

Maimea Dec 26th 1838

Dear sister Wilcox

At the close of an interesting day I seat myself to answer yours, received a few days since. That was principally concerning schools, & perhaps I can not interest you more, than to continue on the same subject.

It is now 4 months since I commenced at W. nei. She ~~the~~ first two months had 90 scholars with an average attendance of 27. The last two 30, with an average of 21.

The last 3 weeks, my school has been much more interesting than before. Those who have attended regularly, seem ^{to} be waking up to new life. I confess that ^{getting} so long, ^{begin} to exhibit signs of waking up, that I began to be discouraged, & had serious thoughts of setting a large share of them adrift.

But now I have a new work to do, viz. to keep them awake, & find them in profitable employment.

~~Do~~ ~~to~~ aid us in this, we have to day been trying the experiment of a little excitement. After examination this morning, we had an ahaaina kamalii at which were present about 30 scholars, who had been most punctual in attendance since August.

For the repast, we provided baked kials & ^{of} sweet potatoes, & a kid of the goats seethed. & some plain cakes for a desert. We seated them at tables, & set with them, giving to those who had been most at school. The place nearest the kumu as a reward.

The whole went off well, & we hope
some good from it, ma in hope after
It was rather a sudden move, or I think
you would have had an invite, to have
dined with us. Have a short vacation
& then hope for a pleasant school again
I sympathise with you, in your trials, with
your scholars, & hope you will yet see bet-
ter days.

Ms. Lucy E. Millett

Thurs morn.
Well. picked up my
was to go quite far this
morning, but being the first
day of vacation, she was
lidel too late - she then
mean has gone the fore
from some time ago.

But while I labour to get & keep my schol-
ars in school, & teach them science, I would
not forget the great end of all my labours
viz. to prepare them for the grand trike,
& for heaven - Very few of them seem at all
prepared - After all this is our
principle work - and let us try to keep
our hearts prepared for this work
that we may save our pupils -
Your sister in haste & love & wea-
riness
Lucia J. Lyons