

they appeared in the cloudless morning was beautiful beyond description. At 9 a. m., we cast anchor off Kawaihai Bay. From our place of anchorage we had a good view of the rocky shore, and a short distance to the right of the landing could be seen the ruins of an ancient heathen temple on which human sacrifices were made in olden times. At 10:30 a. m., anchor was again weighed, and the Kinau retraced her course ten miles and then cast anchor off Mahukona, in the district of North Kohala, where we remained till 5 o'clock p. m., there being a great deal of freight to land at this place which is the shipping point for all the sugar plantations in North Kohala, a railroad recently built from Mahukona along the coast around the northernmost point of the island is a great help to the transportation business. Soon after anchoring off Mahukona we were much pleased to see Elder Thomas Brimley, of Salt Lake City, accompanied by a native missionary companion (Kainuawa) come on board. Elder Brimley is the president of the North Hawaii conference, and had been advised by letter that we were coming. After spending some little time on the steamer, I returned with him and his native companion to shore, where we spent an hour or more together, while he gave me the needed information in regard to his conference, and I gave him the instructions I had for him in regard to keeping records.

The North Hawaii conference, over which Elder Brimley presides includes the north half of the island of Hawaii, which is the largest of all the Hawaiian islands, being 90 miles long and 74 miles wide; the area is 4,210 square miles, and the population in 1890 was 26,754. The island is divided into eight districts. Of these North Kohala, South Kohala, Hamakua and Hilo border on the northeast, north and west coast and are comprised in what we in a Church capacity call the North Hawaii conference. The other four districts, namely, North Koua, South Koua, Kau and Puna are embraced in the South Hawaii conference. The island of Hawaii presents the grandest scenery of any island in the group; its area is more than one and a half times all the other islands put together. When viewed from a distance the island seems formed of three large domes, viz, the mountains of Mauna Loa, Mauna Kea and Hualalai. The slope of these mountains is so gentle that it is impossible to realize their height. The island being of such a large size, the climate varies very much. The eastern or windward side receiving the trade wind showers, is well watered, and the land is much cut up by gulches. The climate is moist. Along the western or leeward coast, the trade wind is shut off by the mountain masses in the center of the island. The climate along the coast is dry, and for miles no running streams are to be found. Ascending the mountains, every variety of climate can be found until frost is reached. At the summit of the mountains there is always a little snow; but in the winter time, when there are storms, the snow sometimes extends for more than twelve miles from the summit of Mauna Loa. Wedged among the three large mountains, is a table land, between 1,000 and 6,000 feet high. This region is very bleak, but affords pasturage for sheep. The most striking features of Hawaii are the active volcanoes and the lava flows. The whole island like the rest of

the group is volcanic; but we see here the volcanic action still going in, while on the other islands it has long since ceased. The most fertile parts of the island are along the northwestern coast, and in the extreme southern part. Large tracts of land are extremely barren, being nothing but bare lava rocks extending for miles. At a height of from 1,500 to 2,000 feet above the sea level is a broad belt of forest land which reaches up to a height of from 4,000 to 4,500 feet. Above this the mountains are bare and rocky. Hawaii stands first in agricultural importance, and its products are more varied than those of any other single island in the group. ("From a geography of the Hawaiian Islands.")

In my conversations with Elder Brimley I learned most of the following about the North Hawaii conference. Elder John D. Hooper is his only white missionary assistant the present term. Each travel separately most of the time, with native companions. Two of these are laboring in the conference the present term, one of them being Peter Kealakaihonua the first and only native Hawaiian Elder who has been sent from the headquarters of the Church as a regular missionary to his native land; the other is Kainuawa, whom I met in company with Elder Brimley. The north Hawaiian conference at the present time consists of 22 branches of the Church with a total membership of 997 including children. There are 85 Elders, 38 Priests, 40 Teachers, 35 Deacons and 610 lay members namely 239 males and 371 females. Eleven of the branches have meeting houses or regular houses of worship, fifteen have Sunday schools, eleven Relief Societies and ten Mutual Improvement Associations.

The branches briefly described and given in their geographical order are as follows:

The Puakea branch comprises the Saints residing in a village of that name situated near the northwest extremity of the island of Hawaii, in the district of North Kohala, about four miles north of the landing place Mahukona, on the seashore. There is a lumber meeting house situated on a hill above the village. There is also a Sunday school and a Mutual Improvement Association. Keaweoluna presides over the branch, twenty-two members.

The Honomakan branch embraces the Saints residing in the village of that name and at the Union Mills situated about a mile inland from the north shore of Hawaii, in the district of North Kohala. The branch has a lumber meeting house and a Sunday school, eighty-three members or souls, and Kuamoa for president.

The Halawa branch embraces the Saints residing in the village of Halawa and the plantations of Halawa and Kohala, on the north coast of Hawaii, in the district of North Kohala. The meeting house, a lumber building, is situated in a small gulch on the out skirts of the village of Halawa. The branch has a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association. It is one of the liveliest branches in the conference. Halawa is about ten miles by railroad northeast of Mahukona.

At present (June, 1895) the Saints of the Halaula branch met at Halawa; Keaweamahi is president.

The Halaula branch comprises the

Saints working on the Kohala plantation, which is situated about one and one half miles inland from the north shore of Hawaii in the district of North Kohala between Halawa (about two miles southeast) and Union Mills (about three and one half miles northwest). In the latter part of 1894 the foreman of the Kohala plantation deprived the branch president Keohuhu of his house, in which the meetings were held in consequence of which the branch was temporarily joined to the Halawa branch to which it had belonged once before. There were fifty three members in the branch when the change was made, and it was the addition of these to the Halawa branch which made affairs there lively.

Niuhii branch comprises the Saints residing in the village and plantation of Niuhii situated near the northern extremity of the island of Hawaii, in the district of North Kohala, about two miles inland, and nearly three miles from Honokane and the east terminus of the Kohala railway. The branch owns a lumber meeting house, the best of the kind in the conference. There is also a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association. Honohii presides over the branch; fifty-nine members.

Honakane comprises nearly the entire population of the village of that name, which is situated in the Honokane gulch, and inclosed on three sides by steep mountains, while the sea is on the other. This branch which has forty-eight members, is also in North Kohala, has a meeting house, a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual, and is presided over by Nalii.

At Kawaihae, a seaport village in south Kohala, there are five members of the Church presided over by Uliama Hookuanui.

At Kalala, a very small native village, situated in the mountains about five miles inland from Kawaihae, there are eight members of the Church.

Waimea is a stockraising country situated on the table land at the foot of Mauna Kea where the people are engaged in raising cattle and horses. The place is about twelve miles inland from Kawaihae landing, on the west shore of Hawaii, in south Kohala. The small branch presided over by Kauwe, has thirteen members, a Relief Society organization also exists.

The Waimanu branch comprises fifty-six Saints residing in the village of Waimanu, situated in a deep gulch away by itself, on the northeast coast of Hawaii, in the district of Hamakua. Kuamoo presides over the branch, which also has a Sunday school and a Mutual.

The Waipio branch with eighty-four Saints, is one of the most lively branches in the north Hawaii conference, and comprises a portion of the inhabitants of a rice-raising village situated in a deep gulch on the northeast coast of Hawaii, in the district of Hamakua about twenty-five miles northwest of the Lanipahoehoe landing. The branch has a meeting house, a Sunday school a Relief Society and a Mutual Improvement Association; and Beniamina is president. A few Saints living at a small village called Kukuihade, situated about one and one-half miles from Waipio also belong to that branch.

The Honokaa branch comprises the Saints residing in a village and sugar plantation of that name, situated about