

Letters

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New Zealand Mission

C N/0. 94 (2)

Rev. Hen. Williams

(Archⁿ of Waimate from 1844)

Letters, Journals, Reports, Papers

Recd. July 29/60
Attny. Genl. Sw. 57

Paihia, Jan 23. 1860

I have just rec'd a from my brother a despatch of his son of
Tutuq Island which I was called by a Deputation of his son of
Rauparaha, a chief of great celebrity. I rec'd a letter from this
man about 10 years since with a pressing invitation to go down & see
him & his people. A second letter was sent me in the same time
but owing to the instructions from Salesbury Square with orders to
concentrate our missionary force immediately upon the conversion of
the Maori intoorth. we felt then was little hope of successful
conversion in the neighbourhood of Tutuq Island. The letters of
Rauparaha were therefore passed unnoticed. In Sept last
two young men arrived from Cooks Straits the a son of Rauparaha
the other his Nephew. They delivered their message & as an evidence
of their sincerity they gave us a specimen of their writing which
was the result of the industry of a Native who had formerly
lived at Paihia but for the last four years had resided in the
islands of Tutuq Islands. This man had not been ill but had kept
his books with him and had observed our series of reports until
there appeared a general desire for spiritual instruction throughout
the tribes around. Failing in books this man wrote out portions
of the service & hymns for his scholars which were scattered about
the country. Our brother therefore did not hesitate to comply
with the request of his Deputation. Mr. Hadfield was consequently
appointed there whom I accompanied to visit this part of the Island.
The old man Rauparaha received us most graciously and did not
forget to tell me that his two letters had failed of delivery. His illness
therefore determined to go there also. The many fears were entertained
for them as the Bay of Island Native were then encircling Kerikeri
to me "you have done well to have come" and never did I hear
a man more earnest in his assurance. He found the tribes here
about among themselves. The old man said that it did not
take him long to find that a few days peace was restored.
Rauparaha proposed that I should accompany him to take him
home with his old country. I assented to this. The people who were
entertained by Rauparaha in the village of Kerikeri said in

afterwards deferred to enable me to go further north in consequence of a large party coming against him from Taranaki. I took my leave of Rauparaha, and proceeded to Waingamui. I was enabled by this journey to witness the results of Pipkins labour amongst this people and it was truly gratifying to observe the attention given to religious services. Several Chapels were erected. The demand for books was incessant. Several hundred could read & write. Mr Hadfield took his position at Waikanae, and started abreast of Rangitoto Island. At Waingamui I remained five nights, and I spent nearly a week going up the river communicating with the various parties at Ngapuhi along the river. Mr Major & Mr R. Matthews have been appointed to this river. After landing about 100 miles up the river Waingamui I hastened to Taupo a very large lake N. of Rotorua. The settlements around this lake have been attended to in some degree by Mr Chapman, and many can read & write and there is much inquiry after spiritual knowledge. The demand for books is very great. The young man has come with me from Taupo and another from Waingamui for books, but I fear I shall not be able to do much for them. From Taupo I passed on to Rotorua and Tauranga where I ended my journey by land as I here found the Columbian bound for the Bay. My journey has been one of very great interest and comfort and the state of the tribes around such as to cheer the hearts of the servants of God. particularly at this time when our enemies are endeavoring to triumph over us. The Devil is trying his utmost to confound the people by exciting many to vice. The country is crowded on every side and nominal Christians are pointing at us and stating that our religion is "worse than a failure". But facts are stubborn things. The people will be converted and we work in every department of life we have been foul, lewd and hindred. The Devil on one side & the Holy One on the other. but the Lord is our strength and shield. It is a remarkable fact that at this singular period of the history of New Zealand when the country is sinking in like a flood the religion was about to flourish in a condition we could not possibly have desired stronger evidence than is shown at this time. In my next day's journey every party of Indians I came to gave a congregation

