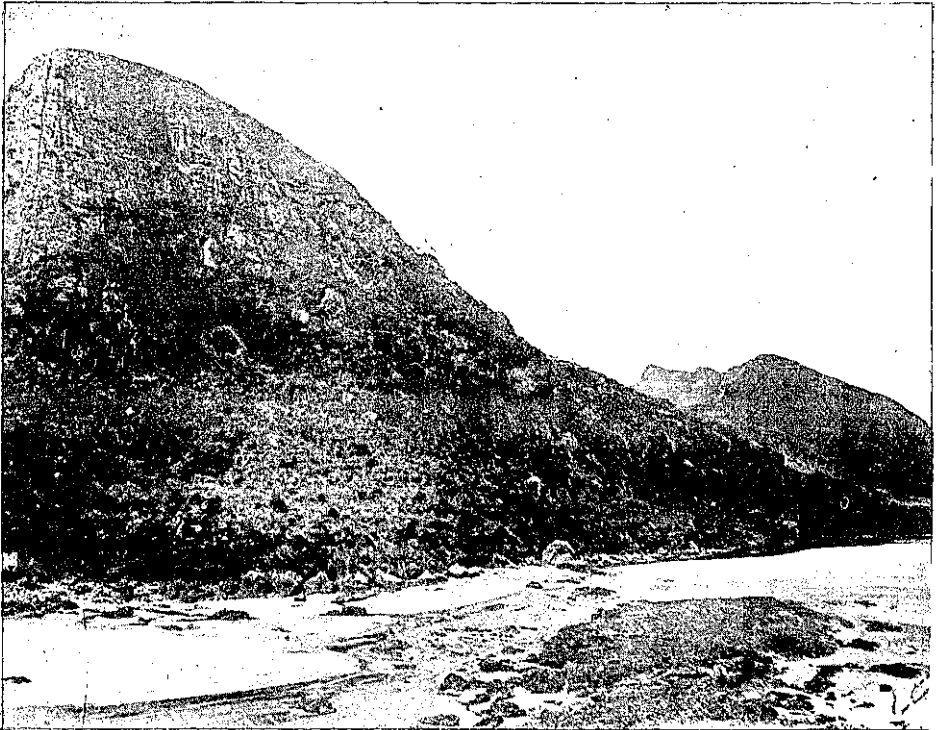


sparseness of the native population in Te Wai-pounamu English names have to a very large extent superseded the Maori. In the names of mountains, passes, rivers and glaciers in the Great Southern Alps, the memories of early European pioneers and explorers are very properly preserved, but it is a pity that where native names exist, and are known they should not be spelt accurately. Hardly one of the names of the great Southern lakes is rightly spelt, and as the original owners of the soil are gone for ever it is next to

tangata (a locality known as "Cannibal Gorge"), Awatere ("swift river"), Waitaki (equivalent to the northern Waitangi), are; however, very plain as to meaning. The river Inangahua suggests by the composition of its name a place where the Maoris were accustomed to catch and preserve the nimble whitebait.

Reverting to North Island names, the name Roto-kakahi, that of a lake on the Rotorua-Tarawera Road, informs us that in its waters the natives found one of the



MAUNGAHIKO, NEAR TE RERENGA-WAIRUA.

impossible to arrive at the true meanings of many of the names. For instance Lake Wakatipu (which the ignorant *pakeha* shears of its final vowel) may be either Whaka-tipu or Waka-tipua. In the latter name one could trace a dim reference to some ghostly legend of the great snow-fed lake—a "phantom canoe" (or literally a "devil-canoe"), which was seen floating on its cold mysterious waters under the shadows of the everlasting mountains. Such names as Wai-makariri ("cold water"), Kopi-o-Kai-

sources of their food supply, the fresh-water shellfish known as the *kakahi*, which was obtained by means of a rake and net or primitive dredge. Since the Tarawera eruption the bivalve has no longer been hauled from the lake bottom, in fact the deposits of volcanic mud and detritus from the hills seem to have smothered the poor *kakahi* out of existence.

Another natural history hint is conveyed in the name Motu-taiko, a picturesque island in Lake Taupo. It is so called from the fact