

from one kind of flower to another, as has been supposed. If it first light upon a honey-suckle, it continues to collect the pollen from this flower, until it has loaded its little thighs with as much as it can carry away. The bee is governed in this by an instinct, that makes it a co-labourer in the ordinary work of natural re-productiveness. The pollen, or fructifying dust, is carried from flower to flower of the same species, and thus the bee aids the operations of nature, by distributing the pollen necessary to the fruitfulness of plants. If the bee were to pass from a clover-blossom, with the pollen adhering to its body, and light upon a honey-suckle, the fructifying dust of the clover blossom, applied to the honey-suckle, would produce a hybrid, or mongrel species of flower. How wonderful are the orderly operations of nature; and, certainly, among the most wonderful is this peculiar instinct of the honey-bee.

FULFILMENT OF A DREAM.—A young man named John Gray, residing at Cinderford, who for some years past, since the death of his father, has been the support of his sister and widowed mother, before he went to his usual work, at the Crump Meadow Coal-pits on Monday morning last, told his mother that he had dreamed he was at his work, and that a large stone fell upon him and killed him; and though his mother made rather light of it, it was with reluctance he went to his work, and that not before he had twice returned to wish her good bye, for fear his dream would come to pass. He then went to his employment, but had not been in the pit many hours before an immense block of stone, as much as four or five men could move, fell upon him. On the removal of the stone his body presented a shocking spectacle, being crushed in the most frightful manner. He lingered somewhat less than an hour in the most indescribable agony, when death released him from his sufferings. A coroner's inquest has been held, and a verdict of "Accidental death" returned. Thus has an aged mother been deprived of her only surviving son, having had another killed in a similar manner about four years since.—*Bath Journal*.

THE ATHEIST.—The assaults of reckless men, the cavillings of sceptics, the sneers of the scoffer, from the most powerful in times past, down to the miserable atheist of the present day, have accomplished nothing. Their denunciations, and revilings, and labours, have all resulted in creating no good, in advancing no interest, in defending, or comforting, or elevating none; in administering to the wants, the sufferings, or hopes of no human being. Their labours, like their minds, are a blank—a blank as cold and comfortless as destitute of good here or hope hereafter; a blank as dark and appalling as the void to which they would drag down and degrade the eternal and immortal soul.

LIFE'S FLOWERS.—Whenever we grasp life's flowers with too hot a hand, they are sure to wither almost ere they reach our bosom.

CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

NARRATIVE

OF A BATTLE BETWEEN THE BRITISH AND THE NATIVES AT NEW ZEALAND.

COMPLETE accounts have been received of the fight between a party of Natives and a party of British at Wairau, on the Middle Island of New Zealand; and they confirm the most melancholy forebodings. The narrative is given in the *New Zealand Colonist* of June the 30th, a *Port Nicholson* paper, and the *Auckland Chronicle* of July the 15th; and as we have no reason to doubt the accuracy of either in the main facts, we use both versions in the subjoined compilation.

The district of Wairau is on the river of that name, near Cloudy Bay, about seventy miles from the Nelson settlement. It is comprised in the lands granted by Government to the New Zealand Company; and on the 25th April, Messrs. Cotterell, Parkinson, and Barnicott, surveyors, landed with forty men, to make a survey of the district for the Company. In the mean time, Rauparaha and Rangiaia, two of the most powerful and least civilized chiefs of the Middle Island, were at Porirua, on the other side of Cook's Strait; where Mr. Spain, the Government Land-claims Commissioner, then held his court.

They urged him to hasten to Wairau, to settle the claims there; and make known their determination to prevent the survey from proceeding. Mr. Thom, (who seems to be a settler connected with the Natives) repeatedly stated that he understood from them that they would make a stand at Wairau, and lose their lives rather than allow the White men to take possession of that place until they had been paid for it. Mr. Spain used his influence to pacify them; and obtained a promise from them to do nothing before his arrival. He undertook to meet them there as soon as possible after the adjournment of his court on the 19th June. The two chiefs arrived in Cloudy Bay, in Mr. Thom's schooner, on the 1st June. They visited some Englishmen, who had been settled in the Bay for years, and declared their determination to burn down the surveyors' houses, and drive them off the land. They did burn Mr. Cotterell's hut, having first removed all the property in it, to prevent needless destruction; and collecting the survey-party together, forced them by menaces to remove to the mouth of the river. Mr. Tuckett, the chief surveyor, who had now arrived, sent Mr. Cotterell to Nelson, for assistance. He arrived on the 12th June, and laid an information before Mr. Thompson, the Police Magistrate; who issued a warrant against Rauparaha and Rangiaia for burning the hut. Having been informed that the Natives were armed, and in great numbers, the Magistrate determined to attend the execution of the warrant himself, accompanied by an armed force; and expressed his opinion that such a demonstration would prevent bloodshed, and impress the Natives with the authority of the law. It is clear, from subsequent events, that no one anticipated any resistance. The men of the labouring class were not armed at Nelson, nor selected as fighting-men. Mr. Thompson was accompanied by Captain Wakefield, R. N., the Company's Agent at Nelson, Captain England, late of the Twelfth Regiment of Foot, Mr. Howard, the Company's Storekeeper, Mr. Richardson, the Crown Prosecutor, some other gentlemen, John Brooke, an interpreter, four constables, and twelve men. They sailed in the Government brig Victoria. On their way, they took up Mr. Tuckett and some ten men, who were returning in a large boat to Nelson.

