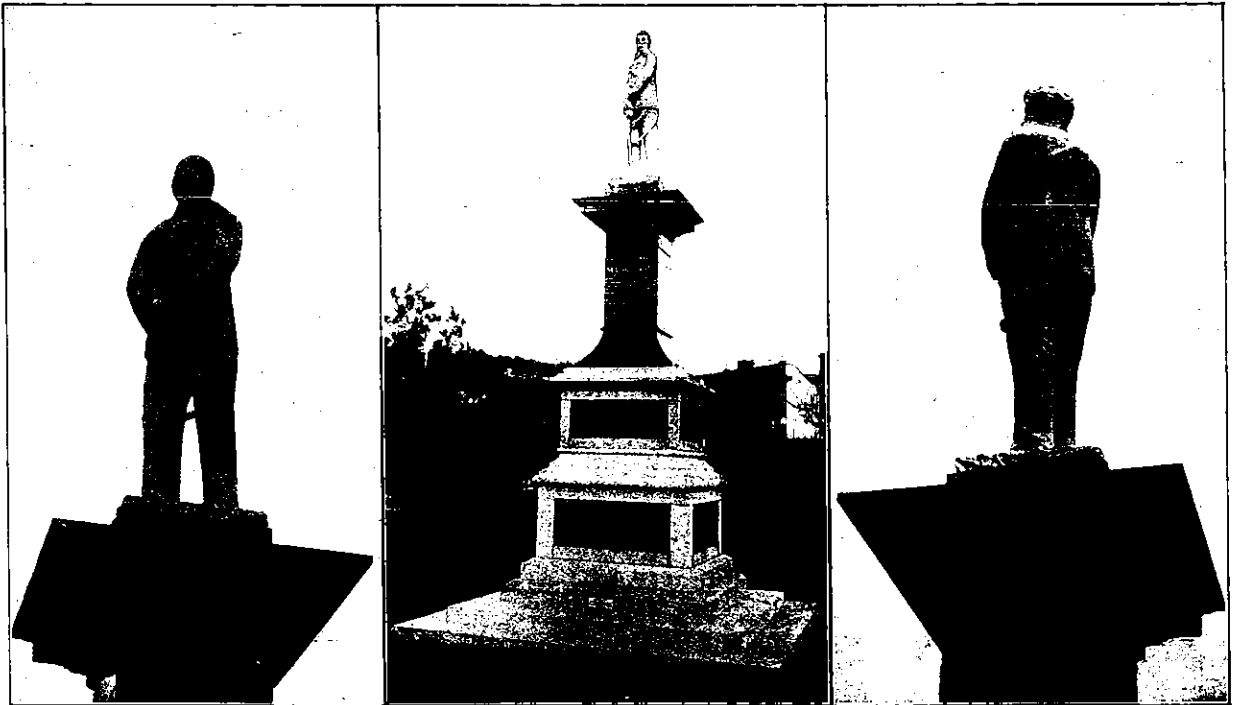


# Architecture and Building

## The "Guy Fawkes" Statue and the Law

On July 25th 1911, Mrs. Rora Hakaraia, actuated by the highest motives of patriotism and with the desire to perpetuate the memory of a hero and kinsman, gave a written order to The Frank Harris Granite Co., Monumental Masons, Auckland, for the erection of a statute of her brother, the late Major Kemp, well known as the Maori Chief and warrior who so greatly assisted the British side in the Maori wars. This order was ultimately completed but so badly that payment for it was refused. The majesty

and for the same reasons. How badly the work was done can easily be gathered from a glance at our illustrations. One does not require to be an art critic to notice the ludicrous incongruities of this abortion of a statue. Let the reader look for himself. We ourselves had an opportunity before the trial, of personally inspecting the weird figure and, instead of inspiring us with the respect that the statue of such a man should have done, it had no other effect than to reduce us to a state of uncontrollable merriment. It was so ludicrous that we laughed outright. In the first place, it is ill-shaped in the way our illustrations show, the hair is parted on the wrong side of the head and the



IS IT LIKE HIM?

Statue of the late Major Kemp erected by the Maoris of Wanganui and District at the River City, for which they refused to pay

of the law was at once invoked and in June, 1913, Mrs. Hakaraia was called on to defend an action by the Frank Harris Granite Co., for £600 which was claimed as the balance due for the erection of this "Work of Art", after deducting £550 which she had paid on account.

The Defendant pleaded non-liability to pay on the grounds that the work was not according to order, and generally badly done, and she also sought to recover the £550 she had already paid,

trousers are not like anything we have ever seen on mortal man and can only be likened to inverted drain pipes.

The fact that the work was a botch and absolutely inartistic, indeed almost amounting to a caricature of the deceased, was to our mind conclusively proved at the trial. A great deal of evidence was given, but we will only refer to the evidence of two of the witnesses. Mr. William L. Morrison, sculptor and artist, stated that after an