

Written for this Paper.

TO THE MAORI SAINTS.

SALT LAKE CITY,
March 6th, 1896.

The interest manifested in the Australasian mission by the Saints in Utah, suggests a few lines in addition to the items that have recently appeared in the News.

For many years the "Hui Tau" or annual conference has been regularly held in various parts of New Zealand, and much interest is usually manifested: Maori and European Saints travel long distances in order to be present, and every comfort is provided for all comers.

Last April the conference was held at Tamaki, Hawkes Bay district, New Zealand, and it was decided to convene there again next April.

For a whole year the members in that locality have been preparing for the coming event. Large crops were planted, new buildings erected and invitations have been sent to numerous districts urging the people to be present. Occasionally in such gatherings, the Saints have been favored with communications from returned Elders, but these have always been translated hurriedly and hence full justice may not have been done to them. A treat, however, is now in store for the Maori Saints who will assemble next month. Though the work has been progressing amongst the natives of New Zealand for over twelve years, until over 3,000 souls are now numbered in the Church, they have not yet been favored with a direct address from the First Presidency, as it has hitherto been deemed inexpedient.

The returned Elders, however, now organized as Zion's Maori Association, have translated and forwarded an epistle to the Maori Saints and a similar document, translated into the native tongue, has also been issued by the First Presidency, who take this opportunity of addressing words of greeting and counsel to the dark-skinned Saints in the Antipodes.

Only those who have labored amongst this kind-hearted and hospitable people can realize with what joy and thanksgiving they will eagerly drink in these instructions, and how their eyes will brighten as they hear the beloved names of Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon and Joseph F. Smith. As the document will be of great interest to many readers, a copy is appended for publication.

"PHOENIX"

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah,
January 31st, 1896.

To the Maori Saints in New Zealand:

Dear Brethren and Sisters—We take the occasion of your being gathered together in a general conference of the New Zealand mission to address you a few words of salutation, commendation and caution.

We have been greatly pleased, from time to time, when reading the reports of your faithfulness to the principles of the Gospel. Our hearts rejoiced when we first heard of the people of your race yielding obedience to the requirements of our Heavenly Father, by being baptized for the remission of their sins, and it has given us unqualified pleasure when we have learned, through the re-

ports of the Elders, that so many have remained faithful and true to the covenants that they then made with God and his servants. It has been manifested to us by the Spirit of revelation, which is the Spirit of the Lord, that you are a portion of God's covenant people, Israel, heirs to the promises made to Abraham and his seed after him. These promises will all be fulfilled and the blessing of salvation brought nigh unto those who seek to do the works of their great progenitor, and, like him, endeavor to dwell on the earth as the friends of God and of righteousness. The Lord will never fail to keep His portion of the covenant, and all His promises will be fulfilled to the uttermost, not one jot or tittle of His promises will return to His mouth unaccomplished. Therefore, you have much cause to lift up your heads and rejoice that already our Heavenly Father has been mindful of you in your far distant habitation and sent you messengers through whom you may learn how to please Him and work out your salvation acceptably in His sight. Inasmuch as He has thus shown His loving kindness to you it behooves you, on your part, to draw nigh unto Him, to seek Him faithfully in prayer, to cleave unto that which is good, to eschew all evil, and, through the assistance of His Spirit, to overcome those sins to which we, in our weakness, are most prone. No members of the Church of Jesus Christ, no matter to what people they belong, should permit themselves to be enticed to do that which is sinful. They should not partake of that which the Lord has forbidden; they should avoid gambling; they should not give way to the lusts of the flesh; they should refrain from all intoxicating drinks, and never, under any circumstances, take the name of the Lord their God in vain, for all who obey the Gospel are promised a portion of the Spirit of the Lord, which Spirit will give them strength to resist temptation, and intelligence to discern between right and wrong, between the good and the evil.

We learn, through the Elders, that some of the Maori brethren and sisters are desirous to gather to Zion. We shall be exceedingly pleased to greet them in these valleys of the mountains when the proper time comes for them to join us here. But the monitions of the Holy Spirit make it plain to us that that time has not yet come; we therefore advise our brethren and sisters to prayerfully and patiently abide the due time of the Lord, with a confiding faith that He will order and control all things in such a way that they will be for the best and tend to the salvation and glory of all those that unflinchingly and devotedly seek to keep His commandments.