They landed on Friday the 16th June; and went five miles up the river, partly marching, and partly in boats; the Storekeeper having served out muskets, bayonets, pistols, swords, and cutlasses. The party was now forty-nine in number. At night they slept in a wood; and having gone four miles further up the river, on the 17th they found the Natives or "Maories" posted on its left bank, and on the right bank of a deep unfordable rivulet, thirty feet wide, which flowed into the Wairau. There were eighty or ninety Native men, forty of whom were armed with muskets, besides women and children. They occupied about a quarter of an acre of cleared ground, with a dense thicket behind them. The British placed themselves on the right bank of the rivulet; and were formed into two separate bodies, under Capt. England and Mr. Howard; the men being ordered not to interfere until directed. Behind them was a hill, covered with fern and manuka, and sloping upwards, with several terraces. At the request of the Magistrate, the Natives placed a canoe across the rivulet, to serve for a bridge; and the Magistrate, some of the gentlemen, the interpreter, and the constables, crossed over, and entered into a parley. Mr. Thompson, Captain Wakefield, and Mr. Cotterell walked backwards and forwards for nearly half an hour with the Natives, apparently in a friendly manner. Mr. Thompson then showed his warrant, directed the constable to execute it on Rauparaha, and instructed Brooke to explain the meaning of it. Mr. Thompson also stated that he was "the Queen's representative"; that that (pointing to the warrant) was the "Queen's book"; that Rauparaha must go on board the brig with the constable; that it was for burning Mr. Cotterell's house, and had nothing to do with the land question. Rauparaha told them to sit down and talk, and not make a fight; and to wait till Mr. Spain and Mr. Clarke came, and hear what they would say. Certain "missionary Natives," or Natives converted to Christianity, were unarmed; and their chief, E. Pua, came forward with the New Testament in his hand, and entreated Mr. Thompson not to permit fighting. The warrant was presented to the chiefs two or three

times; and on each occasion about sixteen natives, who had been sitting, sprung upon their feet and levelled their muskets at the Europeans. Mr. Thompson then inquired of Rauparaha, whether he would come or not; to which he replied he would not; but that if Mr. Clarke or Mr. Spain was there, he would. Mr. Thompson then said, if he would not go, he would make him: Rauparaha still refusing, Mr. Thompson, pointing to the Europeans, said, "there is the armed force, and they shall fire upon you all (or upon you) if you won't go." Mr. Thompson, it appears, became "exasperated," and the discussion violent. Rangiaia called on him not to fire. "For God's sake, Thompson, mind what you are about!" shouted Mr. Richardson, from the other side. Mr. Thompson then called to the armed party to fix bayonets and advance; Captain Wakefield, placing the canoe across the stream for a bridge, gave the word, "Englishmen, forward." A few of them had entered the canoe, when a shot was fired, whether by accident or design is not clear; neither is it certain on which side, but there is reason to think it was on the side of the Europeans. Upon this the firing immediately became general on both sides, and several fell. When the firing commenced, Mr. Thompson, Captain Wakefield, and the rest of the party who had been in communication with the chiefs, recrossed the creek to join their own party. In doing so, they were met by some others retreating; which caused confusion, and several fell into the water. Three of the natives having fallen, the rest began to retreat; but the two chiefs, raising a war-cry, darted across the rivulet, followed by their warriors, in pursuit of the British.

Captain Wakefield now ordered the British to retreat up the hill, and form on the brow. The greater number, however, did not halt at all, but fled round the hill, and escaped. At each step in the ascent, Captain Wakefield attempted to rally the fugitives. Mr. Thompson cried—"For God's sake, men, come back; the Maories are coming upon us!" But, although an irregular firing was kept up, the Europeans continued their retreat. Captain Wakefield, finding it impossible to rally the men, ordered those who remained to lay down their arms and surrender. A white handkerchief was held up, and Brooke, the interpreter, called to the Maories—"Leave off, enough!" But after this, some shots were fired by those in retreat, who had reached the top of the hill, and were too far distant to know what was going on below. When signals of surrender had been made, one of two Maories also threw down their arms, and advanced with their arms stretched out in token of reconciliation. Rangiaia, who had just discovered that his wife had been shot by a chance ball, came up, crying "Rauparaha, remember your daughter." Rauparaha sat down, and Rangiaia, with his own hand, put to death the whole of the prisoners. "Pua, pua!" cried the wife of a chief from a distance, "save some of the chiefs (gentlemen), that you may say you saved some." But it was too late. Nineteen persons were killed on the British side. Of the Natives, about forty were engaged; four were killed, and five wounded.

Some of the prisoners found their way to the beach through the swamps, and were picked up by whale-boats the same night; others wandered into the mountains, and lost themselves for several days. The last of these reached Port Underwood on the 21st; having tasted no food but three turnips, which he picked up on the 20th. On the afternoon of the 17th, Mr. Tuckett and others who had escaped through the low grounds to the beach, set sail for Wellington to procure assistance, and arrived in the night. A deputation from the Bench of Magistrates returned in the brig, as soon as a violent South-easter would permit them to leave the harbour. On their arrival at Cloudy Bay, they found that Mr. Ironside, the Wesleyan Missionary, had proceeded with two boats' companies of whalers to inter the bodies; which they did on the ground where they fell; the Natives giving permission. Rauparaha and Rangiaia told Mr. Ironside that they had no intention to fight; that it was the wrath of the Europeans that made them fight; that the Europeans had fired upon them; and one or two of their number had fallen before they began to fight; and that it was not until the wife of Rangiaia was shot that "they began to seek for payment," revenge.—*London Spectator*.