

ten miles southeast of Waipio, on the northeast coast of Hawaii, in the district of Hamakua. The branch has seventy Saints, a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual, but no meeting house, Kuapalahala is president.

The Paahau branch with seventeen members, contains the Saints living in a village of that name, situated about one mile inland from the northeast coast of Hawaii, in the district of Hamakua, about ten miles northwest of Laupahoehoe; A. N. Kaaua is president.

The Aleakila branch is a continuation of a former branch called Paaui, comprising thirty-one Saints residing about four miles southeast of Honokaa, in the district of Hamakua; J. Polani is president.

The Kihalani branch comprises the Saints residing in the native village of that name situated about one mile inland from the northeast coast of Hawaii, in the district of Hilo and about two miles south of the Laupahoehoe landing. The branch owns a small lumber meeting house, and Kaa'i Kuma is president.

The Weloka branch (formerly known as Maulua) comprises the Saints residing in the native village of Weloka, situated in a deep gulch, on the northeast coast of Hawaii in the district of Hilo. There are forty-seven Saints in the branch; also a meeting house, a Sunday school, a Relief Society, a Mutual, and Kelipuleole is president.

The Wailea branch comprises the Saints residing in the villages of Wailea and Honomu in the district of Hilo. The branch has thirty-six members and a Sunday school organization; Kahuena presides. Wailea is fifteen miles north of Hilo and on the coast.

The Kahuwe branch, with seventy-one Saints comprises the members of the Church residing in the village of Kahuwe and the plantation of Pepeekeo, on the Hilo district and about ten miles north of the town of Hilo. It is a lively branch and has a meeting house, a Sunday school, a Relief Society and a Mutual; Kapeliela presides. The Aleamai branch (formerly called the Kahalii) comprises the Saints (ninety-five in number) residing in the native village of Aleamai and the Papaikou plantation. The branch has a meeting house (built in 1895), a Sunday school, Relief Society and a Mutual. Aleamai is seven miles from Hilo; S. W. Waiono is president of the branch.

The Hilo branch (also called Puueo, comprises forty-eight Saints residing in Hilo, the principal town of the island of Hawaii, but the suburban town of Puueo. It has a Sunday school and a Relief Society and needs a meeting house very much. The president's name is Heleloa.

Waiakea is a suburb of Hilo beautifully situated at the mouth of a river about a mile east of Hilo. Po presides over the branch at that place which has thirty five members, a Sunday school and a Relief Society.

The Keaukaha branch comprises the Saints residing in a native village of that name situated about three miles east of Hilo on the coast. Kahoolua presides over the branch which has thirty one members, a meeting house and a Sunday school.

At 5 p. m. (June 15th,) the steamer Kinau weighed her anchor once more and sailed on her course. Leaving Mahukona she rounded the northernmost point of Hawaii and thence steamed along the northeast coast of the

island toward Hilo. The scenery along this coast is grand and beautiful, but as the darkness of the night set in just as we were getting to the most interesting parts we could not enjoy it. Besides the sea was quite rough and the wind blew hard from the ocean side. Consequently the steamer rolled fearfully, and my traveling companions were trying to duplicate their actions of the previous night. As for myself I barely escaped giving my supper to the fishes. Toward midnight the steamer stopped to unload freight at Laupahoehoe.

Sunday, June 16th. At 2 o'clock a m., we arrived at Hilo the principal town on the Island of Hawaii, and the second in size and importance in the Hawaiian group. The ship's boat landed the passengers at the wharf, which however was not done without difficulty as the sea rolled heavily towards the shore. At the landing we were met by Mr. Henry West (a half caste) and another native (D. Kaaakolo) who had been up all night waiting for us. They hired a cab and took us up to the residence of Mr. West (whose wife is a member of the Church) in the outskirts of the town where we received a most hearty welcome, and after some conversation went to bed for a few hours. We arose at 8 o'clock a. m., took a refreshing bath in the adjacent creek, ate a lovely breakfast and went to meeting at 11 a. m. at the Salvation Army quarters which had been secured for the occasion. Quite a number of Saints attended and we had a good meeting, myself, Sister Noall and Brother Noall speaking in the order given. After the usual handshaking and greeting, we interviewed some of the natives for history, then took a walk through the town of Hilo, went to Mr. West's for supper, then walked to the suburban town of Waieka, situated at the mouth of a beautiful river, thence back again to Hilo and looked for a suitable piece of land to buy for meeting house grounds; such a house being needed very much in Hilo as there are quite a number of Saints residing in the immediate neighborhood. We spent the evening conversing with Mr. West, who declared himself a believer in the principles we taught, and expected to become a member of the Church at some future day.

