

Realahekuwa March 2/80.

My Dear Mrs. W.

I do remember my fault this day & plead guilty of - perhaps unpardonable - seeming negligence in not acknowledging yours accompanying the 3 bottles of lime-juice you so kindly prepared & sent. They were all a long time on the way - the letter recd some weeks before the lime-juice, & in the mean time my cook left me very suddenly; our babe was sick - husband had an attack (and very severe one too) of inflamed eyes, & one pilikiu after another came until it seemed as if I never should get kawale again. But all dark days have their close & so has this.

I have again got help in the cook room, tho' not very efficient as yet. Baby is very well & hearty & husband's eyes are comfortable tho' not strong. My own health has held out thro' it all remarkably, & tho' I am not as fleshy as 3 or 4 months since, I was never perhaps able to endure fatigue better than I have been the past few months. You can judge somethg of my strength when I tell you I have no female help in the house excepting our little Lucy Hall & have a 25 pounder boy to nurse & take care of. He is however very good, far less troublesome than heretofore, creeps all about house, walks by the chairs, begins to say a few pretty little words & altogether he is an inconceivable comfort. Pays his way every day: I could not have believed it possible that a child of his age should be such a comfort to his mother. Tis wisely ordered that it be so & I love to feel my affections entwining themselves around his

young heart. May we not be left to idolize him. I feel that we need a large share of grace & wisdom to train him aright & wonder how others have been enabled to bring up large families as well as most families are bro't up. I very often think of what the mother of the Wesleys is reported to have said, when asked how she succeeded in bringing up her large family so well. Said she, "I never wash a child but I offer a prayer that he may be washed in the blood of Christ. I do not dress one without praying that it may be clothed in the robe of Christ's righteousness - I never feed it without asking that it may be fed with the bread of life," &c. Could we thus keep the salvation of our children constantly in view I believe that prou' parents would seldom have to mourn over the waywardness of their offspring.

Perhaps you who have more experience can give me some suggestions by which I may be aided in this matter. I feel that I need all the helps I can obtain to enable me to perform my duty aright.

The lime-juice you sent was very acceptable - many thanks for it. I intended to prepare some guava for you, but one way & another I was hindered from so doing; & now I must ask you to take the will for the deed for this time. We have got 2 little lime trees started but I fear it will be a long time before they bear to any account. They are the only lime trees I know of in this region.

You have probably got the Gen. Letter - What do you of R. say about a gen. meet. are you in favor or not? Mr. P. thinks we ought to have one - so says father S. as I hear by a note rec'd this A.M. from Rarotonga & if there be one we all - both families of Rona go. How is it with you? - A note from Mrs. Rowell written in Ian - says Dr. G. was going to Waiohine to see you, as you were quite poorly - what's the matter? Hope you are quite well now. By the way. What think you of what Dr. Anderson says of your going home?

My husband has gone down the coast to spend the Lab & dedicate a new church at the last village in his field on the way to Rau - will return D. C. on Monday. So I am all alone with my hears & natives. - Our boy is once more free from vessels the second or third time within 5 months. We have had quite busy times here this season - indeed I have had about as much company (i.e. transients) as I care to have in the same time. - Last week an Eng. gent. a Mr. Woolly left us after spending nearly a week in our family. He made himself very agreeable & we enjoyed his society much. Californians are coming in, buying land &c. & what is the consequence of the poor natives. Mrs. Conde seems think they are waking up a good deal in their region - cultivating the soil &c. - they are so here, but they are spiritually dead - I had almost said twice dead.

We hear of much sickness at Hilo, Rau & Kohala; but we are spared any particular epidemics. influensas prevail but not to any serious extent. - Poor Mr. Bond seems quite disheartened as I see by the Polynesian - we have not heard very particularly from him. Wedsful for him & hope that his fond hopes for his people may not all be blasted forever.

Do you hear much from mother? Mrs. R. writes me that she has got two ladies boarding with her. I fear it will be quite too much for her in her feeble state. May she have strength equal to her day. - You did not have a visit from Bro. H. it seems. I do feel very anxious to see him & his wife & this is all that reconciles me the idea of going to H. in case of a gen-much.

Please give my love to Mrs. Johnson. I have an unanswered letter from her - will try to answer it soon. Also remember me to Mrs. Wondenburg if you please when you see her. I see by the papers that your neighbors the Androits are gone to California.

Were Mr. P. at home he would write with me in love to you all. He
wrote Mr. W. & also Mr. I. sometime since - hope the letters have not gone
to California or somewhere else naloole toa as some of our letters
have done the year past. I have written you 3 or 4 times since Gen Meet.
Write when you can to your poor correspondent.

M. B. Payne

Mrs. G. E. H. Wilcox

Waiohi.
Honolulu.