

totara, honeysuckle, and grained rimu. The modern Maoris, I was informed, cannot tell one timber from another, though their ancestors knew each one by the smell alone. They were working when I called, for the Maori Girls' Bazaar, and some of their show productions have been sent away, but what remained gave a good idea of the whole. There was a neatly finished box for clothes, a number of easels, small picture frames, and the framework of a model roof. Their most important undertaking has been the ornamental entrance gates to the institution, entirely made by the boys. The Maoris are eager for this kind of work, though they are rather in a hurry to get a lot done than to do anything thoroughly. A poor young cripple, Piki Porima, shows a talent for wood-carving, and has been allowed to indulge it, though as a rule the Government regards that occupation as frivolous and unremunerative. Piki had made two ornamental boxes, one of maple-coloured wood, the other stained dark brown, and decorated with a design of twigs, leaves, and a creeping lizard. Besides this, various other pieces of his work, ornamental panels and so on, are to be seen. This boy came from Kawhia, and was taught there in the Primary School, where the master, who took a great interest in his pupils, encouraged him to follow his bent. Possibly he may make his living at the art. One cannot help thinking, on visiting this school, how much the natives are changed since the days of Sel-

wyn and Patteson. St. Stephen's is one of the most successful results of the Bishop's industrial system. Most of the boys on leaving, settle on the land. It is desired they should stay amongst their own people, and, by their example, raise them to the level of Europeans. Some are carpenters in the Waikato. Some stay in the City, and are apprenticed to trades. One is now a tailor in Auckland. Some are in the Civil Service, a few in the Post Office, and in the Lands' Department. Four have become native ministers. On the whole, the school fulfils its object, that of making the Maoris able to compete with their white neighbours. The Government report pays a high tribute to the effect of St. Stephen's on the native race:—"All over the Northern parts of the Colony one may meet, here and there, intelligent, well set up men, who can converse with one in good English, can transact most kinds of business, and are competent to initiate wise plans and undertakings for the benefit of those depending on them. Sober, shrewd, intelligent men are they who, clinging to their own people and their old way of life to a large extent, have yet modified it beneficially at so many points that it would be hard to suggest a mode in which they would have been of greater service to themselves and their people—a way, in short, in which they would have made better use of their lives. The kind of men here alluded to have the same stamp on all of them; it is the stamp of St. Stephen's, Parnell."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

