

# WAIATA

## E IHOWA ATUA

### Context

This is the Reo Maori verse of New Zealand's national anthem, "God Defend New Zealand". Note that these words are not a close translation of Bracken's 1875 lyrics. John Joseph Woods wrote the Music score and T. H. Smith composed in 1878 the Maori the lyrics

## E IHOWA ATUA

E Ihowa Atua,  
O nga iwi matou ra,  
Ata whakarongona;  
Me aroha noa.  
Kia hua ko te pai;  
Kia tau to atawhai;  
Manaakitia mai  
Aotearoa.

God of nations at thy feet  
In the bonds of love we meet.  
Hear our voices, we entreat,  
God defend our free land  
Guard Pacific's triple star  
From the shafts of strife and war,  
Make her praises heard afar,  
God defend New Zealand.

