

NEW SCHOOLS AND NEW BUILDINGS ASKED FOR OR IN PROGRESS, AND PROPOSALS FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS THAT HAVE BEEN CLOSED.

It is convenient to have available information in the form of a list making brief mention of all applications recently dealt with. Such a list is here given

*Hiruharama, East Coast.*—The buildings are nearly ready. There is reason to expect that this will be one of our most important schools.

*Kawhia, West Coast.*—A request for a school has been received. Sixty children are expected.

*Manaia, Coromandel.*—Application has been received, but the preliminaries have not been settled.

*Mangamuka, Hokianga.*—The buildings will be removed shortly to a more convenient site, and the school will be reopened.

*Mawhitiwhiti, Normanby.*—Tenders for buildings have been called for. It is confidently believed that this will be one of the most useful of Native schools, seeing that it will afford education to people belonging to a class that have been without it for more than thirty years.

*Ohuki, Tauranga Harbour.*—The attempts to supply the wants of this important district have been so far unsuccessful, but Hori Ngatai and other chiefs are showing anxiety to provide a site for a school, and negotiations are still going on.

*Paua, North Cape.*—Application has received attention. The Maoris are complying with the Department's suggestion that they should erect temporary Maori buildings in which an experimental school may be held.

*Pipiriki, Wanganui.*—Tenders for the erection of buildings have been asked for, but the only one received appears to be too high. An attempt is being made to get the work done otherwise than by tender.

*Pukerimu, near Central Railway Route.*—This is about twenty miles west from Taumarunui. The people ask for a school.

*Rakaumanga, Waikato.*—This is a promising case, but there are difficulties in the way of securing a suitable site.

*Ranana, near Te Ngae, Rotorua.*—There appears to be some doubt as to whether the Rotoiti buildings should be removed to Ranana, or remain where they are. Until this question is settled there can be no advance.

*Ruatoki, Urewera Country.*—Progress has been made, but a satisfactory title to the site has not yet been secured.

*Tarukenga, Rotorua.*—An application for a school was not supported by subsequent action on the part of the Natives.

*Taumarunui, Upper Wanganui.*—There should be a pretty large Native school here by-and-by. Negotiations for the establishment of one are still in progress.

*Te Ngaere, Whangaroa.*—The people of the district appear to be anxious to have another school. Should one be granted, it will probably be near the top of the hill above Matauri, the old Te Ngaere buildings being used for the purpose.

*Te Whaiti, Urewera Country.*—It is understood that the Government will open an experimental school here when the Maoris provide buildings suitable for the purpose.

*Waikare Moana.*—Some of the Maoris in the neighbourhood of this great lake have asked for a school, but they have not yet completed their application.

NATIVE VILLAGE SCHOOLS AT WORK DURING 1894, OR SOME PORTION OF IT, AND EXAMINED OR INSPECTED, OR BOTH.

The basis on which the schools are grouped in this report is afforded by their geographical position. Much information respecting the work done by individual schools and their efficiency as educational institutions has been tabulated and printed in the appendix (Tables VI. and VII.) to this report. Additional information respecting the character and circumstances of particular schools will be found in the following paragraphs:—

*The Far North.*

*Pamapuria* (examined 26th March, 1894).—The results were small in quantity, but excellent in quality. Only one or two of the Maori parents appeared to take any interest in their children's education, and the attendance had become so small and irregular that it was deemed necessary to suspend operations.

*Kenana* (examined 27th March, 1894).—The imperfect discipline vitiates much of the Kenana work. To expect satisfactory results from good methods if the children do not fairly come under the influence of them is, of course, futile. Still, the results were much better than the inspection had led me to expect.

*Whangape* (examined 24th March, 1894).—A considerable amount of interest was shown by the Maoris in a project for improving the educational work of this difficult district by having two schools in it instead of one. This scheme is now being given effect to in a half-time school at Puketū, on the north-west shore of Whangape Harbour, and another at Makora, three and a half miles to the south-east of Puketū. Time must show the value of the new arrangements. It is certain that improvements are greatly needed. Mr T. L. Millar, Postmaster at Rawene, kindly acts as local visitor to these and to the other Hokianga schools. His assistance is very valuable.

*Matihetihe* (examined 22nd March, 1894).—This is one of our most interesting schools, it is thoroughly Maori, and very satisfactory. It is not worked full time, and consequently first-rate results can hardly be expected in two successive years. This year only a fair show was made at examination.