

MISCELLANEOUS.

Written for this Paper

JENSON'S TRAVELS.

LETTER NO. XII.

WAIKAPU, MAUI, H. I. June 14, 1895.—The Maui conference embraces all the Saints residing on the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai, and according to the statistical report Dec. 31, 1894, it consisted of nineteen branches; namely, fifteen on Maui, three on Molokai and one on Lanai. The names of the branches with the total number of souls in each are as follows: Waihu, 56; Wailuku, 132; Waikapu, 85; Pulehu, 149; Paia, 19; Peahe, or Halanolo, 56; Pauwea, 24; Kamaole, 58; Kiana, 41; Ulaino, 29; Hana, 46; Kipahula, 22; Keoneio, 38; Lahaina, 69; Kanaula, 54. All those are on the island of Maui. The three branches on Molokai are Kalawao, with 78, Kalawapor, with 149, and Kainalu, with 54 souls belonging to the Church. The branch on Lanai called Palanai has only thirteen members. The totals for the whole conference give 102 Elders, 42 Priests, 48 Teachers, 49 Deacons and 75 lay members; namely, 275 males and 430 females. Adding 218 children under 8 years of age, the total of souls belonging to the Church in the conference is 1164 divided into 422 families. This makes Maui the largest conference in the Hawaiian Mission. It will be remembered also that Maui is the cradle of Mormonism on the Hawaiian Islands this being Elder George Q. Cannon's first successful field of missionary labor.

Maui ranks as the second island of the Hawaiian group in point of size and agricultural importance. The island is formed of two mountain masses joined together by a low isthmus, the northwestern part being the smaller. The mountains of that part of the island are very rugged, and are pierced by several deep valleys. On the northern side the cliffs form steep precipices, facing the sea. On the west the land is more undulating and spreads out into pasture lands. The southeastern or main part of the island is filled up by the great mountain Haleakala (the house of the sun), whose summit is 10,030 feet above the level of the sea; it is also the largest extinct volcano in the world. The rim of the crater is nearly twenty miles in circumference, its depth is 2,700 feet below the highest point. The view from the brink takes in the whole crater in all its grandness, while the hills on its floor which are from five to seven hundred feet in height, appear like ant hills. The rim of the crater is broken in two places by gaps, known respectively as the Koolau and Kaupo gaps. Through these, in past times, the lava ran to the sea. The northeastern coast is rugged, forming a succession of palis, or precipices, facing the sea. The southern slope is rocky, and marked here and there by old lava flows. The western slope is gentle and covered with grass, which affords good pasture. The area of the whole island is 760 square miles; its length is 48 miles; average breadth 30 miles; population in 1890, 17,357. The island is divided into four civil or political districts, named respectively, Lahaina, Wailuku, Makawao and Hana.

The Maui conference is presided over

during the present term (from April to October, 1895) by Elder Wm. H. Mendonhall, assisted by Elders Henry Moss and Lewis R. Jenkins. Their headquarters are at the town of Wailuku, which is noted as the place where one of the first branches of the Church was organized in the Hawaiian Islands, and is still one of the largest branches of the Church in the Mission. It has a meeting house, a Sunday School, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement association. The town of Wailuku is one of the historic places on the islands. It was in the valley of Iao lying immediately back of the town where Kamehameha I. in 1790 defeated the king of Maui. On that occasion the stream is said to have been choked up with dead bodies, and therefore the name Wailuku (the water of slaughter) was given to the creek. It was at Wailuku also that Walter M. Gibson held some of his greatest conferences with the natives and told his "Priesthood" certificates to them. Wailuku has at present about 2,000 inhabitants. It is situated on rising ground about two miles inland, or three miles from the landing place Kahului, on the north coast of Maui, with which it is connected by railroad. It is surrounded by the Wailuku plantation corn fields.

