

were termed "gifts of love." You can readily imagine by this array of eatables that we were well fed during our sojourn at Salaupulo.

On Sunday, April 5th, 1891, at about 8:30 o'clock a. m., we commenced the first conference ever held on the Island of Savaii by our Church, the congregation numbering fifty-four, excluding infants. The missionaries present were Prest. W. O. Lee, Brothers Wood, Beesley, Smoot, Carpenter, McCune, Poole and Bassett. Prest. E. J. Wood, of the Savaii branch, presided.

The first hymn sung was one composed by Brother Wood for the occasion, entitled "O le Konofese muamua i Savaii." The speakers were Prest. W. O. Lee and Brigham Smoot. At the close of this meeting we held a sacrament meeting. Early in the afternoon a Sunday school meeting was held. After the reading and singing exercises, Brother Wood exhibited some bible pictures, and called on the children for an explanation of the same. He also asked them many questions in regard to the subjects represented in the pictures, which they answered quite readily. One very pleasing feature of the Sunday school was the recitation of the Articles of Faith by the children in concert. The rendition of this part of the programme we have never seen excelled at home. Under the direction of Brother J. H. Carpenter some very nice hymns were sung to English tunes. Brothers Wood and Carpenter are to be commended for their energy and tact in bringing these children to the state of excellence that they have attained.

In the afternoon conference again convened, President Wood presiding. The first hymn was one composed for the occasion by Brother Wood. It is entitled "O le vai e feinu ai le faatosi." The speakers on this occasion were Brothers A. Beesley and George McCune.

On the morning of Monday, April 6th, 1891, we went to a river about a mile distant and baptized a native woman Osooso, Brother J. H. Carpenter officiating in the ordinance.

Conference again convened with a congregation of fifty-five people present. We attended to the usual exercises of reading statistical reports, voting to sustain the authorities, both general and local, subscribing to the Articles of Faith, etc. Two of our native brethren, Afualo and Falelua, were ordained to the office of Teachers. We also confirmed the newly-baptized woman Osooso.

At about 4 o'clock p. m. meeting was again resumed with a congregation of sixty-seven natives present. The speakers were Brothers H. L. Bassett, one native Teacher, Ioane, and President W. O. Lee.

In the evening we enjoyed ourselves with music, vocal and instrumental. The natives were specially pleased with the solos on the xylophone by Brother A. Beesley and those of Brother B. Smoot on the harmonica.

On the morning of Tuesday, April 7, we went down to the river and baptized two native men, Faasoo and Leutulafa. President W. O. Lee officiated in the ordinance.

On Wednesday, April 8, we, in company with some natives, went to visit a cave situated in the vicinity of the

village of Samauji, a few miles distant. We secured some lanterns, matches and bunches of cocoanut leaves and set out for the cave. The entrance to the cave was rather forbidding to the eyes of the timid, it being only a hole in the earth large enough to admit a man's body. Upon descending into this hole we found ourselves in a large tunnel-shaped cavern about eighteen or twenty feet wide and about ten or twelve feet in height. The sides were perpendicular and composed of lava rock. They were so smooth and even that they appeared to be the handiwork of man.

We followed the cave some distance, when we found the height of the cave to decrease to such an extent that we were compelled to crawl along on hands and feet. This condition of affairs existed but a short time. The cave soon became wider again. The ceiling was adorned with stalactic formations. In many places long, slender roots hung down from the ceiling, presumably the roots of the cocoanut trees shooting down from above and piercing through the solid rock. We tested the acoustic properties of the cave by singing some stirring tunes.

The picture presented, with lanterns in hand and flaming torches held aloft, casting their ruddy glare upon the forms of the natives, was a weird one, and one not easily forgotten. We found two large chambers leading off to the right, but we did not follow them but kept to the left. Upon nearing the exit we were met by hordes of frightened bats that, alarmed by we marauders, flitted around and often dashed themselves against us. We soon ascended into daylight again and started back through the cocoanut groves for Salaupulo. We supposed the cave to be about three-quarters of a mile in length. After reaching Salaupulo we assembled with the people to hold their regular Wednesday meeting.

