



Norrell, photographer.

FROM NAPIER TO WAIHI AND FURTHER BY RAIL—IN A FEW YEARS MORE OR LESS.

The first sod of the Napier to Gisborne railway was turned last week by the Premier, Sir Joseph Ward, at Westshore, Napier, amid enthusiasm. This is part of the great East Coast line which has been already started at Gisborne, and Tauranga with an unfulfilled promise of another start at the Waihi end. From Napier to Gisborne the line will cost about £1,250,000, and the entire length to Waihi about £3,000,000. In an optimistic speech the Prime Minister said "Before many years are passed you will be able to take train from Napier, and go not only to Gisborne, but to the whole of the important towns in the North Island, including Auckland."