

and T. J. O'Brien; P. O. address, Waipawa, New Zealand.

Wairarapa—Elders George Bowles, L. Bradford, \*James Barrow and \*George Jarvis; P. O. address, Greytown North, New Zealand.

Te Mahia—Elders L. G. Hoagland, J. C. Allen and J. N. Lambert; P. O. address, Wairoa, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand.

Poverly Bay—Elders C. H. Embley, Jacob E. Teeples and \*J. A. M. Jacobsen; P. O. address, Gisborne, New Zealand.

Waipatu—Elders Joseph C. Jorgensen and R. E. Scott; P. O. address, Tolog Bay, New Zealand.

Tauranga—Elders Christian Peterson and David H. Packard; P. O. address, Te Puke, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand.

Hauraki—Elders J. M. Folkman and Moroni Lazenby; P. O. address, Te Aroha, Hauraki, New Zealand.

Whangarei—Elders J. H. W. Goff and Hial B. Hales; P. O. address, Kamo, Whangarei, New Zealand.

Bay of Islands—Elders C. B. Bartlett, T. J. Morgan and Joseph Markham; P. O. address, Kawa Kawa, Bay of Islands, New Zealand.

Waikato—Elders J. K. Nelson and Parley A. Waters; P. O. address, Ngaruawahia, Waikato, New Zealand.

Wairau—Elders J. W. Linford, W. Bunot, \*R. L. Bird and \*Hyrum Cook; P. O. address, Canvastown, Marlborough; New Zealand.

\*Otago—Elders J. G. Young and Bryant Ashby; P. O. address, Owaka, Otago, New Zealand.

\*Auckland—Elders John Johnson and T. S. Bowring; P. O. address, Box 236, Auckland, New Zealand.

\*Canterbury—Elders C. Peterson and E. O. Best; P. O. address, G. P. O. Christchurch, New Zealand.

\*Queensland—Elders J. F. Burton, W. F. Armstrong, D. W. Livingston, R. H. Bodily and C. S. Crow; P. O. address, Gordon St. Coorparoo, Queensland.

\*New South Wales, North division—Elders Jedediah Goff and Walter Baker; P. O. address, G. P. O. Sydney, New South Wales.

\*New South Wales, South division—Elders A. J. Ridges and John Walker; P. O. address, G. P. O. Sydney, New South Wales.

\*Victoria—Elders George W. Lewis and Joseph Stephenson; P. O. address, G. P. O. Melbourne, Vic.

\*Tasmania—Elders F. W. Ellis, L. C. Pond, R. A. Fenton and Sister L. C. Pond; P. O. address, G. P. O. Hobart, Tasmania.

Clerk of the mission—Elder John Johnson, Box 236 Auckland.

Conference was closed with singing, hymn 105. Prayer by President Wm. Gardner.

On Monday, April 8th, an Elders' testimony meeting was held, and the Maoris also held special meeting simultaneously. The Spirit of God was manifested in both meetings, and the hearts of the Saints rejoiced exceedingly.

In the evening, a special meeting was held to enable Ngawaea Poipoi to address the people, as he had been detained through a delay of steamer and had only just arrived on horseback. This native "Demosthenes" most eloquently dwelt on the blessings received in the latter days, commenting on Jacob's blessings to his posterity and their literal fulfillment in Lehi's travels

to America. He treated intelligently the scattering of Israel, Christ's appearance to the Nephites, subsequent emigration northward and to the isles of the sea, and the relationships of the Maoris to Israel. He rejoiced that Hirini Whanga, and his companions, had been privileged to gather to their ancestral home in Zion, and urged the members to live worthy to be gathered with the Saints of God.

Thus closed one of the most successful and eventful conferences ever held in the Australasian mission, and it augurs well for the future of the Church in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

B. GODDARD,

Clerk of the Conference.

PORIRUA, New Zealand.

April 15th, 1895.

#### OUR "HUI TAU."

How swift the months have passed away,

'Tis conference again,

And Australasia's hosts now come

To swell the joyous strain.

This sentiment filled the hearts of all the Elders and Saints who recently assembled at our "Hui Tau," at Tamaki, to hold conference and celebrate the 65th anniversary of the Church.

