

## MISCELLANEOUS.

Written for this Paper.

## JENSON'S TRAVELS.

LETTER NO. XXI.

Friday, July 26. At 2 o'clock in the morning one of our members, a Chinese brother, called at the mission house at Ho olulu and announced the arrival of the Miowera, but we soon learned that Brother Noall's successor was not along. There were, however, four other Elders on board bound for the Australasian mission, namely, James Clayson of Payson, Utah, David Lindsay of Bennington, Bear Lake county, Idaho, and Wallace C. Castleton and Horace W. Barton of the Twenty-first ward, Salt Lake City. These brethren visited the mission house at Honolulu early in the day, after Elder Dibble and myself had paid them a visit on board. Early in the forenoon the native Saints began to call to say good-bye, and at 10:30 a. m. I left the mission house in Sister Makano's carriage and went on board an hour later. Quite a number of the Saints came down to see me off, among whom Sister Makano who decorated me with a very liberal supply of flowers, lace and greens—a token of esteem and love with the Hawaiian people. After taking a most affectionate leave of Brother and Sister Noall, Brothers Edwin C. Dibble and George H. Birdno (the latter having come with a team from Laie), and the native Saints, I bid farewell to the shores of Hawaii and steamed out of Honolulu harbor at 12:30 p. m., bound for Fiji. Some of the Saints remained on the wharf waving their handkerchiefs as long as we could see each other. I shall never forget the native Saints of Hawaii. God grant that the promises made to their forefathers long ago may speedily be fulfilled. I watched the shores of Oahu vanish out of sight with a somewhat heavy heart; then conversed with my missionary companions till a late hour and retired to my state room, enjoying a good night's rest.

Saturday, July 27. Though the weather was fine and the Miowera glided smoothly over the waters of the great Pacific, I am not well all day, the motion of the vessel causing a feeling which had I yielded to it would have meant seasickness. At noon when the observations were taken, we found ourselves in latitude  $17^{\circ} 8' 30''$  north, longitude  $160^{\circ} 33' 30''$  west. Distance from Honolulu 292.5, and to Suva 2,509.5 knots or nautical miles.

Sunday, July 28. All the missionaries attended Church of England services, conducted by the captain, in the forenoon; and in the evening commencing at 8 o'clock, we held meeting in the Social hall; nearly all the passengers were in attendance and paid good attention throughout. I spoke nearly one and a half hours on the history of the Mormon people and the principles of the Gospel. Brother Castleton led the singing and performed on the piano. We conducted our meeting in the usual way. At noon the ship's log read: Latitude  $12^{\circ} 43' 00''$  north, longitude  $163^{\circ} 12' 00''$  west; distance made (since yesterday) 307 knots; distance from Honolulu 599.5; to Suva 2,202.5 knots.

Monday, July 29. I spent the day

writing and conversing with the passengers about religion and the Bible, a Dr. Collingwood, of Sydney, Australia, taking issue against me in most every point. The day was very warm. At noon the log extract read: latitude  $8^{\circ} 25' 45''$  north, longitude  $165^{\circ} 40' 15''$  west. Distance sailed during the last twenty-four hours, 295.4 knots. Distance to Suva 1,907.1; from Honolulu 894.9 knots.

Tuesday, July 30. A sea bird called by the sailors a molley hawk flew about the fore-castle of the vessel for a long time and occasionally came so near that we could have perhaps grabbed it with our hands, while a number of us stood watching it with considerable interest. Anything to kill the monotony of a sea voyage! A flying fish also jumped on board and was caught by Elder Clayson. At noon we were in latitude  $3^{\circ} 45' 10''$  north, longitude  $167^{\circ} 53' 45''$  west. Distance sailed since yesterday at noon 310.1 knots; distance from Honolulu 1,209; to Suva 1,599 knots. Tonight I witnessed one of the most beautiful sunsets I have ever seen. All the natural colors known to humanity were exhibited in their supreme grandeur and beauty upon the overhanging clouds and upon the bosom of the ocean. A cool soothing breeze made the evening very pleasant, and I enjoyed it immensely while I spent the time in conversing with my fellow missionaries and the passengers. Though we are so near the equator it is not very hot.