ANDREW JENSON.
HILO, HAWAII, H. I. June 16th, 1895.

LETTER NO. XIV.

Monday June 17th.—A Portuguese carriage which we had engaged the day before called for us at 8 o'clock a. m., and we started for the celebrated volcano known as Kilanea. The distance from Hilo to the volcano is thirty one miles, and there is a first-class road built at the expense of the government, all the way. The road is supposed to have cost \$200,000. The ride is very interesting as the road took us through well cultivated cane fields, coffee plantations, dense tropical forests, etc., etc. Such a variety of ferns as those seen along this road I have never gazed upon before. They grow here in all their tropical beauty from the most minute species to the size of tall trees. The spongy trunks of the large species are used for paving roads and sidewalks, and a certain soft downy part is utilized for filling mattresses and pillows, and also for upholstery purposes. If the coffee industry in this part of the country proves a financial success, as the indications al-

ready show, Hawaii may yet become densely populated with coffee growers. The quality raised already ranks among the best in the world.

We arrived at the volcano house at 5:30 p. m. The day was rainy, but being somewhat protected against the wet in our covered carriage, we enjoyed our ride very much, though the time consumed in traveling the thirty-one miles was unnecessarily long, owing to the great love which our native driver entertained for his lazy mules. Mules appear to be mules even on Hawaii, and the mule instincts cropped out all day long. An American driver would have found a sure remedy in a little well applied buck-skin. On our arrival at the hotel, the genial host, Mr. Peter Lee, a Norwegian by birth, bid us welcome to his mountain resort. The hotel stands on the edge of the great crater and on ground which is elevated 4,100 feet above the level of the sea; but the ascent from Hilo is so very gentle and regular that a traveler scarcely notices that he is climbing.

It being too late to see the volcano that night, I was about to start out for an evening walk to what appeared to me as a neighboring hill a short distance westward. Judge of my surprise when, on inquiry, I was told, "Why, man, that is Mauna Loa, the greatest mountain in Hawaii, twenty-five miles away." "My! how deceptive are the distances here, and I mistook it for an ordinary hill."

No wonder that the natives of Hawaii called this the "long mountain," and the Spanish discoverers named it "the table," or compared with its length, it looks at a distance very flat and spreads out like a long table with no peak and scarcely any discernible hill. Located on its flat summit, 13,675 feet above the sea and nearly of equal distance from the ocean, east, south and west, is its great crater called Mokuweoweo. It is seldom in action and when it does break out, perhaps once in five years, it remains in action usually only a short time. When there are lava streams from this mountain, they burst out from the sides, and are not an overflow from the summit crater, and the streams flow in whichever direction the incline is sufficient to attract it. Several destructive eruptions of this mountain have become facts of history. On the 11th of August 1855, a stream of lava burst out of the northeastern side of the mountain at an elevation of 12,000 feet, and ran directly toward Hilo. In some places it was over two miles wide. After having flowed for fifteen months it reached a point within eight miles of Hilo, November 22nd 1856, causing great alarm to the inhabitants of that town; but there the flow ceased and Hilo was saved. Again on January 23rd 1859 an eruption took place from a fissure on the northern side of the mountain, about 10,000 feet above the sea. The lava stream flowed to the northwest, passing around the eastern and northern sides of Mount Hualalai, and reached the sea at Keawalki, North Kona, in eight days, filling up a great fish pond constructed by Kamehameha I at Kiholo. The lava continued to flow until August, a period of seven months. On March 27th 1868, an eruption began in the summit crater of Mauna Loa, attended by a long series of earthquake shocks. At length, on the 2nd of April, a terrible earthquake took place, which shook down every stone wall and nearly every house in the