

Lahaina Mar 8. 1842

Aloha nui oe e Bahuina

ua loa mai kau wahi
Palapala iau ana loa
hookahi iako mamaki
ua loto mai kai olua ika
hoike mai iau iko olua
he mahema aole ou ma
nau eku ai aku no kou
Aloha maoli aku ia olua

Na Hamehameha III

La Bateria

Letter Reference:

1842_Mar8_Kauikeaouli-Baldwin

Date of Letter:

March 8, 1842

From:

Kamehameha III [Kauikeaouli, Kamehameha III]

To:

Baluina [Rev. Dwight Baldwin]

Content Summary:

Kauikeaouli responds to a letter from Reverend Baldwin regarding tapa.

Typescript:

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[Archivist's note in another hand]

Kam III

Lahaina Mar 8, 1842

Aloha nui oe e Baluina

Ua loa mai kau wahi
palapala ia'u aua loa
hookahi iako mamaki
ua loko maikai olua ika
hoike mai ia'u iko olua
hemahema aole ou ma
nao e ku ai aku no ko'u
Aloha maoli aku ia olua

Na Kamehameha III

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[Letter Cover]

Na Baluina

Translation:

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Lahaina March 8, 1842

Great regards to you, Baldwin

I received your letter and I have received one forty-piece bundle of mamaki tapa. You two were gracious in reporting to me your needs. I have no intention of selling these, because of my great affection for you two.

From Kamehameha III

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[Letter cover]

For Baldwin

Notes:

1. *Baluina* - Rev. Dwight Baldwin came to Hawai‘i in 1831 with the fourth company of missionaries and resided on Maui, stationed at Wainē Church.
2. *iako* - ‘Iako is the number forty, particularly used in counting pieces of tapa.
3. *mamaki* - Māmaki is a mulberry-like tree (*Pipturus albidus*), the bark of which was used to make tapa. The word mamaki in the letter likely refers to the tapa itself rather than the tree.
4. *Kamehameha III* - Kauikeaouli was the second son of Kamehameha I and Keōpūolani and ascended the throne in 1825 as Kamehameha III. He was the longest ruling of the Hawaiian monarchs, and was king at the time of this letter.