



*The Mount from the garden of "The Elms."*

carrying arms will be saved; I will not go there.

"Rule 4: The unarmed pakehas, women and children, will be spared.

"The end. These are the binding laws for Tauranga."

Throughout the fighting the Natives adhered strictly to these rules.

The Catholic Mission was established in 1840 soon after a visit by Bishop Pompallier to the Bay of Plenty. Father Viard was the first parish priest, and was later appointed first Bishop of Wellington. The first cottage built for

1873 the *Bay of Plenty Times* was able to say:—

"Within the last twelve months Tauranga has emerged from the happy-go-lucky aspect it formerly bore, and now presents the appearance of an orderly and well-regulated country town. New streets and new stores have been and are being erected on all sides . . . On the whole we have great cause for rejoicing and anticipating a great future for this favoured locality."

In that year the Town Board's income was £236 10s. 6d. By 1939 it had risen to £18,472. Rural land in 1873 was offered for about £1 an acre. To-day land suitable for growing citrus fruit is worth many times that price.

For citrus farming is one of the sources of Tauranga's present prosperity. Not all the land is suitable for citrus growing, but what is not is usually good dairying land. In any case, the orange and lemon groves do not cover hundreds of acres. They are dotted over the areas where the soil is suitable and frosts rare, but the acreage of most of them is below double figures. This is because oranges and lemons are a paying proposition on 2 or 3 acres if you have any luck and are prepared to put the work in. But for large farms battalions of men would be required to do the skilled and intensive work of caring for the trees and handling the fruit.

There are also some splendid dairy farms handy to Tauranga. The rolling countryside that sends out long arms



*Picking Citrus Fruit.*