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by

Samuel and Nancy Ruggles

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Copy of the Journal from Boston,  
U. S. A. to the Sandwich Isles by Samuel & Nancy  
Ruggles On board the Brig Thaddeus Oct. 23, 1819.

REC'D June 1, 1926  
From Mrs. Francis (Bill) Dennis  
AKSD who owns original  
at Madison, Wis.

The trying scene is now over, the parting hand given, the Farewell past. We shall no more behold the face of that dear, ever dear Mother whom we so ardently love, and who has shed so many tears on our account. We shall not again in the flesh greet those beloved brethren & sisters and our dear friends with whom we have often had such sweet counsel and walked to the house of God in company. Their advice and instructions we shall no longer enjoy, but we shall have their prayers. Morning and evening their closets shall witness the fervency of their entreaties in behalf of a far distant brother and sister. Consoling thought, which will cheer us while we are crossing the tempestuous deep, cheer us when we are strangers in a pagan land, cheer us while we are endeavoring to lead the untutored heathen from nature up to nature's God. A thought that will soften the arrows of persecution, and comfort us when we are called to pass the furnace of affliction. Farewell honored mother, we hope ere long to meet you in the New Jerusalem; may you enjoy every temporal and spiritual blessing which shall be for your good, and when you close your earthly pilgrimage, may you go forth like a shock of corn fully ripe. A long farewell.

Dear Brethren, Sister, friends, we love you all with a sincere attachment, and our love will ever remain. It rends our hearts to leave you but we trust our Saviour calls us, and we would cheerfully leave all for his sake. May you be abundantly blessed of God, made faithful unto death, and in Heaven may we all meet no more to say -- Farewell --.

Ye ever memorable and dear native town; must we say farewell to you? shall we never again walk your streets, no more visit those devoted sanctuaries, and there renew our covenant engagements with our God and commemorate the dying love of Jesus? May ye ever enjoy the presence of the Saviour, may unceasing showers of divine grace be shed upon you. It will afford us pleasure to look back upon you as the places where we first drew breath, and spent our childhood and youth, and where we first subscribed with our hands to the Lord. Dear homes Adieu. --

Dear Heathen seminary at Cornwall, you are doubly dear to our hearts. We have prayed for you, we shall pray for you still. May the great head of the church, ever preside over you. We hope to hear from time to time of your abundant prosperity, and we hope that in due time many of your children may come to the S. Islands and help us. Farewell, dear youth, we shall never forget you. --

And now America; for the last time we fix our eyes upon your dear shores. Your places which have known us will know us no more forever. We look upon you with hearts full of emotion as you recede from our view; we shed a tear or two, and cheerfully bid you a long, long farewell.

Samuel & Nancy Ruggles

Written for the gratification of a fond  
Mother, and other dear friends.  
Saturday Nov. 6th, 1819.

In whatever part of the world the providence of God may see fit to cast our lot it will ever afford us peculiar pleasure to imagine ourselves by the side of the best of mothers, relating to her from time to time the joys and sorrows through which we are called to pass. --

This is<sup>s</sup> the first time that either of us have been able to write since we took up our abode in this floating habitation, on account of sea sickness, and many other inconveniences attendant in our situation.

I will acquaint you<sup>f</sup> with our present situation and the various scenes through which we have passed since the trying moment of separation. - We have been visited with mercies as well as afflictions, and have reason continually to bless and praise our heavenly Father, for condescending to deal our allotments in so much mercy. The mission families have all experienced more or less of sea sickness except the native youths who have been supported by a kind providence to administer comfort to their afflicted friends, and we would speak of it to their praise; they have been faithful in doing what they could. They are dear brothers to all of us. Most of us recovered so far in about a week as to be able to stay comfortably on deck for the most part of the time, though some were sick much longer. Mr. Ruggles has been more severely afflicted than any one, not only with sea sickness, but with the cramp in the stomach which has reduced him very low. As yet he has not been able to sit up but very little. I have been so favored since the termination of the first week as to be able to administer to his comfort as far as circumstances would permit. You know not my dear friends the inconveniences which attend the accomplishment of a little on board a vessel. Often in attempting to go one way we are tossed the other, and if we have any thing in our hands it is frequently thrown upon the floor or at the best partly spilt. If we want a little warm water, or a little nourishing food prepared, we frequently have to wait for hours. It was really amusing the other day to see the unwearied and persevering exertions of sister B. in procuring a little tea for our languid husbands, which she at length obtained and found they relished. A cordial thus obtained seems doubly precious. Do not conclude my dear Mother from my remarks that I am unhappy in my situation. I assure you I have not had a single desire to return to America, but have felt perfectly contented with my condition, even in the darkest hours of affliction. Mr. R's sickness has been and still is peculiarly trying; he frequently expresses to me his apprehensions of finding a watery grave before we reach Owhyhee (Hawaii) and it does seem at times as if he could not continue long. The idea of being left a wanderer as it were along, in a strange land, is very trying; but I will not murmur; the Lord afflicts not willingly; he may yet be better unto us than our fears, and he certainly is far better unto us than our deserts.

