

There died at the Manaia Temporary Hospital on Friday a very old and respected resident in the person of Mrs Membery, who had resided at Otakeho for the last twenty years. Mrs Membery came to New Zealand with her parents from Victoria and spent her childhood days at the Otaki Maori Mission Station, where the late Bishop Hadfield was ministering to the Maoris, and as there were very few Europeans near the settlement in those days she gained a good knowledge of the Maori language and a fund of Maori lore. Her father, the late Robert Kirk, carried on his trade as a blacksmith and farrier at the settlement, some years later moving to Turakina, and during the troublous times with the natives he served in the Kai Iwi Volunteer Mounted Rifles, for which service he received the New Zealand War Medal. The late Mrs Membery was a very energetic worker for all patriotic purposes, and was untiring in her efforts to help all those she knew to be in need of assistance, and it was as a voluntary worker in an afflicted home that she contracted the terrible epidemic disease that terminated fatally on Friday. Though somewhat brusque and outspoken in manner, behind it all there beat a kindly heart, and it mattered not when the call for assistance came or what the state of the weather, the call was never made in vain, and many a poor sufferer received help and comfort in time of dire need. The late Mrs Membery, who was sixty-five years of age, is survived by her husband and a family of two sons and six daughters, and a large number of grandchildren. To her sorrowing family we tender our deepest sympathy.

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