Early in April, the members began to gather from all parts of the mission. Elders came from the far north and also from the South Island, while others journeyed from Australia, to have the privilege of listening to the instructions and participating in the good spirit usually manifested in such gatherings.

The president and clerk of the mission, and a number of Elders, met at Waipawa on April 1st, and, after transacting necessary business, traveled by train to Tamaki. Our carriage was filled with Maori members from various parts, and European travelers were amazed to witness the greetings as the Elders entered and received affectionate "hongis" from native brethren and sisters.

On arriving at Tamaki great crowds were perceived at the station, all eager to welcome the new comers. Elders exchanged hearty handshakings and congratulations, and were soon conversing on "past, present and future." Dear Maori Saints eagerly pushed through the crowd to give and receive the precious "hongis." The village of Tamaki is close to the station, and as soon as the new arrivals approached the "Kainga," a small company of natives were perceived signalling them, and waiving their handkerchiefs, amid cries of welcome, "Haere mai Nau mai," &c. At some distance beyond, a large company of women were standing in regular files, waiving green wreaths and wands.

When the visitors came into close promoxity to them, the Maori Haka, or war dance, commenced. Suitable words of greeting were chanted in the monotonous strains, so peculiar to the Maori; the sentiments were accompanied with graceful movements of the body, and every attitude was assumed simultaneously by the whole company, with the precision of an automaton. As the ceremony proceeded, the movements became more rapid and vigorous, and excelled the most perfect calisthenic exercise. A Maori woman, with native taiaha in her hands, conducted the ceremony. Many of the attitudes were not very graceful, when viewed from a "Pakeha" standpoint, but the unrestrained enthusiasm of the performers proved contagious, and onlookers witnessed the proceedings with great interest.

When almost exhausted, the woman suddenly retreated, and a large company of men were seen crouching on the ground. When exposed to view, they sprang up with a native warwhoop, and their defiant attitude, and naked forms, caused a shudder to pass through the spectators, as they perceived the forcible illustration of ancient Maori-dom, and the manner in which the brave warriors prepared for battle.

The "Haka" was then resumed, the native braves in the front ranks, and the women in their gay costumes behind. The yells and shouts were almost terrifying, as they chanted their songs, while their bodies swayed to and fro, each person alternately beating his thighs and breast. With rolling eyes and protruding tongues, they portrayed all the hideousness of the ancient custom, and it could easily be surmised how they could infuse into each other a mad frenzy, preparatory to going forth to battle.

After this interesting ceremony, the greetings were continued, and such a crowd were present, that some of the inexperienced new comers feared that their nasal organs would be irremediably injured, in consequence of the numerous concussions.

Passing through the village, it was evident that

There's a feast of fat things for the righteous preparing

The good of this world all the Saints shall be sharing.

These words received a more literal fulfillment than the composer ever realized. A number of beeves and mutton had been slaughtered, and were hanging near the cooking department. Immense quantities of provisions of all kinds, were stored, and ready for consumption by the gathering multitude. The large "whare karakia," or meeting house, was reserved for meetings, and also furnished sleeping room for the Maori guests, who reclined upon their "wharikis," or flax mats, arranged along each side of the room. A new dining room had been erected for the occasion, 18 feet wide and 87 feet long. It was a substantial wood structure, covered with zinc roofing, and capable of seating over 200 persons at the two tables, which extended from one end of the building to the other. Substantial and delicious food of all kinds was furnished, and many of the dishes were elaborately decorated.

Thirty-seven Elders from Zion were present, the largest number ever privileged to assemble together in a conference of the Australasian mission. Two dwellings were set apart for the exclusive use and accommodation of the Elders, one of which was the newly erected and beautifully furnished dwelling of Wiremu Takana.

The first testimony meeting was exceedingly interesting, and the cheering welcome, happy voices, eyes beaming with joy, and faces glowing with pleasure, caused many to exclaim

The spirit of God like a fire is burning,

The latter day glory begins to come forth.

Two hundred and twenty-eight persons were present, and a large number of members bore earnest testimonies to the work of the Lord.

All the meetings of conference were largely attended. A large number of European Saints were present from Wairarapa and Manawatu districts, and it was therefore deemed advisable to