

to enjoy what has been produced of loveliness
No body can deprive of us of that right.
We have a good country, on many respects
we had a good country, a beautiful country
but how we have spoiled it in not taking
into consideration its beauty.

I remember a minister in Taranaki saying that
on one occasion in his travels around the circuit
he stayed at a settler's home (previous to his Sunday
service) on opening his bedroom window in the
morning, there in all its beauty and magnificence
was Mt. Egmont, the sun shining on the snow
capped peak and the forest trees surrounding.
Later, or perhaps the next season he had occasion
to stay at the same home, but next morning on
opening the window, to his dismay he found
that the owner had erected a shed, which blocked
out all the lovely views. He expressed his feelings by
saying "O what a pity" Why? ^{He was asked} You have blocked off
all the lovely scenery. The reply from the owner
was "It pays no rents."

This is our Centennial year 1940. and every
where, it is being brought to sound what the
old pioneers went through & accomplished
How they endured hardship, that cannot be
conceived in our present highly organized system

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They cannot be blamed, but it does seem an
awful pity that so much of the beauty has
been destroyed and hundreds of thousands of acres
of hilltops denuded of timber with the result
of untold destruction in the land slips and
failing of the water courses. And that this can
not be placed to the charge of the earliest settlers
but to the later portion of the last, & the early portion
of this century. That beauty that is left is not possible
to for every one to see, unless going expressly to isolated
places.

Can we conceive at this time the place, when there
were no such curses on the land, as the thistle and
crier, blackberry, gorse, ragwort and many other
pests. All sorts of insects and parasites. Destructive
animals such as the stoat & weasel, and ferret ^{traps}
or a lot of destructive birds, yet all these pests
have been brought in, not all certainly intentionally,
but how the garden has been spoiled.
It is said that it was the early missionaries
who brought the gorse & blackberry, but they did also
the many beautiful flowers, to remind them of
the old home land from which they had come but
it was not theirs to know that they were to become
such a curse. But the seeds & weeds were imported
in the seed for the sowing of the pastures which
was brought from England. And nobody thought