worshipping God in much simplicity & their books for ordination offered examination. but it was extremely pleasing to observe in these wild settlements when no European had ever been before, that harmony often arising ^{in their young} in giving the responses ~~to~~ ^{in their young} to each other people & which could be with persons having little or no interest in these important duties. Every part of the Country is now waiting for the Gospel; joyful sounds the Missionaries appear at length to be convened & the necessity of taking immediate steps in meeting the loud calls & entreaties of the nation. The Baptists are taking vigorous measures. The Wesleyans have full liberty to act, nay more they have full power of acting. As I once before said to you, they have no help Missionaries. All have a commission to act. & adherence to the ordinance. Not so with us, know the difficulties under which we labour. They treat with ridicule & their action also the idea of our having left Missionaries from the fact that they avoid administration baptism. My mention of the Wesleyans with the Baptists as opponents to us may perhaps appear harsh. I would it were not so. They do oppose us in word & deed & kept them told the nation that an ~~bold~~ ^{bold} hide the truth from ~~the~~ ^{the} them that John Wesley was persecuted by our church because he told the truth. hence the unpopularity of their caution to all wished to be separate from us & clear to them. The effect of such points of instruction upon these people must of necessity be serious. but what would be the probable result even were to reflect upon them - this I trust I cannot do -

The conduct of Mr Whitch towards Mr Hamlin will I think establish the fact of their determination to oppose us - particularly when ~~signed~~ ^{signed} in connection with their receipt of certain resolution ~~sent~~ ^{sent} ~~intended~~ ^{intended} by a deputation from the Mission to them in 1838 - for the purpose of entering into some definite arrangement for the better regulation of our respective movements. On the 20th of Oct Whitch to his station at Waikato he called on the Sabbath Mr Hamlin with his family & the morning he borrowed the settlement boat & paid a visit to a party of natives in the neighbourhood who were under the care of Mr Hamlin & baptised some of them. In the evening Mr Hamlin had the most peculiar & curious from his own master & not from Mr Whitch what had been done. Mr Whitch some time after this made an apology to Mr Hamlin

The Wesleyans having this been put upon them, two persons. Mr Whitley's notice was obvious. To pluck this fruit which promised fair and
it were plucked from the hands of the tree.

I learnt on my arrival at Tauranga a fortnight since that Mr Whitley has lately paid a visit to a place under the management
care of Mr R. Martin and Captain 400. of his natives by which
you will perceive that the Law between will not be able to
stand before these men. conclude in my next. Henry Williams

