

were present no expression of opinion was required from them as the chiefs claim jurisdiction in such matters. It was finally decided that they should be married, the ceremony to take place in the evening. During the afternoon "karakia," or prayers, Elder Kelsou addressed the Saints on the subject of marriage and the importance of observing the laws of chastity, etc. The bridegroom and bride then came forward and were united in the bonds of holy matrimony in the usual manner. Afterwards the friends and relatives greeted the newly married couple and cheered over the celebration of the nuptials. The company then enjoyed a social dance.

Land matters receive considerable attention in this country, as all the land originally was claimed by the native tribes collectively. Land courts are now organized to grant the land to individual claimants. The Maoris own 10,000,000 acres of land in the North Island, two-fifths of which is agricultural, and the rest grazing land. A considerable portion of it is covered with dense timber or brush, and is quite mountainous. The government has control of all the land courts and the Maoris complain of the heavy assessments and taxes levied upon their lands. Land is often leased to Europeans, and, in many cases, the assessment exceeds the rental. In order to remedy this evil, the Maoris are organizing what is termed a Maori parliament, and petitioning the government to grant them absolute control of their own land affairs. Hamiora Mangakaha, an educated native lawyer, is premier. He is one of the oldest members of the Church, and was present at our conference. He stated that about 21,000 Maoris had signed the agreement and petition for said parliament, and that the object was to control the leasing and sale of the land, also to encourage the cultivation of it and to locate and build towns after the European style. The proposition is receiving the support of prominent statesmen and it may probably encourage the Maoris to be more industrious and energetic.

The News is always a welcome visitor in this far-off land and we are all interested in the progress of affairs in Zion. Even political questions are not overlooked and Cleveland and Harrison men are sometimes met with who would be glad to cheer for their respective candidates.

We are gratified to notice the increased desire to do justice to Utah and that so many now acknowledge the loyalty of her citizens.

The following literary gem, received from a "Mormon" friend, contains sentiments which may convince some of our sceptical opponents that there are as loyal hearts in our mountain vales as can be found in Uncle Sam's domains. PHOENIX.

Our Nation's Natal Day.

(Lines addressed to "Phoenix," while on a mission to New Zealand, July 4th, 1892.)
We stood and watched her silent coming

From the heavenly arches there,
Saw her enter with the dawning
Robed in festal garments fair;
While she stood upon the mountain
In Morn's softest, sweetest flush,
From afar a signal greeting
Broke upon the solemn hush.

From afar the guns are pealing
Heralds crying, "She is here!"
"Gid her welcome! welcome! welcome!"
Rang the echoes loud and clear;
Echoes from a thousand cannon
Like to thunder's mighty roar—
Followed soon a sacred stillness
When the welcome shout was o'er.

In the hush, the short, sweet stillness,
While the earth expectant stands,
To the soul is sung an anthem;
And God's benedictory hands
Seem to hover now so near us,
That we bow in reverence down,
To receive the gems that spangle
Freedom's fair immortal crown.

Far and wide is heard the anthem,
And a nation's mighty heart,
Beats responsive to the music,
While all nature adds her part
Like a rush of glad thanksgiving
Wafted to the realms on high;—
Man hath caught the sweet vibration
And doth raise a joyous cry.

'Tis heard, 'tis heard! and forth from Slumber
Like a vast resistless wave,
Comes a human tide with greetings
For the banners of the brave.
Stars and stripes! O bounteous emblem
Of a freedom that is ours;
Emblem of our strength and union,
Of divine, God-given powers.

Midst the rush of loud acclaiming
Oft I've paused this natal day,
Paused with thoughts of thee, my brother,
Thou so far, ay! far away.
Lost to thee hath been the tumult
Of the country's maddened joy—
Banners flutter, guns saluting,
Space and distance doth destroy.

But, methinks, thy soul hath listened
And hath heard the sweet refrain,
The spirit anthem sung by Freedom
This fair morn, o'er hill and plain;
That thy heart in quick pulsations
To the music hath kept time;
That the blessings with it wafted
Reached thee in thy distant clime;

That thy praises, breathed in answer,
Reached the mountain home we love,
Mingled here with prayers of dear ones,
And were wafted far above;
That, before the proud rejoicings
Which a nation's voice hath given,
With the praises of the "Chosen,"
They were heard by Him in Heaven. A.

THE JORDAN RIVER.

The public are familiar with the previous correspondence that has passed between Dr. J. E. Talmage and Dr. S. B. Young on the subject of the impurities in the Jordan River below the sewer outlet, also with the analyses by Dr. Talmage of samples of water taken from the stream above and below that point. In continuation of the important subject, the News takes pleasure in laying before its readers the following communication:

SALT LAKE, Sept. 28th, 1892.

Prof. J. E. Talmage:

Dear Doctor—In your communication of the 15th inst., containing analysis of the Jordan River water, you requested my opinion as to its use by the inhabitants along its banks, and the effect it would produce on milk taken from cows who are in the habit of drinking this water. I trust you will kindly extend pardon to me for having

postponed my answer to this date, but excessive labors, professional and others, must plead an excuse for me.

To begin then: Prof. J. Herbert Sheed, U. S. C. E., says: "Water is an essential element of existence. The presence and need of water is nearly universal. It is no less a primary want of human life than air and food. A subject of such vital importance as water supply demands the most careful consideration as its influences for good or evil are of the gravest character." The need of water in a community may be classed in two divisions—public and private uses. The public uses are such as for extinguishing fires, cleaning and sprinkling streets and flushing of sewers, for public fountains, baths and similar purposes. The private uses are for the household, for manufactures and other purposes affecting each consumer individually. When once used it is soiled and must be got rid of and the manner of doing this will affect others in the community; it may be by contaminating their source of supply, or causing foul exhalation, which the air will convey to their dwellings.

It seems desirable, says Dr. Parks, to give the public some sort of an idea what waters may be used and what may not be, and I think the following standard will convey the most important points connected with the supply of drinking water. He proposes to form a class of wholesome waters, under which two sub-classes of waters may be included.

First, the purest and most wholesome water which is free from suspended matters and contains very little dissolved organic matter, say under one grain to the gallon, and that probably vegetable, and of dissolved mineral matters under seven grains per gallon. This will include all the waters supplied from the primitive rocks and some of the sands, which contain less than that quantity of mineral matter, and is probably the purest water on the whole which can be obtained in sufficient large quantities. Rain water after filtration might come under the same standard.

Then the second or sub-class in the first order would be what may be called pure and wholesome water, to which no objection can be made I believe in a sanitary point of view, but which is not so pure as the former. This water is also measurably free from suspended matters, having dissolved organic matters under two grains per gallon the greater part of that being vegetable. Of dissolved mineral matters it would contain less than twelve grains per gallon, consisting principally of the carbonate of lime and alkaline carbonates and chlorides. The second sub-class would include the best chalk waters, which are generally very free indeed from organic matter.

Then the second grand class I would make, I would call usable waters. Those are all waters, with no suspended matters, or suspended matters easily separated by the coarse filtration usually resorted to by the water companies. The organic matter must be chiefly vegetable, but it should not exceed three grains per gallon, owing to the diseases which would probably arise if it exceeded