

their predecessors in the ministry. There are numerous instances where natives have resurrected their belief in their ancient gods, at least in part thinking that by this means they may obtain their rights and have their own government re-established. An effort is being made so I am told on the part of the present government and its friends to convince the world that the Hawaiian people are in full accord with the new government, and that the opposition is confined to a few "sore heads" only; but I am fully convinced through information which I have already obtained from the most reliable sources that this is a mistake. The natives generally speaking are opposed to the change of government, and though many of them were not in close sympathy with the queen prior to her dethronement, they condemned in the strongest terms the insurrection which they think was practised in connection with the overthrow of the monarchy.

Friday, May 31st, I paid a visit to the government buildings in Honolulu, when I had a pleasant interview with Honorable Sanford B. Dole, the president of the Hawaiian republic. He is a tall, stately gentleman of military bearing and pleasant address. He wears an extra long beard, which has given occasion to numerous jokes on the part of his political opponents. In my interview with him, he declared himself a friend of the Mormons, and having visited the Laie plantation on several occasions, he knew our people to be of a practical and industrious disposition, and wished us success. He only objected to one thing, he said, in connection with our practices, and that was our inducing the natives to emigrate to Utah, and then after their arrival there neglect to care for them, and thereby put the Hawaiian government to the expense of paying their transportation back. I assured him that if any of the natives had been persuaded to go to Utah against their will I was not aware of it; and so far as neglecting them after their arrival, I know this to be a fact that no other class of emigrants had been cared for by the Satuts like the Hawaiian people. In the first place the Church has bought a large tract of land on the island of Oahu at an original cost of something like \$14,000, and this land had for thirty years been worked as a plantation and stock ranch by missionary labors in the interest of the Hawaiian people; and a few years ago also a ranch was bought by the Church in Utah for the special benefit of those natives who had emigrated to the headquarters of the Church, and had ever since been conducted in the interest, under the direction of competent men who had labored as missionaries on the islands and knew how to care for the Hawaiians. If, after all this special care and outlay of means in their behalf, some of them get dissatisfied and wanted to return to their native islands, it must be for other causes. It certainly was not on account of any neglect on the part of the Church or its representatives to care for them. The president seemed pleased with my explanation and expressed a desire to converse with our presiding Elder on the islands, as I suggested he could obtain from him full particulars of our missionary operations here better than from me who had just arrived.

At 1:30 o'clock p. m. I left Honolulu

with a mule team, in company with President Matthew Noali, his wife and three children, bound for Laie, thirty-two miles distant. The ride up the beautiful Nuuanu valley was very interesting, and after traveling six miles from Honolulu, we found ourselves on the top of the so-called "pali" which is a precipice 1,200 feet high with mountains on either side reaching a height of over 3,000 feet. The view from the top of the "pali" looking northward is grand beyond description. The ocean can be seen also in looking southward. The road leading down the "pali" is cut out in the face of the solid mountain most of the way and is very steep. In less than half a mile the traveler drops down over a thousand feet. Both wheels of our vehicle were tied in making the descent and all hands walked down including the mules. Having reached the foot of the mountain the journey was continued in a northwesterly direction along the coast, passing through a number of native villages and one sugar plantation. In three of these villages, namely, Kaneohe, Kaalaea and Kahana, there are branches of the Church. After a romantic ride, part of the way traveling on the sands of the sea shore, we arrived at Laie about midnight.

In my travels today, and ride in and around Honolulu yesterday, my attention was continually drawn to new features. Never before having visited a country within the limits of the tropics I had the pleasure for the first time in my life to see sugar-cane fields, rice fields, kalo patches, coconut groves, banana groves, palm trees, bread-fruit trees, mango trees, etc., etc., not to mention tropical jungles, and the many varieties of shubbery, flowers and grasses which are not met with in a colder climate. But perhaps the most interesting and striking feature of all is the peculiar volcanic formation of the country itself. The almost perpendicular mountains terminate in ridges so sharp and narrow that it would seemingly be impossible for any one to walk along them even in single file, were it possible to climb to the top. The mountains cover most of the island; the fertile land suitable for cultivation being very limited.

ANDREW JENSON.

#### A LETTER FROM ENGLAND.

Having many relatives and friends in Zion, I now take the time to write to the readers of your valuable paper that they may be informed concerning the labors of the Elders in the Sheffield conference which is held at 187 Bentinck street, Doncaster. We are all possessed with the Spirit of unity and love. The Saints all seem to have this same Spirit and they all try to live their religion as well as they can although it is hard for some of them to get labor when the people know that they are Mormons. This causes some to neglect their duties in order to keep their work. We have one young man that accepted the Gospel last spring and is now out of work. The parties he was working for turned him away because he had joined those wicked Mormons.

It seems as though the devil is at large, on the alert to darken the minds of the people, but I think the Elders in this part of the vineyard are doing a good work in getting the Gospel mes-

sage before them. There are Elders John Batty and Alexander Street and myself laboring here in the Sheffield branch and we have distributed 8,000 tracts during the month of June. We find that is the best way to get the Gospel before the people. When we make the first visit we kindly ask them to please read our tract and we will call again in a few days with another one and will be pleased to answer all questions they wish to ask.

I have been in England eighteen months and I have labored in this part of the conference nearly one year now. It is a very dark and smoky place and is very unhealthy for us Elders who are used to the pure mountain air. My health has been very poor here but not so bad but that I could get out and do my duty as a servant of God. There are a great many people living in this place. The population is 343,000 greater than that of Utah. It is a great manufacturing place for iron and steel such as cutlery and file cutting and plates for war ships. Other things are also manufactured. There are about 2,000 saloons in Sheffield and a person can see more drunkenness in one week here than he would in some parts of Utah during his whole life. The people drink even though their children have to go hungry. Men and women can be seen in saloons on Sundays just the same as on other days, in fact more so because they are at work during the week and spend most of their earnings on Sunday. This is true though there may be some who read this that may doubt it. Still the people tell us that they are saved and cannot sin. They say that all they have to do is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and they will be saved.

The children have so much tradition drilled into them while they are young that it is hard to get them to listen to the truth after they become older. They are getting farther away from the Gospel of Jesus Christ every day, and yet they cry unto the Lord to save them instead of repenting and being baptized for the remission of their sins that they will be fit subjects for salvation.

Jesus plainly tells us that unless we are born again we cannot even see the kingdom of God. When we tell them this they say that their ministers do not teach them that kind of doctrine. We tell them that it is because they have not got the authority to act in the name of Jesus Christ and administer in the ordinances of the Gospel. When they claim this authority we ask them if they have been called of God as was Aaron; and again why does not the Lord reveal His mind and will to men now as He did in former days; why does He not talk to men as He did to Abraham, Moses and other inspired prophets; why does not the Lord call men directly by His voice as He did Moses, Samuel and Paul; why does He not send angels to deliver heavenly messages to men now as He did to Gideon, Zacharias and Cornelius; why should not the Lord enlighten men to tell of Heavenly visions now as he did Jacob, Peter, Paul and John; why does he not now inspire prophets to lead and guide the people in these the last days and to perform miracles and show signs of coming events, and to declare his will and interpret dreams and visions and unknown languages as did Daniel. When we ask the people these questions they say that they are all done away with now and that they are no