

the leading men of the Territory; and that when years ago the people voted to sustain their friends, nothing said or done since that can be construed into a revocation of that vote or counsel, but that it is yet of force and entitled to all the practical recognition which then was understood.

SAVAII ELDERS REUNION.

SALELAVALU, Aug. 1, 1895.

In obedience to orders from President J. W. Beck, received July 4th, I returned from Saleaula to Salelavalu, July 6, where I was to make my headquarters. Elder C. Jensen was appointed to preside at Saleaula with Elder J. C. Knudsen as his assistant.

On Tuesday the 9th, Elder J. A. Baehand sailed for Upolu on the schooner Valpapa, where he has been called to labor, from this place.

According to previl us instructions and arrangements, all the Elders of Savaii gathered together at this place for the purpose of receiving and answering their mail, to visit together and rejoice with the Saints and friends for a few days.

On Wednesday, July 17th, Elder Geo. S. Burnham arrived from Upolu. He is perfectly delighted with Samoa, and especially with Savaii. He has been called to labor here, with his relative and we both rejoice exceedingly over his appointment. Elders Walker and Silver arrived from Fogatuli the 18th, at which place they have been laboring under some difficulties and trials since conference, April 6th. Elder Walker reported that he had been feeling poorly since they went back to the west, but at present he is well and hearty, over which we all rejoice and thank our Maker.

On Saturday, July 20th, Elders Jensen and Knudsen arrived from Saleaula, well and happy. We expected and looked for Elder J. W. Beck to come and meet with us on this occasion, but for reasons yet unknown to us, he failed to appear.

On Sunday, the 21st, we held meeting between 8 and 9 a. m. with Elder L. B. Burnham presiding. Brother C. Jensen addressed the assembled Saints and friends. Soon after our morning meeting closed our Saints brought a lot of nice, well-prepared food in baskets, which was spread upon the floor on banana leaves. After all was ready we sat down around the food, "foamoa," and did justice to the inner man, for we were hungry and to us the food was delicious. At 3:30 p. m. we again assembled and held meeting. Soon after meeting was out, we Elders and a few Saints and friends went to the spring nearby, where we initiated into the fold of Christ another soul, by the sacred ordinance of baptism. After returning, we went over to Brother Fred Kenison's, where he had a sumptuous supper prepared and waiting for us. There were roasted pig and chicken, bread, bread fruit, "tolo" and plum pudding. We indeed ate heartily and joyously, for to us it was a treat, especially to the Elders from the west. Between 7 and 8:30 we again held meeting this evening, in which we confirmed our new sister a member of the Church of Christ. After meeting closed the natives remained with us a couple of hours and

we spent the time very pleasantly singing hymns, both native and English, with the natives, they singing for us and we for them.

Monday, the 22nd, we spent the time visiting the Saints, answering letters, conversing and feasting, until sunset, when we all got in a boat and started across the bay to visit and spend the evening with the governor of the island—the king's brother, who had invited us to do so. We called in at our neighbors', Mr. Allen's, on our way over, and there learned that Elder William Sears had just arrived from Upolu, and was on his way by land to our house, a mile across the bay. This was good news, but it broke up our arrangements for the evening, so we returned and found Brother Sears making himself quite at home at Brother Kenison's house. We soon all went to our meeting house (where we live), where we had supper together with Brother Fred and his good wife Tooa, who is ever a dear faithful friend to the Elders. Again we spent the evening playing music, singing and rejoicing together.

Tuesday, the 23rd, was another happy feasting day. Our Saints and friends seem to be trying to excel each other by fetching for us the most and nicest food to eat. This evening we had a grand affair. According to the program our Saints and many friends assembled together with us at our house, where, after having singing and prayer in the usual way, baskets of food were brought in and spread upon our large table (the floor.) There was a large, whole roasted pig, furnished by Alfred Kenison, with other food in proportion, furnished by Brother Fred and the native. O, what a sight! and wouldn't our folks at home rejoice to have seen it and us at that hour! After struggling over what was before us for a little less than an hour, everything was cleared away and we gave a little concert, which was very much appreciated by our friends and neighbors.

Wednesday, July 24th—As was previously agreed upon and arranged for soon after sunrise we started out, marching in single file, up the bushy, stony trails to visit the woods, old graded roads and ruins, an old long extinct crater and other noted places a few miles inland from this village; and to celebrate a day when our great leader found for the driven and afflicted Saints another resting place, where they might live in peace and worship God according to the dictates of their conscience, and the Lord's commandments unto them. We took a good supply of food along or lunch; and also had five old rusty shotguns, with lots of ammunition, with which to shoot wild pigeons. There were in our company seven of us Elders, three Kenison brothers and our natives, who kindly joined us to show us through the woods. We marched steadily forward inland until 9:30 a. m., when we were informed by our guides that it was no use to go any farther, for in our excitement trying to shoot pigeons, we had passed unheeded the most of the sights we meant to see. At 11 o'clock we reached the boys whom we left behind to prepare our dinner, against the time of our returning. We returned a little too soon but did

not have to wait long, for everything was soon cooked, warmed up and ready; which, after saying grace over, we partook of with thankful hearts and full of joy. And we wondered how many Saints, even in Zion, were enjoying themselves better, and had more good things for dinner than we were in possession of and enjoying. As soon as dinner was over, we climbed to the top of a steep round hill, known by the name of Mount Obesi. From the top of this mound or hill, the large mountains and peaks further inland, the sea in different directions the reef and coast were beautiful to behold. Upon the top of this hill we fired a volley with our old rusty guns, in honor of the day. After spending a half hour or so upon this hill feasting upon the lovely scenery which greeted our eyes in every direction, we descended and made our way for nearly a mile east to the foot of the old crater. Here we stopped long enough to get all the young coconuts we wished to drink, then ascended to the top of the crater on its south side. The crater inside is about as deep as the surrounding country and is about 500 feet higher at its highest point. It is covered with a dense forest both inside and outside, only where it has been cleared off inside by the natives in which places, large taro patches are growing, and look very beautiful from the opposite side. It is about half of a mile across the top, and its rim and height varies in different places. All of the Elders except myself went down into the gorgeous pit, with A. and F. Kenison; so they got one point ahead of me that day; but while I was trying to find a pigeon to shoot at I ran on to a large, deep cave on the east side, which I took the crowd to see when they returned up out of the pit. At 3 o'clock p. m. we started for home where we arrived after an hour's fast walking. We were somewhat weary, but were all well pleased with what we had seen and done during the day. After bathing and changing our clothes we sat down to another sumptuous meal brought in by a couple of our neighbors, who have not yet embraced the Gospel, but for a long time have been very sociable and kind to the Elders.

According to the programme we got ready soon after supper and went over to Brother F. Kenison's, where with him and his wife we all got in a boat and again started for Sapaia to visit Moli, the king's brother. We indeed were a merry crowd, and the bright new moon and evening stars shone down upon us, through the fleecy clouds which were hanging over the green western mountains, with a heavenly peaceful silence, and seemed to whisper joy and peace to our happy souls.

There was blowing a soft, gentle, cool, land breeze which only rippled the glassy, briny sea and caused the stars, shining in the water below, to dance and blaze with exquisite beauty. With all nature so beautiful and our hearts so light and gay, we sang songs and rowed our boat along for two miles, when we landed at the wharf of the governor's place. We found him dressed up with a white suit of clothes and shoes and socks on. Both he and his good wife Tanuual acted as pleased to see us come as I ever saw any one act before.