The Waihu branch comprises the Saints residing at the plantation and village of Waihu, which is situated about two miles inland from the north coast of Maui and about four miles north of Wailuku. The branch has a lumber meeting house, a Sunday School, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association; Kahalokai is president.

Waikapu branch consists of the Saints residing in the village of that name beautifully situated on the narrow neck of land connecting the two sections of the island of Maui, and commands a beautiful view of Mount Haleakala and the sea both north and south. The branch has a neat little meeting house, a Sunday School, Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association.

The Pulehu branch, the largest in the conference and one of the first branches organized on Maui, comprises the Saints residing in a scattered farming district known also as Kula on the northwestern slope of Mount Haleakala. The meeting house belonging to the branch is centrally located near the main road twelve miles southeast of Wailuku and about midway between the southwestern and northeastern coast of the island. There is also a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association. Paio has presided over the branch since 1892.

The Paia branch comprises the Saints residing at or near the plantation of Paia which is situated near the north coast of Maui, about ten miles east of Wailuku, with which town and Kahului it is connected by railway.

The Peahi (or Halanolo) branch consists of Saints residing in the scattered settlement of that name situated inland about three miles from the north coast of Maui, and about fifteen miles east of Wailuku. There is a lumber meeting house somewhat centrally located; also a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association. Palu Kekahuna is president of the branch.

The Pauwela branch consists of the

Saints residing in the native village of Pauwela, situated about one and one-half miles inland from the north coast of Maui, and about nineteen miles east of Wailuku. The president's name is Kalakana.

The Kamaole branch comprises the Saints residing in and about the native village of that name situated in the district of Makawao on the western slope of Mount Haleakala, in the neighborhood previously mentioned known as Kula. The village is about twenty miles southeast of Wailuku, and about eight miles inland from the seaport town of Makena. The branch owns the best Latter-day Saint meeting house on the island, and has also a Sunday school and a Relief Society. Uilania Kaluau presides.

The Keanae branch embraces the Saints residing in the two coast villages of Keanae and Honomanu, mostly in the latter place where the president, Iona resides. Honomanu is situated in a deep gulch, near the northeast coast of Maui, and about twenty-five miles southeast of Wailuku.

The Ulaino branch consists of Saints residing in a typical native town of that name situated on the northeast coast of Maui, in the Hana district, and about seven miles southeast of the seaport town of Keanae. The branch owns a little meeting house of the genuine native order, with thatched roof, rock floor, a door five feet wide, and provided with mats for seats instead of benches. The branch is presided over by David Hoopai, and has a Sunday school.

The Hana branch comprises the Saints residing in the village and plantation of Hana, situated on the coast and near the eastern extremity of the island of Maui, in the district of Hana. The branch owns a lumber meeting house centrally located in the native village. There was once a large branch at this place, having all the usual auxiliary organizations; but during the past few years it has retrograded considerably. Wabahu presides over the branch at present.

The Kipahula branch consists of the Saints residing in the seaport town and plantation of Kipahulu situated on the southeastern coast of Maui, in the district of Hana, and about ten miles southwest of the town of Hana. The name of the president is Kanhane.

The Keoneio branch consists of the Saints residing in a small fishing village situated on the barren lava rocks on the south coast of Maui, in the district of Makawao, and about six miles southeast of the seaport town Makena. S. D. Kapono presides over the branch, which also has a Sunday school organization.

The Lahaina branch comprises the Saints living in the historic town of Lahaina, situated on the west coast of Maui. It is an old branch and has a long and interesting history, the material for which is partly on hand. The branch, which is presided over by Kapae, has a meeting house, a Sunday school, a Relief Society, and a Mutual Improvement Association.

The Kanaula branch consists of Saints residing in a native village of that name situated in a deep gulch about four miles inland or southeasterly from Lahaina, on west Maui. The branch has a lumber meeting house, with thatched roof centrally located; also a Sunday school, a Relief Society, and a Mutual Improvement Association. Hika is branch president.