

when he returned for his second term as Governor. It is likely that it was Eric Ramsden who filled in the details of the chief participants in the painting for Mr Nan Kivell.¹⁷ Mr Ramsden assumed that the baptism took place at Rangiatea from the evidence of the picture in spite of Archdeacon Hadfield's letter and a firmly expressed opinion of Miss Amy Hadfield. She wrote to Mr Ramsden and pointed out that:

'Te Puni was . . . as my father said a Wellington chief and his monument is at Petone. There wouldn't be any reason to go to Otaki when my father could be in Wellington . . . My uncle, aunt and my mother are not in the picture . . . I wonder whether Mr Barraud took a picture of the Otaki Church and then put in his sketch. It's rather shaken my faith in artists . . .'¹⁸

This leaves Miss Hadfield with the last word to date on the story of Barraud's painting the composition of which can only point to collusion between Sir George Grey and the artist with a linking of the lithograph of the interior of the Church and the painting. A letter from Sir George Grey to Reverend H. Venn, of 28 May 1850, encloses a drawing and an account of the baptism of an aged and dying chief (Te Ngahue). 'The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr Chapman of Rotorua and was one of the most interesting and impressive sights I have ever witnessed'.¹⁹ This correspondence clearly indicates the Governor's use of the Church Missionary Society as a valuable agency for bringing the apparent success of his policy before the British public.²⁰ It reveals, too, Grey's feelings on witnessing the baptism of a chief who was unknown to him prior to the event and who, moreover, had played no part in relations between European settlers and Maori people. It is natural, therefore, that Sir George Grey should consider the splendid church at Otaki as a fitting background to the recording of the baptism of an influential chieftain whom he held in high regard to illustrate at its best the progress towards Europeanisation of the Maori.

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REFERENCES

Note: Unless otherwise noted all manuscript material cited is held in Alexander Turnbull Library.

¹Nan Kivell to E. Ramsden, 20 September 1950, in Ramsden papers.

²Hadfield to Mrs J. Hadfield, 28 June 1852, in Hadfield papers held by City of Wellington Public Libraries.

³Annual report to the CMS for year ending 31 December 1852, in Hadfield, O. *Letters to the CMS*. Typescript MS p101.