

WILLIAM OTIS BALDWIN, B. 1821 - D. 1902

PAPERS, 1858 - 1860

THE PAPERS OF WILLIAM O. BALDWIN ARE SIX LETTERS TO
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE HAWAIIAN EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Special Committee of the
Hawaiian Evangelical Association.

Dear Sirs: We find ourselves
again under the necessity of making formal
application through you for aid from the
funds of the American Board.

We had hoped to be able to dispense
for the coming year, with at least a part
of the amount received during the current
year, without becoming involved in debt.

But, without some unforeseen relief, such
reduction is impossible. The state of our
family is such as to lead us to expect an
increase rather than a diminution of ex-
penses for the coming year. Still we
do not intend to ask for supplies beyond
our clearly seen necessities.

A salary of not less than \$750.00
will be needed for the support of your
family for the ensuing year, and will
be devoted to our necessities according
to the best of our ability.

We have heretofore found great
inconvenience from a want of good
there being no constant stream
several miles of us. And, in

past we have been obliged to hire much
water brought. During the past year we
have built a cistern, which with its ap-
purtenances has cost us in money \$154.00
I myself acting as mason, to save expense.

We wish to apply for the above sum
as a grant for repairs and additions;
as the cistern has been sprung and found
to be tight.

Wm. C. Baldwin
May 13, 1858

Respectfully Submitted
Wm. C. Baldwin

W. C. Baldwin

Application to the
Special Committee

for 1859.

Recd May 21. 1858

Hana Oct 3, 1859

To the Special Committee of the
Hawaiian Evangelical Association.

Dear Brethren, The time
has come in the providence of God,
when we feel bound to seek some
other field of employment than the
one we now occupy.

Mr. Baldwin's health is such that
he needs frequent medical advice
and attendance such as I am
not able to give.

Such is our isolated position,
that competent medical aid is not
available at this place through any
of the channels offered by the C. B.
C. A. M.

We therefore ask you to release
us from the position and either
furnish us employment in some
other place or provide for our return
to the land of our birth.

Will you please assemble and act im-
mediately on the above as our case is
urgent

Yours truly

Wm. O. Baldwin

Mary P. Baldwin &

Rev. W. C. Baldwin

Oct. 3/59.

Request to change location.

Hana Oct. 3rd 1859

Dear Bro. Castle,

We have just received your letter of the 26th ult. and hasten to reply as the Manuohawai will leave this morning and carry tabs a mail.

With regard to the items mentioned in your letter I have a few words to say and I beseech you to hear me patiently.

1st I was not aware that there was no grant for the Med. Department for to meet the expenses of 1859.

2nd I was aware that the Board has stated that no further grants would be made to the Department after the current year.

3rd I was aware that the Board hesitated about allowing Dr. Robinson to attend Medical lectures before coming to these Islands on the ground that Dr. Judd was the Physician for the Hawaiian Islands and it was doubtful whether another was needed!!!!

4th I do know that Dr. Baldwin
has heretofore informed us that he could
not come to Havaa under any circumstances.

5th In view of the fact we did apply
to Dr. Herrick of Pona Hawaii; who at
first promised to come but was prevented
in consequence of the care of Mrs. Shipman.

6. I do know that we did employ the
only competent ^{available} Medical aid in the
Hawaiian Kingdom, and that talk
about the propriety of our depending upon
Dr. Baldwin who, as every Missionary
in the Hawaiian Islands fully knows
cannot come here, is all Moonshine.

7. I do know that the life of my
wife did actually depend upon the
present personal services of an experienced
Physician, at the time of the birth of
our son and that she is still in
a very critical and dangerous con-
dition and that I am obliged to
look for new Medical aid in her
behalf.

8th We do hereby declare that our
mission at Havaa must be closed at
the earliest possible opportunity.

Our isolated position is not consistent with
the policy of those who placed us here.

The life of my wife is, not safe in
such an isolated position as this where
aid cannot be obtained, and further, I
shall cease contending for the right to
stay at this isolated place any longer.
My wife has for some time been annoyed
the living here is injurious her health, and
we have felt compelled to leave Hawaii at
the earliest practicable opportunity.

Yours, in truth & sincerity,
Wm. C. Baldwin

P.S. Will Bro. Castle please send the
minutes to the Secretary of Special Committee,
James D. Smith
Wm. C. Baldwin

W O Baldwin Home
Oct 3. 1859 Rec^d
Oct 6 or 7. 1859

Ans^d Inclosed

Hona Maui Nov. 15, 1859

To the Special Committee of the
Hawaiian Evangelical Association;

Dear Sirs: You will recollect
that a few weeks since you were called
together to consult concerning the best
course to be pursued by Mr. Baldwin &
myself with reference to her health.

