

mind what I was doing. Seven p.m. saw us quietly taking our evening meal in camp after perhaps the most enjoyable day of the trip.

On Thursday morning we were very loth to start homewards, but time and tide wait for no man, and we had to cross the Tongaporutu and make our camp on the opposite side before dark. To do this, we struck camp about ten a.m., and dropped down river with the tide to Mokau township, and lunched there. After our boatman had sat for his photo on horseback—he is very proud of his horse, and is anxious the Government should buy it at a good figure for the Transvaal—we bid him an affecting farewell, and left Mokau at two p.m.

At the mouth of the Mohakatino, another large river about four miles south of Mokau, we took a very typical picture of the coast features about here in the shape of a curious formation of cliffs and caves that is there.

Towards evening the wind blew very

ment, about two miles south of Tongaporutu. These whares are usually built of split totara or rimu, and are about twelve feet by twenty-four, the space equally divided into a sleeping and a living room. At one end is a wooden chimney of the true backwoods style—two walls of split wood the full width of the main building, and joined by a piece of sawn timber on each side.

We were not long in getting our house brushed out with fern, the fire lighted, and billy boiling. A plentiful meal of tea and hot buttered toast followed, in which two four-pound loaves disappeared. We wound up our last night in camp by all singing together our song in praise of Mokau to the tune of Scott Gatty's "Playing on the Old Banjo." The remaining forty miles of our return journey were comfortably accomplished the next day, and we reached New Plymouth by nine p.m., earnestly wishing the trip was but commencing, and



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MIMI VALLEY, LOOKING SOUTH.

New Plymouth.

threateningly for rain, so we took advantage of permission given to use, for the night, a whare belonging to the Telegraph Depart-

fully convinced that it would be difficult to put more real pleasure into five days than we experienced in our trip up the Mokau.