

tioned earlier he then made a hurried trip through the centre of the Island to Taupo by way of the newly completed coach road and on to Rotorua, Tauranga and Auckland. He arrived at the Bay of Islands on 20 October and towards the end of the month joined Percy Smith's survey party at Otatau, at the head of the Waima River south of Hokianga Harbour). There was an interesting ascent of Pihanga trig. on which Berggren recorded a number of species, a new camp on the waterfall at Punakitere²³ and a note of a typical camp meal '... wild pigs, caught with the help of dogs by the Maoris ... coffee and tea. Kumara and taro ... For dessert Freycenetia banksii, similar to Pine-apple just now in bloom, the fleshy inside ... Tin mugs and plates, a net for the flies is suspended over our dining table which is the dry ground. Bed of ferns ... 10-12 ft high, elastic, dry and warm. Pudding with raisins. Excellent bread. Maori appetite. Sugar and warm water.'²⁴

And the hazards of botanical work: '... Spread out my plants in the sun. At 1 o'clock we were to continue. Calm but a sudden whirlwind came and scattered my plants among the ferns and two pieces of paper blew away up into the air and rose to about 1,000 ft towards Hokianga ...'²⁵

Berggren was anxious to acquire a knowledge of Maori. In camp one evening he noted: 'The Maoris teach me their language and read sentences out of Williams.'²⁶ On 13 November they returned to Waima and Taheke. '... One Maori in Waima had a lot of cattle. He has been at Thames. The Mission Station²⁷ on a very beautiful spot, surrounded by willows; a fine green Pouriri tree in the middle of a patch of green trees, shading the house. The Maori school children play, ride on their horses, swings, etc. Two ladies, Maori teachers, can be seen at a distance. Church. A school above on a height. Some bush, otherwise fern and Manuka. Came to Taheke Hotel at 1 o'clock.'

During the following week he went down to Herd's Point and Whangape, on the Hokianga, visiting Webster²⁸, Von Sturmer,²⁹ and Maning. On the 21st 'Mr Grace (Manning's assistant) called for me at Websters' and we went to Whangape via the sandhills along the shores. Stayed overnight in Yarborough's³⁰ store house. Came back to Taheke Tuesday 1 December after having been away at Whangape for almost one week and some days at Herds Point.'

Next day 'Rain. Stayed in Yarborough's store house (Moetangi) with the flaxmill.' and on the 23rd to MacArthur at Whangape. More length the flaxmill' and on the 23rd to MacArthur at Whangape. More lengthy entries commence on 29 November: 'Went with Nelson (Tari) and Brissendon³¹ to Utakura on the Monday. Spencer v. Sturmer is postmaster, judge, vaccinator, doctor, adviser even clergyman (is allowed to marry and baptize). I was well received by him, got two stone axes and a live Kiwi which I to his great distress did not want and