

Europeans or British in the 60's. It was very considerable. No doubt also the acquirements of the of very many of the worst features of what was called civilization, had its detrimental effects, & the splendid work that was done by the early missionaries, was practically thrown completely aside.

It was recognized that before very long that the Maori would be extinct as the moa, & the population did dwindle down to about 50,000 fifty thousand. However matters even now are being adjusted, and kinder & better treatment, & consideration, is having the effect that they now number somewhere about ninety thousand. This depression however, is but to show that while the South Island was being developed the North was completely neglected, and it was not until the very last decade of the last century and after most distressing depression ~~but~~ during the 80's did people begin to turn their eyes towards the North.

I knew of one man who came to look for farming land in the North, brought back the report that a hundred acres ~~in~~ on the Waikato would scarcely keep a goat. I knew another farmer's son, ^{from Brookside} who came up to Taranaki & went back with the report that he hadn't seen a place anywhere that you could put a plough in. Times have altered, and the development of the

north, has far outstripped the south. And, many a Southern farmer, would have very much more quickly "got on to their feet" as the saying is if they had given their farms in the South away. But in all fairness it must be said that the older generation of the South loved his home & surroundings, and liked to steadily plod along the old familiar way. Hence they built schools & paid for education, also churches everywhere, where as in the North, in the country districts ~~and~~ churches are far between. If there is one it very often happens to be an interdenominational one, which is very good, but more generally a Church ^{of any sort} was not built, but in most cases a hall was built, in which every sort of meeting, whether secular or religious, ~~was~~ conducted in the same place.

There does not ^{appear} to have been anything like the same Maori population in the South as in the north, or at least, not since the early portion of the last century. What there had been in ~~the~~ Canterbury, all around Lake Ellesmere & surrounding country, about Christchurch, Lyttelton Banks Peninsula & Kairoi, were practically wiped out by a Marauding tribe from the North Island. And I used to hear tales that the Southerners around Kairoi where