

such a term of years as the Standing Committee should decide.

At the present time, a new district has probably to wait for years before it can raise sufficient funds to think even of putting up a building, and then may be, some, at any rate, of our Church people have settled down in other folds, and are lost to us. By giving such assistance towards the erection of a 'Church, we are also putting the people in a more favourable position for raising the necessary funds. It would be a great blessing to many a struggling district in this Diocese, if such a fund existed.

But to come back to our present "Church Society." Are we supporting that as liberally and systematically as we ought? It is quite inadequate at present for the requirements of the Diocese and needs much more real support.

At the present time, the offertory on one Sunday in the year is given to the fund, and that is probably all that we can expect from this source.

There are also in a few parishes, collectors for the fund and a few subscribers. Might it not be possible in some parishes to make this work part of the parochial organisation and to get a much larger number of annual subscriptions?

The Rev. Canon Eccles is acting as Organising Secretary for the Diocese, and is at present engaged in seeking to stir up interest in our Home Mission Work.

It was very gratifying to receive the other day from a Maori district in the Bay of Plenty a cheque for the fund for nearly £5, the offerings of the Maoris at services held during my recent visit.

The Standing Committee made a grant of £25 per annum towards the stipend of a Lay Missioner to work amongst the men engaged on the construction of the railway line between Gisborne and the Bay of Plenty; when the railway between Tauranga and Te Puke is started, it may be necessary to make another similar call upon the fund.

I fully realise our duty to evangelise the heathen, but I fully realise also that we have no right to neglect the spiritual needs of our own fellow countrymen who are crying out in so many ways "Come over and help us." There is a very great need for real missionaries in our own country if ever it is to be worthy of the name of "God's Own Country."

A. W. WAIAPU.

The Bishop's Journeys.

[I.]

Friday, March 4.—Commenced my first overland journey from Napier *via* Wairoa and Gisborne to Te Araroa. Started at 6.30 a.m. by coach, arrived at Waikare for lunch and journeyed on, the only occupant of the coach, through bush scenery and undeveloped fern country to Mohaka, where I was met by Archdeacon Williams, who was to act as my guide, interpreter, and companion. Hospitably entertained by the Rev. Hemi Huata. Evensong with the Maoris followed by a Maori "welcome."

Saturday, March 5.—Mattins in the Maori Church, with address. Left Mohaka at 9 a.m. Lunched at Mrs. Glendinning's. Arrived Wairoa at 4. Kindly welcomed by the Revs. H. T. Rawnsley and Henare Wepiha. Stayed at the Vicarage. A largely attended Maori and Pakeha "welcome" in the hall at Wairoa in the evening at which addresses were presented by Maoris and Pakehas.

Sunday, March 6.—Drove out to Maori Church for Matins and Holy Communion at 11. Crowded congregation. Baptized three infants in the service. Lunch with the Maoris and "korero" afterwards. Adult Baptism and Confirmation in the afternoon. Eleven candidates. Returned to Vicarage and preached at Evensong in Wairoa Church at 7. Large congregation, chiefly Pakehas, but many Maoris. Bright, hearty service.

Monday, March 7.—Left Wairoa at 9. Visited native school at Tuhara and met several natives from the district. Gave short address to the children, and heard them sing. The country has cause to be proud and thankful for the excellent work which is being done in most of these native schools. Lunched with Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan at Tahaenui. Arrived Nuhaka at 5 p.m. Met by the Rev. Wi Peraire. Visited several of the residents. Prayers with the Maoris. Attended Maori and Pakeha "welcome" in schoolroom and gave an address.

Tuesday, March 8.—Holy Communion with the Maoris. Left Nuhaka 9.45. Morning tea ("tell it not in Gath") at Mrs. Bellamy's at Morere Springs, at the comfortable boarding-house which suffered so much in the subsequent flood. Visited the "Springs." Beautiful bush. Opportunity for a little physical exercise presented itself on the journey. Maori boy with waggon and five

horses conveying timber to new house "bogged" on the road. Had to unload timber to extricate waggon. Archdeacon and I loaded up the timber again. (N.B.—This is the only true and authentic account of a much garbled story.) Further on we heard that the unfortunate boy had got into trouble again, and who could wonder? Arrived at Mr. Swarbrick's and reported the plight of the Maori. Had lunch in the Shelter, which was doing duty for Mr. Swarbrick's dining room during the rebuilding of his house. I understand that the timber eventually arrived at its destination by degrees. This, of course, is not intended to be any reflection upon the state of the roads. Arrived at Wharata and stayed the night at the boarding-house.

Wednesday, March 9. Left Wharata 7. Arrived Gisborne 11. Stayed with Archdeacon Williams at Te Rau. Met the Revs. Dawson, Chatterton, Thomas, and Ward.

Thursday, March 10.—Visited Te Rau College and Parish Church. Motor ride into the country in the afternoon. Attended civic welcome in the evening in the Garrison Hall. Nearly 1000 people present. Speeches and addresses of welcome to which I replied. Introduced to many of the people afterwards. A well organised, enthusiastic, and sympathetic gathering.

Friday, March 11.—Motored out to Te Karaka, the parochial district of which the Rev. W. H. Roberts is in charge. Continued journey by motor and ballast train as far as the latter could take us on the "Gisborne and ?" line. Proceeded to the residence of Mr. Armstrong, the engineer, who kindly entertained us at lunch. Service in the Church at Te Karaka in the evening. Full Church, hearty service. Returned to Gisborne by motor afterwards.

Saturday, March 12.—Visited native boys' school at Waerenga-a-hika. Had lunch with the Rev. W. M. Butterfield. Spoke to the boys. Large garden party in the afternoon. This school is evidently worked on good lines and could well train more scholars.

Sunday, March 13.—Celebrated the Holy Communion in Gisborne Parish Church at 8, assisted by Archdeacon Williams, the Rev. F. W. Chatterton, and the Vicar. About 170 Communicants. Motored out to Patutahi, the Rev. A. H. Cole's Parish, and preached at Mattins. Good congregation. Lunched with Mr. Sherratt. Service in the afternoon with the Maoris at Te Kuri. Service held out-of-doors. Welcome from the Maoris.