

alleged to have taken place." At Point Macleay a new departure has been made in the appointment of Joseph Koolmatere as a native evangelist, and a little vessel suitable for the mail service has been purchased at a cost of 120*l*. It bears the name of Teen Minnie, the first native woman who embraced Christianity. The mission comprises the means of training natives to useful employment, a school for the instruction of native and half-caste children, and a centre of undenominational evangelistic work. The schoolmaster says that "the work of the year has been one of steady progress."

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### KING TAWHIAO'S COMPLAINTS.

THE following letter has been addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies :—

"Broadway Chambers, Westminster,

"November 23rd, 1886.

"SIR,—I beg to annex a copy of a letter which Tawhiao—generally known as the Maori King—has written to Sir John Gorst. The absence of that gentleman from England has caused some delay in sending you this letter.

"We are well aware of the difficulty of effective interference on the part of her Majesty's Government in the native affairs of New Zealand ; but we hope that you will be willing to regard this as a case in which you may beneficially use your influence with the colonial authorities to secure some reasonable concession to the native race.

"We note with regret the complaints which Tawhiao makes at the close of his letter, that the force stationed at Kawhia is acting harshly to his people.

"I have, &c.,

"F. W. CHESSON, Secretary."

[TRANSLATION.]

"Whatiwhatihoe, August 5th, 1886.

"TO SIR JOHN GORST,—Friend, for the love that you bear the Maori tribes of the island of New Zealand, accept our affectionate greeting.

"Your kind letter to me arrived in charge of our friend, Mr. Fisher,



“In it you remark that if I have anything to say to the Government of her Majesty, I am to apply through the Colonial authorities, who make the laws for my people.

“Friend, this is a word of mine, listen therefore attentively. I have arranged a definite course of action for the future guidance of (the Maoris of) the island. I have drawn out my petition and sent it to the New Zealand Government, so that they might place it before their Parliament. The request in my petition is:—

“1. For a Maori Council.

“2. To suspend the courts and surveys that induce my people to sell their land.

“3. On account of the laws of 1852-71 having been made to govern the land and my people, I ask that authority be given me to govern the Maoris under them, as the Queen promised my ancestors at the Treaty of Waitangi.

“This is all that I ask.

“The Colonial Government replies that they cannot entertain my petition. My word to you is this, if you can see a way to bring my bill (i.e. petition) before the English Parliament that will sit next session, lend me your assistance; but if you have not the power to help me, then sufficient, I will go on with my own affairs. My resolve is to persist, and when my bill becomes law, not before, I shall know that this island is happy.

“I will send the copy of my bill to you through our friend Mr. Fisher, who will forward it.

“From your true and loving friend,

(Signed) “TAWHIAO, King.

“Another word concerning the work of the Government of this island. Their behaviour to us is most oppressive, and both Maoris and Europeans complain bitterly of their sufferings. This is a request to you to ask her Majesty's Ministers to send a member of their Government to see whether I and the Maori people or the Europeans are doing the wrong; and also to observe how my tribe is treated by the soldiers who are stationed at Kawhia. If, therefore, you agree, come and see for yourself.

“In replying to this send the letter to Mr. Fisher, who will forward it to me. This is all I have to say to you.

“To Sir John Gorst.”



The following answer was received :—

“Downing Street, 6th December, 1886.

“SIR,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Stanhope to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ult., enclosing a translation of one from Tawhiao, to Sir John Gorst, on native affairs, and to state that a copy of your letter and its enclosure will receive the attention of the New Zealand Government, to whom it will be duly communicated.

“I am, &c.,

(Signed) “JOHN BRAMSTON.

“To the Secretary of the Aborigines' Protection Society.”

We have received a letter from Sidney Taiwhanga, of Auckland, dated January 11th, expressing the hope that the Maories will be represented at the Colonial Conference in April, and declaring his willingness to come to London for that purpose. He sends us a copy of a pamphlet on the Treaty of Waitangi, written by Mr. C. Hardy, of Dairy Flat, near Auckland. It is printed in both English and Maori.

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## NEW GUINEA.

THE following letter, from the Rev. W. G. Lawes, unfortunately did not reach us till the end of last year :—

“Port Moresby, New Guinea, May 7th, 1886.

“I have not had the pleasure of addressing you personally before, although we are indebted to your Society for more than once interfering for the protection of the natives of New Guinea.

“Mr George Palmer is a fellow-townsmen and personal friend of mine, hence my communications have naturally been made through him. But the interests of the natives here will need watching pretty closely at the seat of authority, and I am anxious to enlist your sympathy. My principal object, however, in writing now is to inform you that my esteemed colleague, the Rev. J. Chalmers, is just leaving for England, and I think it is very desirable that you should have an interview with him. He is a most zealous champion of native rights.

“In the arrangement for the establishment of the Government when British sovereignty is proclaimed, the natives are likely to



"KING TAWHIAO'S COMPLAINTS." Annual Report of the British & Foreign Aborigines' Protection Society, vol. II, no. IX, 1 Apr. 1887, pp. 400+. Nineteenth Century UK Periodicals, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/CC1903192667/NCUK?u=slv&sid=bookmark-NCUK](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/CC1903192667/NCUK?u=slv&sid=bookmark-NCUK). Accessed 31 Mar. 2023.