

which, if their literal meanings were known, would be dropped like the proverbial super-heated esculent by colonists. But the majority of Maori place-names are unimpeachable as to moral character and propriety of language.

world," an *ao-tea-roa*—and beaching their long canoes on the welcome strand of a new soil. I prefer this rendering to the "long white cloud" of Mr W. P. Reeves' book. And "Te-Ika-a-Mani"—what a magnificent picture that name conjures up—the fierce



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ARA-TEATEA RAPIDS, WAIKATO RIVER.

*Photo.*

"Aotearoa," the name of this North Island of ours, is a history, a romance, a poem in itself. We can picture in our mind's eye the sea-worn Polynesian *Vikings* hailing with delight the vision on the far sky line of the white cliffs of New Zealand shining under the bright summer sun—truly a "long white

demi-god, the Maori Hercules, chanting his wild "lifting song," hauling up from the boiling deep the wonderful "fish" of an unknown land—the *fish of Mani!*

Amongst the most interesting place-names in this country are those which contain in themselves reminiscences of the ancient