

Goddard, J. Johnson, Geo. Bowles, Jas. Barrow, W. Gibson, R. G. Meikle, J. W. Linford, Frank Nebeker, L. G. Hoagland and Magnus Nielsen.

The attention of the congregation was called by Elder Goddard. All joined in singing a Maori hymn, after which prayer was offered by Arapata Meha. Elder Goddard greeted the Saints and visitors, inviting outsiders to attend all the meetings. He concluded his introductory remarks by asking God to bless the Saints while they should be together.

Hohepa, Horomona was the next speaker. He testified to the truthfulness of the principles of the Gospel, and encouraged all to be faithful in the performance of every duty.

Elder Hoagland next spoke. He expressed his pleasure at being permitted to meet his brethren and sisters under such favorable circumstances. His instructions were calculated to benefit and elevate those who would adhere to them.

Elder Nielsen spoke through an interpreter (Brother Gibson) on the blessings the Latter-day Saints enjoy, and the reward promised them through obedience to the laws of God. He invoked the blessings of the Lord upon those who had assembled, and desired that each one should be actuated by His Spirit in all their endeavors.

The congregation sang a Maori hymn, after which the benediction was pronounced by Paratene Sui.

2 o'clock p. m.—After singing by the congregation and prayer by Ratima, Elder Bowles addressed the audience on the subject, "Faith and Works," upon which he brought many scriptural references to bear. His remarks were of an encouraging character, and he exhorted the Saints to be faithful in keeping the covenants they had entered into and diligent in doing that which the Lord required at their hands.

Elder Meikle chose the text, "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God," etc., upon which subject he quoted many passages of Scripture. Much interest was manifested in his remarks, and doubtless many determined in their minds to do as Jesus and His Apostles taught the former day Saints.

One of the native brethren, Wiremu Takana, next addressed the assembly. He expressed his willingness to respond to every call made of him by those placed over him. He spoke briefly on the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon, indicating that the Maoris were descendants of the seed spoken of in the sacred record. He closed by asking the Lord to shower His choicest blessings upon those who had assembled to worship.

The evening meeting commenced at 8 o'clock. Elder Goddard presided. The congregation sang a Maori hymn, prayer was engaged in by Hakarala Hemi (native.)

Wi Neera was the first speaker. The testimony he bore evidenced that his faith in the Gospel was firm; he expressed his desire to so live that he would merit the approbation of God.

Elder Nebeker spoke next; he bore an earnest testimony in the native tongue. His admonitions were of an encouraging nature and such as all would do well to adhere to.

Arapata Meha greeted the Saints, and testified that he knew the Gospel

was true, and that Joseph Smith was a great Prophet of God, that through him the Gospel had been restored in the latter days.

Hoera Te Ruruku was next called; he was glad to have the opportunity of speaking of the goodness of God toward His children, and the blessings He delighted to shower upon them through their faithfulness.

The Saints sang a Maori hymn, and Tamihana pronounced the benediction.

Sunday morning, December 14th, a previous announcement for a European meeting had been made, in response to which more than a hundred came. The choir, consisting of sweet-toned Maori singers, rendered beautifully one of Zion's sweetest songs, entitled "Beautiful Day;" every part was perfect and the harmonious strains greeted every ear as though they poured from angelic throats. Our visiting friends complimented the songsters, and requested that the pieces be repeated in a subsequent meeting. It was a striking evidence that were the talent possessed by the Maoris cultivated and directed in the proper channel, good results in the line of music could be accomplished. Prayer was offered by Elder John Johnson; the choir with much spirit sang a selection from Sankey's compositions.

Elder Goddard then addressed a large and attentive audience, on the character and belief of the Latter-day Saints. He requested that his listeners rid themselves of all prejudice, and consider in their hearts the principles he set forth, for they were in accordance with holy writ. Judging from the request made by some of the visitors that another European service be held, we think good resulted.

The choir reached its climax in the rendition of Evan Stephens's cheering duet, "God Bless Our Mountain Home," after which the benediction was pronounced by Elder Nielsen.

In behalf of the Maoris, Brother Goddard extended an invitation to all visitors to remain and partake of the hospitality of the natives. Nearly all accepted, and in a few moments were seated around beautifully spread tables laden with every delicacy.

Following was the bill of fare:

Roasts—Goose, sucking pig, beef, mutton, pork, cold beef.

Bolled—Curried beef, mutton, pork, fish, eel, mutton, bird.

Puddings—Plum, custard, rice, jam tart and blanc mange.

Pies—Rhubarb, apple and plum jam roll.

The fruits were fresh and delicious, while the cakes fresh from the hands of expert bakers, were fine in appearance and fine to the taste. So delighted were the European guests that they requested the privilege of speaking. An eloquent gentleman was chosen, who spared no occasion in commenting as the occasion merited. He had noticed a great change in the aborigines and accredited the good results to the labors of the Elders. He looked upon the Maoris as friends, and desired that their future associations should continue to increase, that a spirit of peace and union should exist among them until all reached a common brotherhood.

At the afternoon meeting the Sacrament was administered by Elders Goddard and Johnson. It was evi-

dent from the fact that all of the Saints partook of the Lord's Supper that good feelings prevailed among them.

Piripi Te Maari occupied the time. He is an eloquent expounder of the Gospel and commanded the interest and attention of the meeting. He is among the most influential chiefs in the land, and is looked upon by all who know as an intelligent and exemplary man. He is a staunch Latter-day Saint.

A testimony meeting convened in the evening, and after an opening address by Elder Johnson many Saints bore truthful testimonies to the principles which they had embraced, and expressed unalterable desires to remain faithful to the covenants they had made with God. There being such a vast number who desired to speak, it was decided that another testimony meeting be held the following evening, and though it should take till morning all should have a chance to express their feelings. The spirit of testimony certainly possessed our Maori brethren and sisters, as intimated by the good influence that accompanied each speaker.

Monday morning, 10 a. m.:—Sunday night the conference should have closed, but the interest manifested was so great and the request so urgent that another meeting was announced for Monday morning. The choir, by special request, repeated "Beautiful Day," Piripi Te Maari led in prayer, and "God Bless Our Mountain Home" was then rendered by the choir.

Elder Gibson occupied the time, on the subject of Christ and His second coming. Brother Gibson has mastered the Maori language and is thoroughly capable of interesting the most critical native.

The evening meeting commenced at 7:30 p. m.; a testimony meeting had been promised the Saints, and they had all met, eager to speak of the things of God and His mercy towards them. The fact that the services lasted until 2:30 a. m., demonstrates the unbounded interest that was manifested. The spirit of truth burned in every bosom, and all felt to rejoice. Singing, benediction by Piripi Te Maari.

Thus closed the conference. The Saints had enjoyed a spiritual feast, and were better prepared for the stern duties of life. They parted with reluctance, and yet their hearts were filled with gratitude for the peaceful privilege they had of associating together.

God bless the Maoris and the Saints throughout the world!

JOHN JOHNSON,

Clerk of the Conference.

PORIRUA, New Zealand, Dec. 28, 1893.

At Casper, Wyo., immense oil tanks are being built with a supply capacity of furnishing 1,000 barrels of lubricating oil every week. Until a pipe line has been constructed from the Salt creek wells to Casper the oil supply will be hauled by wagon.

In Douglas, Wyo., last week, twenty-seven citizens were arrested and fined \$9 each for getting on a big spree. It was a jollification over the acquittal of County Treasurer Burns, who had been unjustly arrested for alleged embezzlement.