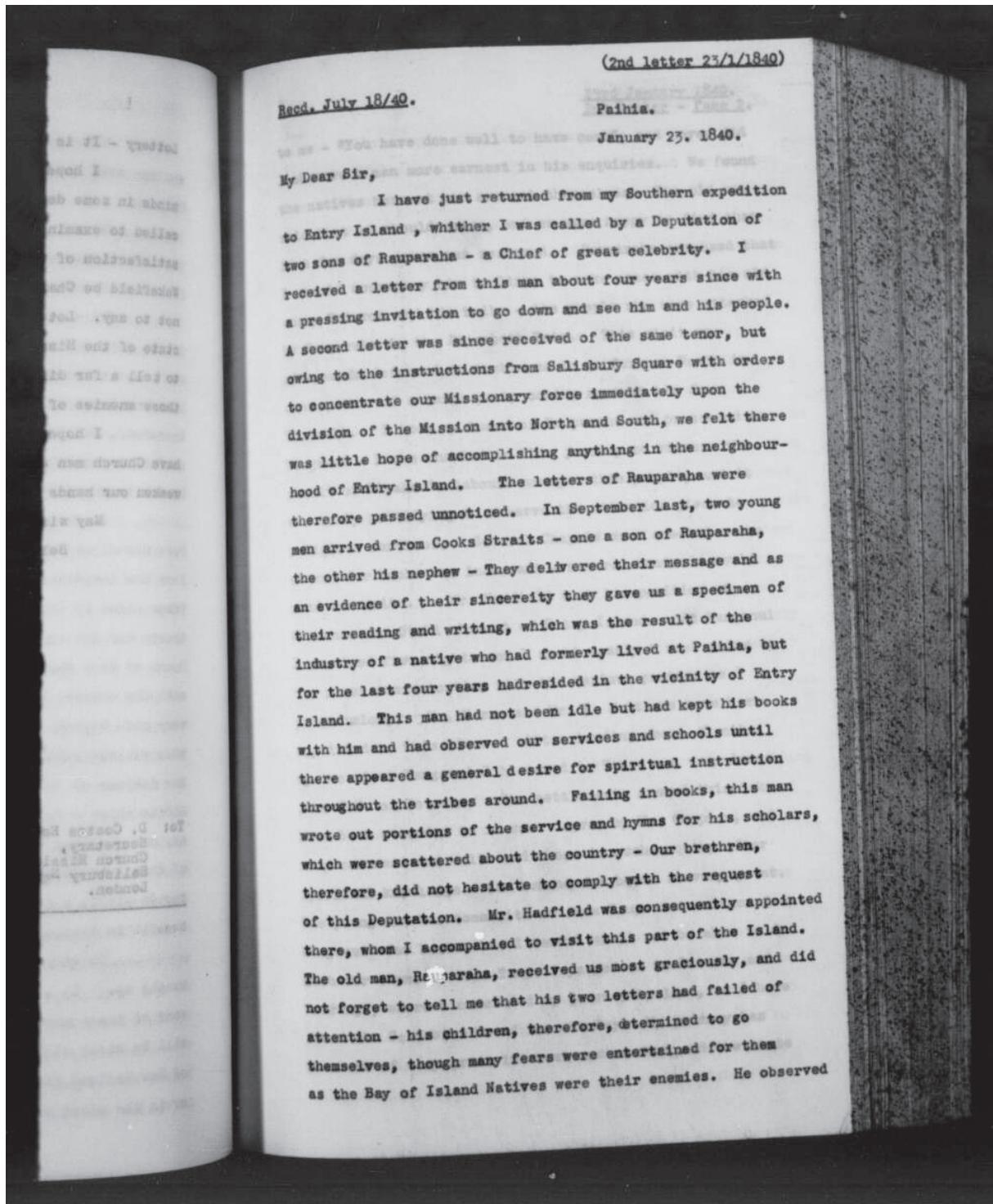
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Rev. H. Williams.

