

gifts have been bestowed upon him. Hence, even the idolater, who is earnest in his worship, will be rewarded at least for his earnestness. But if there be one who has received faith and light, he must exercise that faith, or he will stand condemned. Some people think their individual efforts are lost in the multitude with which they mingle. They feel as if it were useless to continue the struggle. The speaker remembered a man who had once entered a place of worship as the choir was singing a sacred hymn. Their voices, however, mingled in the most fearful discord he had ever heard, and this being particularly painful to him, he thought of either shutting his ears or leaving the place. But as he feared to show any discourtesy to those whose guests he was, for the time being, he remained, and presently he heard a remarkably sweet soprano, not very loud, but in perfect harmony with the instrument. And by and by, one after the other of the singers unconsciously fell in with the sweet singer, till, finally, the whole choir was in harmony. What a lesson is this! We should not stop our efforts because of the discords that surround us. We are tempted, sometimes, to let the discords have their own way. But that is entirely wrong. What is it to you, if the harmony of the great song of life is not perfect, so long as you do not swerve from the part assigned to you by the great Composer. Keep on faithfully, and you will soon find that those associated with you will fall in with you, and when this time has passed, a universal repertoire of praise will begin in the millennial reign of peace. This we can hasten on by faithfully performing, each our own part.

The great Being, although incomprehensible in His majesty, is susceptible to the influences which you can exercise. He can smile with pleasure or weep with sorrow. Should we not then endeavor to please Him by placing absolute faith in Him? May God bless us, and may our testimonies increase, till we shall join the heavenly choir above.

The choir sang the anthem:

Father, let Thy blessings, at parting, be upon us.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder William B. Dougall.

#### A GEOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

In the North Pacific ocean, latitude 18—15 degrees, and 22—55 degrees north; and longitude 154—40 degrees, and 160—80 degrees west, are the Sandwich Islands. These are twelve in number—four large, four intermediate, and four very small. They form a chain the general trend of which is from N. W. to S. E., and are of volcanic formation. Extinct craters are numerous, and plainly mark the fiery march of the goddess Pele, whose present abode is the famous Kilauea. Out of the twelve islands, the eight larger ones are inhabited; viz., Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, Kanai, Molokai, Lanai, Niihau, and Kahoolawe. The soil, in general, is very fertile, though there are large tracts which are unproductive from lack of moisture, or through being covered by more recent flows of lava. Showers are frequent on the

windward sides of these islands, caused by the moisture laden trade winds which blow almost constantly during eight months of the year.

Hawaii is the largest of the group, and has an area of 4,210 square miles. Its greatest length is 90 miles, and the greatest breadth 74. Because of its elevation and size, the temperature varies greatly. Ascending either of its great mountain cones, every variety of climate can be found until frost is reached. The summit of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa are nearly 14,000 feet above the level of the surrounding ocean, and are nearly always capped with snow. Probably the most noteworthy feature on this island is the active volcano Kilauea, situated on the flank of Mauna Loa, at an elevation of 4,040 feet.

Maui is the second island in size and agricultural importance, the greatest length being 48 miles, the greatest breadth 30 miles, and the area 760 square miles. Haleakala, the largest extinct volcano in the world, is one of the noted features of this island. The rim of its crater is about twenty miles in circumference, and broken by two large gaps through which the lava formerly flowed. Another feature of note is the picturesque Iao Valley, famous for its beautiful scenery—the perpendicular cliffs by which it is surrounded and as being the scene of a fierce battle, fought between Kamehameha I. and one of the former kings of Maui about the year 1790. It is said that the struggle was so great that the stream running through this valley was, for a time, blocked in its course by the bodies of the dead and wounded. Hence it has since borne the name of "Wailuku," or waters of slaughter.

Oahu is the third in size, but first in population. It has an area of 600 square miles; length 46 miles, and breadth 25. This is the most important island of the group, since it contains the metropolis and capital of the kingdom, Honolulu. The harbor of this city is also the best and most frequented of the islands. The principal public buildings of Honolulu are Iolani Palace, the residence of the Queen; Aliilani Hall, containing the legislative hall and principal government offices; the Queen's Hospital; the custom House, Postoffice and Oahu jail. At the back of Honolulu is the magnificent Nuuanu valley, carpeted with ferns and creepers, which presents to the tourist a fair sample of Hawaiian scenery. About thirty miles north of here is the settlement of Laie, our mission headquarters, conspicuous for its extensive pastures, absence of dust, and prosperous little community. Here also is a small plantation run in connection with the mission labors. The cane irrigated by the three fine artesian wells looks well; but that above has suffered much from the drouth during the past four months. Recent rains, however, have revived it somewhat, and a partial crop will be harvested.

Kauai has an area of 590 square miles; length 25 miles, and breadth 22. An abundance of water and wood, fertile soil, and luxuriant vegetation have obtained for it the name of "the Garden Island."

Niihau is a small island near Kauai, having an area of only 97 square miles. The greater portion of this island consists of a low, grassy plain, affording

excellent pasturage for some 30,000 head of sheep. The manners and customs of the natives living on this island are more primitive than those of any other island of the group.

Molokai, with an area of 270 square miles, length forty miles, breadth seven miles, is the island to which the lepers are sent by the government for isolation. Their houses (built by themselves or the board of health), together with a few horses, cattle, pigs and dogs, are all they possess. A store is kept by the government, at which all things are sold at cost, and those who are too sick to help themselves are cared for in the government hospital.

The area of Lanai is 150 square miles, length 19 miles, breadth 10. The inhabitants here depend principally upon rain for their supply of water, there being but one running stream on the island. Sheep-raising is the leading industry. It was here that our mission headquarters were located prior to the purchase of the Laie plantation, in the year 1864.

The area of Kahoolawe is 63 square miles, length 14 miles, breadth 6. Because of a plentiful supply of grass, a cattle ranch has been established here. The other four islands of the group are too small to call for mention. The population of the islands is chiefly found along the shores on a belt of land varying from one to four miles in width, and except in the cases of a few deep and fertile valleys, the interior is very sparsely inhabited. In 1887, out of 80,578 people 40,000 were Hawaiians; the remainder were Americans, British, German, Portuguese, Chinese, and of other nationalities. The principal industry is the cultivation of sugarcane and the manufacture of sugar. Next in importance is the cultivation of rice. The raising of cattle stands third in the list of industries. Coffee, bananas, coconuts and other tropical fruits are grown in considerable quantities. The climate is mild and much cooler than places in a similar latitude on any of the continents. Thunder storms are of rare occurrence, and are seldom severe. These islands were discovered by Captain Cook, on January 18th, 1778. He landed first at Kauai, and then sailed to Hawaii, where he was killed by the natives Feb. 14th, 1779. At the time of Cook's visit the Hawaiians were barbarians; now they are Christians, and advancing rapidly in civilization. Only He who reigns above can recompense those who have spent their time and talents in the interests of this native race. There are legends among the natives of visits of ships before Cook's time; but of this nothing definite is known.

The Hawaiian government is a limited monarchy. There is a Queen, a House of Nobles and a House of Representatives. The members of the two houses are chosen by the people. The rulers of Hawaii from 1782 up to the present time have been as follows: Kamehameha I, II, III, IV and V, Lunalilo, Kalakaua and Queen Liliuokalani, who is now reigning.

Various rumors have been published by American newspapers regarding the efforts of certain aspirants to overthrow the present administration, but all such is groundless, for all is peace here. One can travel wherever he chooses with none to molest or make afraid.