You will also recollect passing a resolu-
tion, which was forwarded to me by Bro.
Castle, disclaiming power to act with
reference to our removal from Hona.

I wish to ask, softly, a few questions,
and throw out a few hints to which
I ask your patient attention.

1. Who voted that we occupy the Hona
Station?
2. Why did the committee at Boston
say that the business of locating rests with
the Hawaiian Evangelical Association?

They sent us here in answer to your
call declaring that the particular location
of each missionary was under your control.
Did they, or did they not, tell the truth?

3. If it is your business to locate, whose

is it to remove when a location found uncom-
patible with the health of the located?

We did not ask to return to America, or
to go anywhere else in particular; but simply
for an exchange in some way; leaving it with
you to determine what kind of change could
be made. In this we were at fault; for we
ought to have suggested what is obviously ne-
cessary in Mrs. Baldwin's case, viz: A location
in some cooler place as Waimea or Maha-
koo or Kona or some such place; either
where a physician can be had, or where a
more favorable climate would obviate the
necessity for his services. In our opinion,
such a step is necessary and we wrote accord-
ingly, not dreaming that we were prisoners
shut up under a new and unwritten law
at war with the positive declarations of our
Alma Mater at Boston.

Still as we are in great danger of being
supposed to be "huhu" at present, on account of being
cut off from the means of health, we wish
to say we are not "huhu" at all. But we
believe it right for missionaries to take wise
means for the preservation of their own lives.
And having seen Death threatening to strike
another mortal blow in 15 minutes, if relief
was not obtained within that time, we do
not feel disposed to take up our voluntary

abandoned quite so near his Castle, with no means
of self defence.

We should indeed like the aid and counsel
of all our brethren who feel an interest
in our temporal or spiritual welfare. But
it will be some months before they meet.
And then it appears that they must send to
Boston before they will have power to act.
And I fear that before that time Mrs. Baldwin
may exchange her residence for one in another
world.

Once more, to what purpose will it be
to consult the A. B. C. F. M. without your
aid and cooperation? Will they not
refer us to you again? We asked your
aid leaving you to choose the particular
method of affording aid. You refer us
to the Board at Boston who declare that
the very thing we ask for, is yours to decide.

We find ourselves somewhat puzzled
by this complication of difficulties. The
proposed journey to Wiltshire would require
means not now at our command.

We wish to have you think again, and act
less hastily, and with more evident ^{reference} to
the power reposed in you.

I am as ever your servant in Christ
Wm. O. Baldwin

W.O. Baldwin, to
the Special Com^{rs}
Hana Nov. 15 1859
Recd. Nov. 23^d do

Hana Dec. 17, 1859

To the Special Committee
of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association

Dear Brethren: Will
you please to forward the
accompanying papers with
your own opinion thereon
to the Credentials Committee
of the A. B. C. F. M., and
so bless your brethren
in Christ.

Yours Truly
Wm. C. Baldwin

Mr C. Baldwin
Recd Dec 26/59.

Hana Jan 3, 1860

Dear Bro. Clark;

Your letter containing the action of the Special Committee in passing a resolution authorizing me to act with reference to Mrs. Baldwin's health, and also a subsequent note informing me of the reception of papers forwarded to said Committee, both came to hand ~~last the 1st inst.~~ on Sunday eve Jan. 1, 1860.

We desire to express our gratitude to the Committee for their promptly opening a way for action on our part, and convinced as we are of the importance a change for Mrs. B. before another hot season comes on, we wish to take the first opportunity (for which we can make preparation) to leave the Islands, for the reasons already so fully stated.

Will you therefore please see what arrangements can be made for our departure in Feb. if convenient, if not, ^{the only part of} we ~~will~~ ^{will} leave certainly.

We shall need a good supply

of water for our two children. I
wish a couple or more hogsheds for
our private use. Mrs Baldwin must
have access to cold water.

Please keep us informed of what
vessels are to go during the period
above named, and make such provision
for us as you can consistently with
your other obligations.

Mrs. Baldwin is no better than
when Mrs Armstrong was here
and we do not think it safe to wait
until another Summer heat.

Yours most truly
Wm. O. Baldwin

Rev. W. G. Baldwin
Newburg 6/5/9.

