

New Zealand, as there is no printing office in Tonga.

As might be supposed the secession of the Tongan disciples from the regular Wesleyan Church has called forth much comment; and the Wesleyan ministers especially have been very outspoken in their unqualified condemnation of the actions of Mr. Baker and Mr. Watkin. On the other hand the members of the Free Church feel perfectly justified in what they have. Mr. Baker, in defining his position in the matter to a newspaper correspondent, seven years ago, said: "The Wesleyan Church has attempted to usurp as much authority as the Church of Rome did in the old days, and has been as dangerous to individual liberty; I would not attempt to compare myself to the Protestant reformers, but in establishing the Free Church of Tonga, I and Mr. Watkin have but done what John Wesley himself did in Great Britain. And King George has but done, what Henry the Eighth did for Protestant England, but from far different motives. The king for the sake of his people, would not submit to the dictation of an outside body like the New South Wales Conference. No one can defeat the sending away of such large sums of money to Australia." Mr. Baker, being a British subject, was exiled from Tonga about 1891, through the influence of his enemies, and since that time natives have filled the position of Premier; but they have not come up to Mr. Baker's standard. And there is now an almost universal desire in favor of Mr. Baker's return. Mr. Watkin, as the head of the Free Church of Tonga is not responsible to any ecclesiastical authority above him on the earth. This, so far as his church is concerned makes him equal to the Pope of Rome. The question might now naturally arise. Where did he get his priestly calling from? By virtue of what authority does he preside?

While at Nukualofa we also visited the grave of the late King George, over whom a fine monument was erected in 1894. The monument is placed upon a raised square built on rising ground in the outskirts of the town. The base consists of three terraces of which the lower one is 80 feet square and 4 feet high. The next one is 60 feet square and 2½ feet high, and the upper one 40 feet square and 2½ feet high, making the upper square 9½ feet above the ground. The walls of the terrace are built of concrete or cement, while the centre or body is filled up with dirt and gravel; twenty-seven easy and broad steps lead from the ground to the top of the terrace, on the top of which stands the monument proper. This consists of a large marble-plated shaft, resting upon a pedestal of cement, with inscriptions of different kinds on its sides. The main epitaph reads in Tongan as follows: Koe maka fakamanatu eni o Ene Atio Ko Jioai Tubou I, Koe Tu 'oe 'otu Tuga; na'e 'alo'i ia 'i h. 1797 'oe Ta'u; bea na'e takanofa ia koe Tu'ikanokubolu 'i h. 4 Tisema 1845; bea ne hala 'i h. 18 Febuali 1893. Translated into English it reads: This rock is in memory of His Majesty George Tubou I, king of Tonga, who was born in the year 1797, appointed king December 4th 1845, and died February 18th 1893. From this it will be seen that the king was 96 years old when he died. For many years before his demise he ranked as the oldest man among all the crowned heads of the

world. In his palace we noticed a very fine oil painting of Emperor Wilhelm I, of Germany, on horseback, which Mr. Watkin informed us had been presented to the old king as a present from the German monarch. A beautiful portrait of Queen Victoria of England, also graced the walls of the reception room of the palace. It must be remembered that nearly all the white inhabitants in the Tongan kingdom are English and German citizens. Hence Britain and Germany are the only two nations which are represented by consulates at Nukualofa.

As we toward evening made our way through the forest to where the mission boat was anchored in the lagoon, Elder Durham prevailed upon one of the natives whom we met to climb a tall tree and get us some young cocoa-nuts. The milk of these which we drank in connection with eating some cake which we had purchased at a baker shop at Nukualofa made us a most excellent meal; for we were quite hungry. This was the first time in my life that I ate cocoa-nut meat and drank cocoa-nut milk to satisfy my appetite. The wind being contrary we had to row all the way from our anchorage to Mua, a distance of four miles, and it was quite dark when we found ourselves safely back at mission headquarters.

ANDREW JENSON.

BAGAI, Lifuka, Haapai, Tonga, September 1895.

GRAND JURY REPORT.

The grand jury for the September, 1895, term of the Third district court closed its labors Saturday by filing the following spicy document; the jurors received the thanks of the court and were discharged:

To the honorable district court of the Third judicial district of Utah, Hon. S. A. Merritt, C. J., presiding:

The grand jury respectfully report that they have been in actual session sixty-one days, and have investigated one hundred and twenty-five cases. Ninety-nine indictments have been found under Territorial laws, and four under those of the United States. Nineteen Territorial and three United States cases were ignored.

Acting under the instructions received from his honor, the judge of this court, we have examined into the affairs of Salt Lake county, both under the administration of the present county court and that of its predecessors. This labor has been an enormous one and has occupied a great amount of time and attention, and has necessarily prolonged the term of our existence beyond our anticipations. Even now there is sufficient material to busily engage the attention of a grand jury for another month at least; but we are reminded that the term is drawing to a close and compelled to leave further inquiry into these matters to our successors, or to those upon whom will devolve this unpleasant duty.

The dishonesty, fraud and extravagance of the old county court are now matters of public notoriety, and need not be further commented upon in this report; but it is unfortunate that the men who were chosen to supersede its members, became, though in a lesser degree, infected with the same grasping greed for gain.

In the matter of mileage alone, many thousands of dollars have been paid without any legal authority; and while there might be some excuse in allowing a number of these claims for traveling in the interest of the county, there is absolutely no right, neither in law nor equity, in allowing the many shameless and disgraceful claims that have been paid without scrutiny and without investigation, either as to the exorbitance of the charges, the accuracy in extending and footing of the figures, or as to whether the service had actually been rendered. We have, however, refrained from indicting where we believed there was no criminal intent; but we urgently recommend that civil proceedings be had to recover to the county these illegal and ill-gotten fees. We understand that some of the interested parties have voluntarily obligated themselves to refund, and naturally the above recommendation does not apply to them; but it does apply to all others, both of the present and past, that come within the statute of limitation. During the past three or four years all the selectmen have made these illegal charges for mileage; but the probate judges, with but one exception, have refrained from doing so, though they have failed to do their duty in preventing their associates from receiving these unlawful fees. The county attorney, upon whom devolves the duty to institute proceedings for the recovery of this money, is dependent upon the very men whom he should now vigorously prosecute, for the amount of his compensation. This is an evil that should be remedied by the Legislature, fixing the salary of county attorneys.

Complaints have been made to us of the excessive and unlawful fees charged in the office of the county clerk. Inquiry into the matter has fully warranted the complaints; but we find that this abuse has grown out of an improper construction of the law, and that under legal advice; and were it not that the construction made by the clerk, or by his attorney, usually trebled and sometimes increased the lawful fee tenfold we might regard the construction as being made in good faith, but as both clerk and attorney appear to be mutually benefited by their own interpretation, we feel that both should be severely criticized and rebuked.

During our investigation of city and county affairs, we have frequently noted the disregard or ignorance of the law, displayed by officials in the past and present, in the matter of being interested in furnishing supplies and material of various kinds to the city and county. The violation of law in this respect has grown to be one of the abuses in our city and county; and we invite the attention of the court to this subject, with the recommendation that the next Legislature will define the offense and fix the penalty therefor. This will tend to raise the standard of public officials in the future.

Our investigation has also developed the fact that the county court has been in the habit of appointing peace officers in some of the country precincts, and paying them a regular salary. We can find no authority whatever for such action, and we believe that the persons so appointed have no legal au-