

(147/59)
Somerset Place
Auckland
New Zealand

17 July 1855.

Sir,

I notice from a paper, that some mention was made of the visit of the Maori Chiefs to England at the annual Meeting of the Aborigines Protection Society; & this has led me to write you about an idea I have long entertained, viz: that it would greatly conduce to the preservation of the Maori race if they could be persuaded to wear a sandal, or some sort of sole-covering in winter. —

I am a schoolmaster in a Country District, & going to school, lately, I could trace the Maoris by the blood on the sharp cut road-metal. Europeans are protected by leather, but the great majority of

The natives go barefoot, and even
Maunui, when he visited New Zealand
with Javhuia, went about the streets
with no covering on either his legs or
feet! —

If you would send me out a few
specimens of sandals that I have
could be readily picked up in
London I would try & get them
introduced here & ascertain if they
could be manufactured cheaply, so
as to be within reach of the native
race. —

Before I left London in 1865, I
called on you, but you will have
forgotten me in the multiplicity of
calls. — I am Sir

yours obediently,

James L. Snelair
Teacher

Mr. Chesson, London, England.