

hundred years ago. Patara's and Mahuta's progenitors arrived on these shores in the famous canoe *Tainui*. Patara himself was born about the year 1824. The old Maoris cannot give the exact year of their birth, but Patara informed the writer one day that he was born a year or so after the great battle of Matakiki, on the Waipa River, where Hongi Hika, with his newly-acquired muskets slaughtered many hundreds of Waikato warriors. The approximate date of this event is known, so Patara's age can be calculated

296751



MR. A. T. NGATA, M.A.

therefrom. In the days immediately preceding the Waikato war, Patara, who had been educated by the missionaries, conducted the Kingite newspaper *Hokioi* (a mythical bird), in the Waikato, and his brother, Honana Maioha, was one of the compositors

The type and printing-press were a gift to the Maoris from, the writer believes, the Emperor of Austria. Mr (now Sir John) Gorst, Government agent in the Waikato, also edited a native newspaper, *Te Pihokoi*, (the lark) at Te Awamutu; but the Kingites, objecting to his "leaders," settled the matter in a truly Maori fashion by raiding the office, and running Mr Gorst out of the Waikato. So Patara had the field of Maori journalism all to himself. He took part in the Waikato war, and in after years acted as secretary to Tawhiao, with whom he visited England in 1884. The old chief at present lives at Mangere, where his father resided in the early days of Auckland.

Mr Apirana Turupa Ngata is a Maori of quite another stamp. In his early twenties as yet, he has distinguished himself at college and in the profession which he has adopted—the law—and is a splendid example of the innate capabilities of the Maori race under the influence of European education. He is a member of the Ngatiporou tribe of the East Coast, of which the late Major Ropata Wahawaha was the leading chief, and his father, Paratene Ngata, is an assessor of the Native Land Court. Mr Ngata was educated at Te Aute College and afterwards took the degrees of B.A. and M.A. at the Canterbury University College. Not long ago he secured further laurels by graduating as LL.B., and has been admitted as a member of the legal profession. At present Mr Ngata is engaged on a noble mission amongst his own people on the East Coast and elsewhere in common with other members of the Aute Students' Association, in an endeavour to improve the sanitary, social, moral and religious life of the Maoris; and it is to such men as Apirana Turupa Ngata that the remnants of the native people must look for their preservation from ultimate extinction.