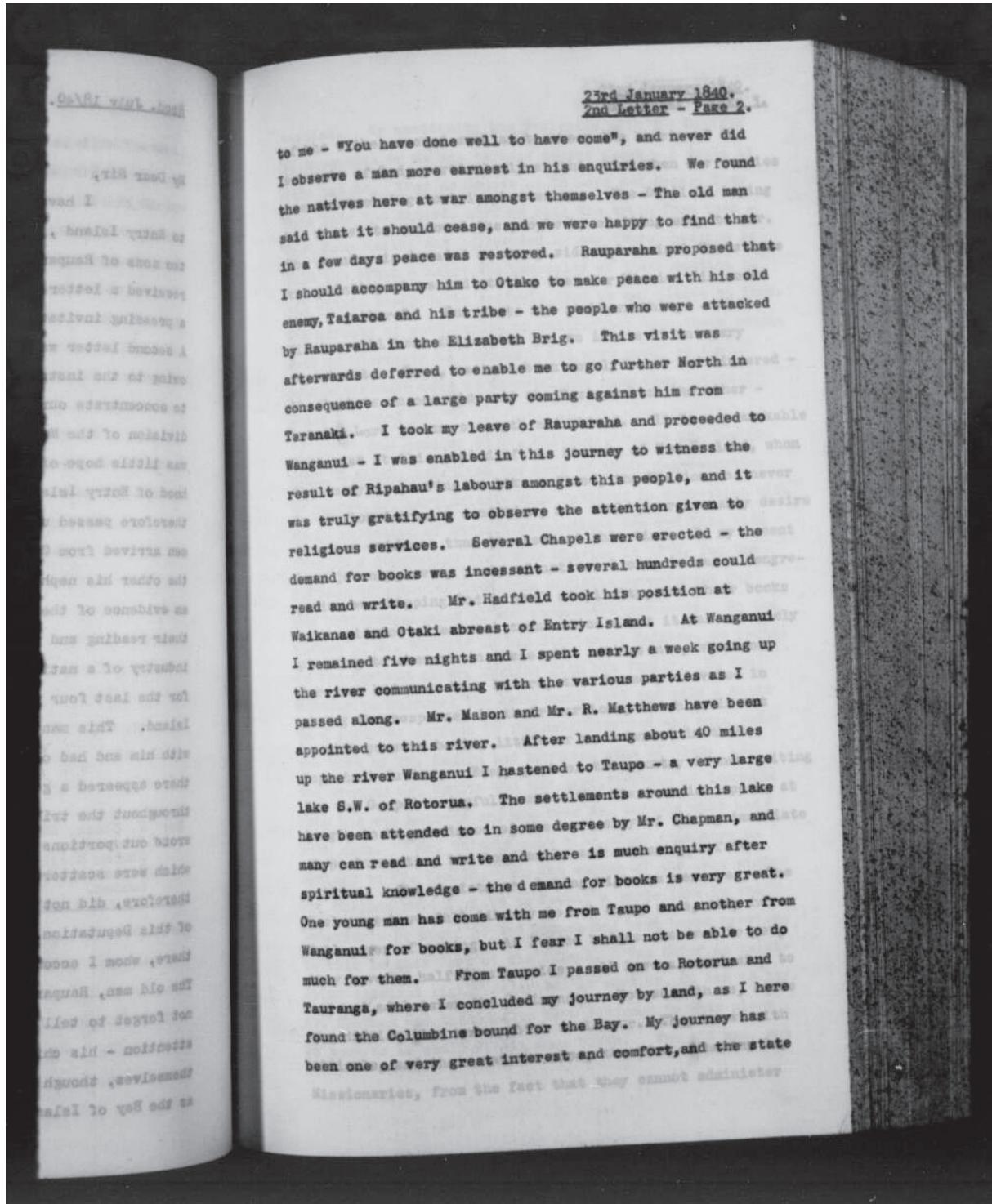
Henry Williams
Contact
Rev. Mr. Chapman
and Miss G. Smith
Collecting Society
London