Wednesday, July 31. About 8 o'clock in the morning we crossed the imaginary line known in our geographies as the equator, though the sun had appeared to us north of the zenith at noon for several days, this being northern summer and southern winter. Thus, for the first time in their lives, five Elders from the headquarters of the Church passed from the northern to the southern half of the world. At noon the log read: latitude  $0^{\circ} 50' 00''$  south, longitude  $170^{\circ} 37' 45''$  west. Distance during the past twenty-four hours 319.7 knots; distance from Honolulu 1,525.7, and to Suva 1,276.3 knots. At about 11 o'clock we passed within a short distance of the little coral island known upon the maps as Mary's island—one of the Phoenix group. It is not inhabited.

Thursday, August 1. About 7 o'clock this morning we passed Hull island, another coral island belonging to the Phoenix group; it is at present inhabited by a number of guiana gatherers, and like Mary's island, it belongs to the Phoenix Guiana company. Hull island, which is about four by five miles in size, is 112 miles from Mary's island and 1,767 from Honolulu. We passed it on our starboard side, distance about two miles. At noon when the usual observations were taken, we were in latitude  $5^{\circ} 30' 30''$  south, longitude  $172^{\circ} 44' 45''$  west. Distance sailed since yesterday at noon 313.4. Distance to Suva 963, and from Honolulu 1,893.1 knots.

Friday, August 2. I spent most of the day writing letters, reading and conversing with the passengers. At noon the ship's log showed: latitude  $10^{\circ} 2' 15''$ ; longitude  $175^{\circ} 26' 30''$  west. Distance since yesterday 316.1. Distance to Suva 646.9, and from Honolulu 2,155.2 knots.

Saturday, August 3. Early in the morning the outlines of two mountainous islands, Alofa and Fotuna, which are known upon the charts as Horne Islands, could be seen very plainly on our starboard side, and about 11 a. m. we were sailing opposite Alofa, though at a distance of fifteen miles. Alofa is about six miles long by about three wide, and its highest point is 1,200 feet. Fotuna is eight miles long by five in breadth and its highest mountain peak has an elevation of about 2,500 feet above sea level. Both islands are inhabited. At noon we were in latitude  $14^{\circ} 41' 15''$  south; longitude  $177^{\circ} 47' 00''$  west. We had sailed 309.8 knots since yesterday at noon, and we were now only 337.1 nautical miles or knots from Suva but 2,465 from Honolulu. At 11 p. m. we passed the Weilangitala light house on our left, which is the first point of the Fijian group; it is 174 nautical miles from Suva. During the night we passed through the Nanuku passage with islands of the eastern group of the Fiji Islands on both our right and left. On arising the next morning we were informed that there would be no Sunday on board the Miowera this week, as we had crossed the 180th meridian of western and eastern longitude during the night. This always meant the losing of a day in sailing west and the gaining of one going east. Thus, instead of Sunday we were told that this was

Monday, August 5. Very well. At 8 o'clock a. m. we were sailing close to the shores of the island of Batiki, on our starboard side, while on the opposite side the heights of the islands of Gau and Nairai, some distance away, added fresh beauty to the scenery. Other islands were in sight, among which Viti Levu, the largest island of the group, the outlines of a portion of which appear directly ahead. Batiki is 56 miles from Suva. At 12:45 p. m. the Miowera cast anchor off Suva wharf, and at 1:50 p. m. I landed with Mr. Joske, agent for the Canadian-Australian steamship company at Suva. He introduced me at once to Mr. A. M. T. Duncan, the Union Steamship company's agent, who offered me a free passage to New Zealand, via Samoa and Tonga, if I stopped over to go with their ships. The first steamer would leave for Tonga about the 15th, and another for Samoa about the 28th of the present month. Though this delay was not on my original traveling program, I decided to stop and endeavor to spend a short time at Fiji to the best possible advantage. Most of the passengers of the Miowera landed for a few hours at Suva, among whom were Elders Clayson, Lindsay, Castleton and Barton. About 4:15 p. m. I bid these brethren good-bye, as they returned to the ship to continue their voyage; and I was thus left alone among the strange and mixed population of Fiji. After watching the Miowera pass out of the harbor and disappear beyond the coral reef, I began to make inquiries about lodgings. I rented a room at the rate of seven shillings per week from a Mrs. Johnson, on Gordon street, near the centre of the town, and moved my effects there at once. After taking an evening ramble and conversing with a number of the white inhabitants I retired to my room and spent my first night in Fiji in comfortable sleep.

Tuesday, August 6. I spent most of the day making acquaintances in the