

the last battle took place, threw all their greenstone weapons in to the lake somewhere about that district. I have brought this mention of the Maoris into this record, is to say that in our district of Brookside, through which the Irwell creek flows, must have been ^{in the} ~~the~~ homes of considerable numbers. There were eels in abundance ^{in all the creeks} and all around in close proximity, & also at considerable distances, were, what we called Maori ovens. There were the burnt stones, by which they cooked their food and also many were the stone axes, of various shapes & sizes, that we ploughed up & I found a considerable number, and in one paddock I turned up a small greenstone axe & the half of another one. I have the small one, still & I saw also a splendid one, which had been found on an adjoining farm, about seven inches long & an inch ^(the axe not the handle) through, & without a flaw in it. My brother ploughed up a small one (not greenstone) about 4 inches by two, and along its side edge were more than a dozen notches marked into it. I was told that it was a custom with the Maoris to keep a record in this manner of the number of persons they had killed. I never saw another like it. Nor have I learned authentically that this was a custom with them. The nearest Maori pah settlement then & even now I understand is at Taurutu

on the ~~the~~ bank of the Lake Ellersmere. On one occasion, I remember that, a threshing machine came into our district, from the Beeston district. This plant was owned by a Mr. M. C. Pachelan. Amongst the gang of men that he had to work the machine, were four or five Maoris. This was the only time that I remember ^{ever} ~~seeing~~ seeing any of them in our district Brookside, although I had come across them ~~for~~ at their pah at Taurutu. On this occasion there was a day or two of wet weather, & they all assembled in the stable out of the wet & it was there that I saw the first haka performed. There was one amongst the number who was somewhat concerned, at its likely effect upon the rest of the number. As all the rest of the workmen were pakeha were amongst the number, he advised that it was better not to perform it again as he could see black looks in the features of the other Maoris. I forgot to say that amongst these working, the Maoris had their wives & several English girls amongst their company. On a day that it was not sufficiently fine to continue with the threshing, the Maoris went along the road right up towards Moors & Tublins & east to catch eels. I was told that they walked along the bottom of the ditch, & any likely place for an eel to be hiding, they poked their big toe in to the hole