We spent the evening in the enjoyment of music. On the morning of Thursday, April 9, we parted with the Saints, many of them bidding us "Tofa Soifua" with tearful eyes. We started out for a village call Iva, a walk of thirty-five or forty miles. The Saints kindly sent some boys along with us to carry our satchels.

We walked till after dark, when we came to the village of Safotulafai. The rain had now begun to descend, and being invited by a man to spend the night here, we accepted the hospitality. The boys who were carrying our satchels, that contained our "tainamu," or mosquito nettings (a necessary requisite to the enjoyment of sleep in Samoa), had been left far in the rear on the journey, so we had to do as best we could without them. The mosquitoes were woefully indifferent as to whether we slept or not, and while we used our endeavors to that end, they faithfully and assiduously followed the precept to "Eat, drink and be merry."

We arose in the "wee sma' hours" and resumed our journey. We traveled but a few miles when we were met by a chief who informed us that the road ahead was not a good one and we would be likely to lose it in the darkness. He invited us to go into his house and remain till daylight. We accepted the hospitality proffered, and

as he had a large "tainamu" or mosquito protector (it was no netting, but heavy cloth of native manufacture), we were able to snatch a few minutes of sleep. The name of the village is Sapapalii and the house was the former home of the King Malletoa.

We arose with old Sol as he lifted his head from the depths of the sea on the horizon, and resumed our journey. We reached "Iva" at about nine o'clock a. m. and found Captain Kinson ready with his schooner to convey us to the Island of Upolu, on the west end of which we were to hold conference.

We left the harbor at 11 o'clock a. m., but the wind failed us and we drifted around all day and night. Morning came and with it a faint breeze, which gently watted us towards Upolu. The wind freshened up and we sailed along nicely, reaching "Lalo'i," our destination, by noon.

On Sunday morning, April 12th, we commenced our conference. The missionaries present were President W. O. Lee, E. J. Wood, A. Beesley, B. Smoot, H. L. Bassett and our two native teachers Ioane and Ifopo. The speakers were Brothers Wood and Beesley. After this meeting we held Sacrament meeting, at which many of the Saints bore their testimony.

Conference meeting was held in the afternoon with Brothers B. Smoot and Ioane as the speakers.

We held a meeting the next morning at which the usual reports were read, and the authorities sustained. The Articles of Faith were also subscribed to.

In the afternoon Prest. Lee occupied the time. A child was blessed and administered to on account of sickness. It was almost instantly benefited through the administration. On the morning of Tuesday, April 14th, we started out on foot for Fagalli, at which place we arrived at about six o'clock p. m., after a long walk of about thirty-five miles. We found the folks at Fagalli pretty well, though they had been quite sick during our absence. Having eaten some bread and milk one morning, Sister Lee and her two children, Louie and Harry, Sister Merrill, and Bro. Low were taken violently ill with purging and vomiting. Bro. Merrill, who had taken none of the milk, escaped the sickness and did what he could for the comfort of the sick ones. The Lord blessed them and they were nearly well by the next day. The man of whom the milk was purchased felt badly over the affair and said his cow must have eaten some poisonous plant.

On Wednesday, April 22nd, the following party, President W. O. Lee, E. J. Wood, A. Beesley, B. Smoot, Wm. Low, H. L. Bassett and our native Teachers Ioane and Ifopo left Apia on the schooner "Louise," a small vessel of seven tons, bound for Pagopago harbor on the islands of Tutuila and Aunu'u. At about 10 o'clock a. m. we drew in anchor and sailed out of Apia harbor. The regular trade wind was blowing, so we were forced to tack from the start. We made but slow progress until Friday, April 25th, when towards night a good wind sprang up and we sailed along nicely. As night drew near the heavens showed signs of an approaching storm. The whole heavens were streaked with skurrying