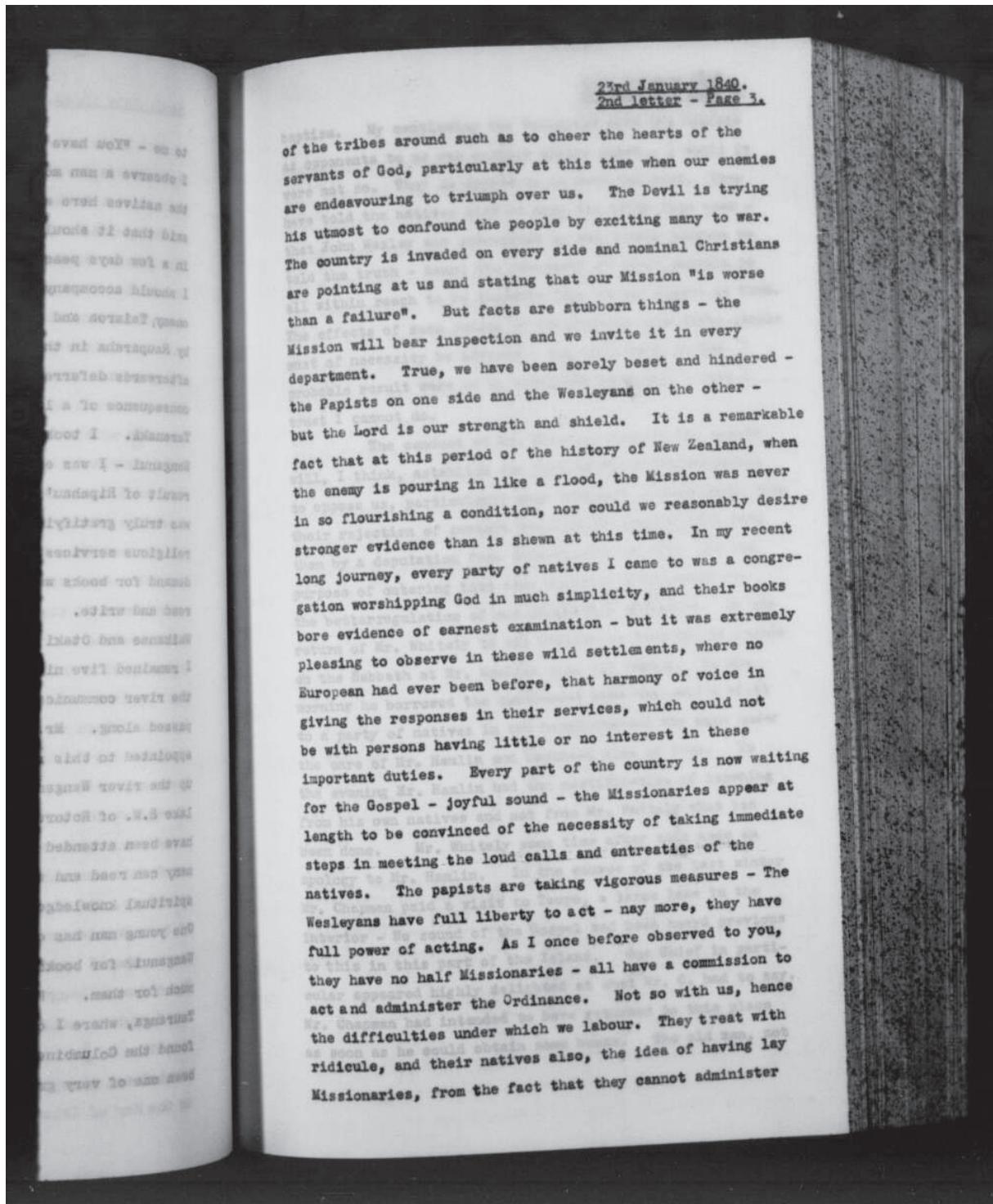


1818
Tauranga

the course of the last winter Mr Chapman paid a visit to Taupo, a large
lake in the interior. No sound of the gospel had been heard previous to this
in this part of the Island. The chief ~~had~~ ^{had} appeared highly delighted
at what Mr C. had to say. Mr Chapman had intended to have got ^{to} this
place as soon as he could obtain some books. The old man and many
the books, according to the time specified went with his son to Rotorua
to see if he could obtain some books from Mr Whitley, when to the surprise
of himself and his son, they not only paid cash some books but a new name
for its own deserves to be called bibles for they were in perfect ignorance.







23rd January 1840.
2nd letter - Page 4.

baptism. My mentioning the Wesleyans with the Papists as opponents to us may perhaps appear harsh - I would it were not so. They do oppose us in word and deed. They have told the natives that we hide the truth from them - that John Wesley was persecuted by our Church because he told the truth - hence the necessity of their caution to all within reach to be separate from us and cleave to them. The effects of such points of instruction upon these people must of necessity be serious - but what would be the probable result were we to retaliate upon them - this I trust I cannot do.

The conduct of Mr. Whitley towards Mr. Hamlin will, I think, establish the fact of their determination to oppose us, particularly when reviewed in connection with their rejection of certain resolutions entered into with them by a deputation from this Mission in 1838, for the purpose of entering into some definite arrangement for the better regulation of our respective movements. On the return of Mr. Whitley to his Station at Waikato, he rested on the Sabbath at Mr. Hamlin's with his family. In the morning he borrowed the settlement boat and paid a visit to a party of natives in the neighbourhood who were under the care of Mr. Hamlin and baptised nine of them. In the evening Mr. Hamlin had the mortification of learning from his own natives and not from Mr. Whitley what had been done. Mr. Whitley some time after this made an apology to Mr. Hamlin. In the course of the last winter Mr. Chapman paid a visit to Taupo, a large lake in the interior - No sound of the Gospel had been heard previous to this in this part of the Island. One Chief in particular appeared highly delighted at what Mr. C. had to say. Mr. Chapman had intended to have returned to this place as soon as he could obtain some books. The old man, not