We commend you to the keeping of our Heavenly Father, that your minds may be full of intelligence, that the Holy Scriptures may be plain to your understandings, and that the Inspiration of the Spirit of God may ever guide you. And we admonish you to give heed to the teachings and counsels of those sent to minister the word of life to you, that, day by day, you may grow stronger in the things of God, and when you have accomplished your work upon the earth be saved and exalted with your ancient fathers, in the presence of our Great

Father of us all and of our Redeemer the Lord Jesus Christ, His Son.

We remain, with much love,

Your brethren in Christ Jesus,

WILFORD WOODRUFF,

GEORGE Q. CANNON,

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

TE PA O TE MOANA TOTE, Iuta,
Hanuere 31, 1896.

Ki te hunga tapu Maori katoa e noho mai na i Niu Tirenii:

Enga teina, me nga tuahine, i roto nei i te Rongo Pai o Ihu Karaiti, Teuara koutou katoa.

I runga i te mea e huihui, tahi ana koutou i runga i te tikanga o te Hui Tau o te Mihana o Niu Tirenii, e mea ana matou he wa pai tenei ki te tuku atu ki a koutou i etahi kupu torutoru, hei kupu mihii, kupu whakapai, kupu whakatupato ano hoki.

Nui atu to matou nei ahuaereka i tenei wa, i tenei wa, mo matou e rongo ana kei te u tonu koutou ki nga tikanga o te Rongo Pai pono.

Ka nui hoki te koa me te hauri o matou nei ngakau i te matou rongonga kua tahuri mai kua ngawari te iwi Maori ki nga tikanga kua oti i to tatou Matua i te Rangi te whakatakoto, i iiria hoki ratou hei murunga i o ratou hara.

Nui rawa atu to matou rekareka, he mea hoki na nga tubituhinga mai o nga kaumatua e ki ana, e u tonu ana, e ponotou ana te wahi nui o koutou ki nga kawenata kua kawenata na koutou ki te aroaro o te Atua ki te aroaro ano hoki o ana pononga.

E matau ana matou ko tetahi wahi koutou o te iwi kawenata o te Atua, o te whare o Iharaia, he mea whakakite hoki tenei na te wairua whakakite kia matou, kolia hoki te Wairua o te Atua. Na, e tika ana tenei, mo koutou nga kupu whakaari i whakaaria ai e te Atua ki a Aperahama mona, mo ana uri ano hoki i muri i a ia, a-ka whakaritea katoatia enei kupu whakaari me nga manaakitanga whakaoranga ka homai ki nga tangata katoa e mahi ana i nga mahi i mahi ai to ratou tipuna nui a Aperahama, ki nga mea katoa ano hoki e iite ana ki a ia, ara, i noho ia i runga i tenei ao he hoa ki te Atua ki te tika ano hoki. E kore te Atua e tuku i tetahi wahi o te kawenata kei tona taha ki te taka noa, engari ka whakaritea katoatia e ia, ana i whakaari ai puta noa ki te wahi whakamutunga. Kaore tahi he wahi, ahakoa iti rawa, o ana kupu whakaari e hoki na ai tona waha, engari ka whakaritea katoatia. Kati.

He take nui ia koutou e ara ake ai o koutou mahunga e hari ai o koutou ngakau ara, kua aroha to tatou Matua i te Rangi ki a koutou e noho na ki tena whenua tawhiti—a—kua tonoa hoki e ia ana karere e ako ai koutou ki nga mea e ahuaereka ai ia, ki nga mea noki e nuiho ai koutou ki nga mea tika hei mahi ma koutou hei oranga mo o koutou na wairua.

Na, i runga i te mea kua whakakite penei ia i tona aroha me tona atawhaitanga ki a koutou e tika ana, me noho tata koutou ki a ia, me rapu hoki ia e koutou i runga i te inoi. Me pupuri nga mea katoa e pai nei, whakarereka katoatia nga mea kino, ma tona Wairua hoki koutou a awahina e whaikaha ai koutou ki te pehi i nga hara katoa e kore nei e tino taea e enei tinana ngokore.

Auaka tetahi mema o te Hahi o Ihu