivalrous people, who are ready to make good with the hands the promise of the lips. To receive your pledges of loyalty, and to learn from me that you have renewed your oath of allegiance and confirmed the act of your fathers, who gave all to Queen Victoria and her successors, will give joy to my father's heart, and will fill him with strength and courage for the great work that lies before him. The heart of the King is warm to his people in New Zealand. He rejoices to see them dwell together in peace and friendship, and prays that they may continue to be united and to strengthen each other in works of peace, and that they also may strive for the common good, and in aiding him to keep one and united the many peoples under his sway. If our visit helps to that end, we shall be glad to count as naught the sacrifices we have made in order to see your chiefs and you face to face in your beautiful country. Of our brief visit to Maoriland we shall carry with us lasting memories of the loyalty and love and generous kindness of the Maori people. May peace, prosperity, and every blessing abide with you and yours for ever."

When the Duke had finished his remarks being put into beautiful Maori by the Native Minister, the latter led the Maoris in a rousing old "hongi" or war song. The well known ancient chant commencing "Kaimate kaimate, kia ora, kia ora," was most appropriate to the occasion, being often used as a song of welcome to illustrious guests, and promissory as the song and dance were, the Maoris indulged into it heartiness that marked the spontaneity of their enthusiasm. One bare legged veteran in full native costume, with an up-to-date top hat surmounting his tattooed face, danced excitedly within a yard or two of the Royal couple, brandishing a taiaha as he chanted his song of welcome. The air of amused pleasure with which the Duchess regarded the enthusiastic old man and his companions showed that the novelty of the reception appealed strongly to her sense of humour. The Duke, too, seemed genuinely pleased with the proceedings. After the dance of welcome the band struck up the National Anthem again, and the crowd cheered as loudly as before. Their Royal Highnesses acknowledging the salute with a bow. The Royal party then entered the hotel and the crowd dispersed.

Visit to Ohinemutu.

The Duke and Duchess were accorded a Royal welcome when they made their visit to the Arawa tribes gathered at the old Maori village of Ohinemutu. The Arawas assembled about a thousand strong in the marae in front of the carved tribal meeting-house, Tamatekapuru, overlooking the stirring waters of Rotorua. A bright sun and a blue sky favoured the Royal visit, which was made about half-past ten o'clock.

The scene in the village square of Ohinemutu was a most brilliant and picturesque one. Several hundreds of all sections of the Arawa men were