With this number the publication of the PIONEER ceases. Many will be disposed to regret this fact, but we feel rejoiced to know that our mission has been fulfilled, because, after persistent efforts for a little longer than two years, we are rewarded by seeing the successful embarkation of a weekly Democratic and land reform paper. We refer to THE VOICE. The publication of THE VOICE renders unnecessary the continuance of the PIONEER. Our readers may rest assured that in its columns will be found the genuine ring of a true, persistent land reformer, and we trust that those who have so nobly assisted us will do even more (if that be possible) for the success of the new weekly paper.

We may here be pardoned if we give just a very brief history of the PIONEER. It was born in Mr. Timmann’s bedroom, but soon exhibited a strong, independent tendency—a great dislike to close confinement. After six months it refused to be longer confined in such a space, and ever since has regularly come forth from that business-like, Democratic office, Quiz. The effect was marvellous. It immediately doubled in size and influence. Needless to say, the PIONEER has passed through some severe trials, but thanks to determined efforts and to friends rallying round, it has not only survived but maintained a bold front to the enemy. There have been several changes—Messrs. A. Timmann, H. S. Taylor, J. B. Allen, B.Sc., and E. J. Hiscock, in the order named, undertaking the editorial duties.

The work of the PIONEER has not been that of a paper alone. More than one hundred thousand leaflets and pamphlets have been reprinted from its columns and distributed throughout the colony. We should not think of lapsing now but for the issuing of THE VOICE, and in saying farewell to our readers we wish to sincerely thank all friends (and they are many) who have in any way whatever assisted the PIONEER, and we earnestly ask them to do their utmost