O that I may ever feel to say "thy will O Lord be done." "My God is all powerful; his arm will protect, His grace will provide, and his wisdom direct. My God is all faithful, no promise he'll break, His children he'll never no never forsake". I think much of dear friends whom I have left, and sometimes find it difficult to suppress an ardent desire to see them; but when I consider the narrow vale of time which separates us, together with the magnitude of the cause in which I hope ere long to be engaged, these desires in a measure subside, and I feel reconciled at the thought of separation. Mr. R. and myself frequently converse together about absent friends, and the name of Mother is mentioned with peculiar tenderness. We shall feel anxious to hear how she endures the severity of another winter, and how she enjoyed her mind. Does the sun of Righteousness continually shine upon her and cause the dark cloud of affliction with which she may be surrounded to become light about her? or is she removed from this vale of tears and numbered with the silent dead? O Lord God, thou knowest. Enough for me to know that thou doest all things well; here will I rest. --

Nov. 8th. Met a vessel probably bound to America; but the roughness of the sea prevented our speaking with her. We are about 1600 miles from Boston. The weather has been rough and the sea boisterous most of the way. Yesterday Brother T. preached from Gen. 8th 27 15th. Again I take my pen to inform my friends how I have spent the day. Immediately after breakfast attended to the recitation of our lessons on deck, recited again soon after dinner, then had a pleasant season of conversation with the dear sisters which seemed more like a visit on land than any I have before enjoyed since I have been on board. I spent the evening on deck walking for exercise & singing. The weather continues boisterous & the wind contrary which greatly impedes our progress. These unfavorable circumstances are calculated to try, but not to dishearten us. Our heavenly father knows infinitely best how to accomplish his own purposes in and by us. If God has any important service designed for his little band in Owhyhee (Hawaii), surely his own time for its accomplishment is the best time. "The Lord reigneth let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of Isles be glad thereof", and though to us clouds and darkness may appear to be round about him; yet righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. -

Sabbath 27th.  
Whilst our dear American friends are enjoying the rich entertainments of the sanctuary of God, I hope they will not imagine that we are destitute of spiritual blessings and enjoyments. I believe this is the pleasantest sabbath we have enjoyed since our departure, the weather is mild and the health of the family such as that all are able to attend public worship on deck without preparing beds for any. Have had preaching three times since we came on board. Brother B. has preached to-day for the first time; text "And the time of this ignorance God winked at, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent". The presence of God is not confined to temples made with

hands but in every place, he that feareth God and worketh riteousness is accepted of him. Yes, dear friends, God is evidently with us and grants us constant supplies of his supporting grace: O that I could add that we enjoy the special influences of his spirit upon our hearts. O that I could tell you that the ships company (whose studidity and ignorance seem to be not far removed from the heathens themselves) are brought to bow to Immanuel's and acknowledge him as their Lord and their God. -

28th Lat. 29 Lon. 32.

We are frequently lead to inquire why we are not borne more rapidly towards the place of our destination but it becomes continually to remember that all is for the best. May this motto ever be mine, may it be ours. Nothing remarkable has transpired to-day.

30th.

Have just returned from a singing school in the cabin, Brother T. is our instructor. We enjoy much satisfaction, while tossing upon the ocean in singing the praises of him who rides upon the stormy wind and manages the seas. A whale seen today sharks and other large fish are frequently seen, but we have not been able to take any except a few flying fish which came on board in the night.

Dec. 1st.

A proclamation has been read this evening announcing that Thursday next (that is tomorrow) is to be observed as a day of thanksgiving and praise to God. While we congratulate our dear friends on this anniversary, Thanksgiving, we would also redognize with humble gratitude the tender mercies of our God toward us in a special manner. For the mercies of this day we would especially bless him; the wind which for about the 20 days past has been a head, has to-day blown in our favor, and this evening we have entered the trade winds. Capt. Blanchard has frequently observed that we were sailing toward home; though the bare mention of home creates pleasuring sensations in my mind and ever will; yet the thought of going thither, finds an unwelcome reception in my heart.

2nd.

Religious exercises in the cabin in consequence of the roughness of the sea, which rendered it inexpedient to be on deck. At 3 o'clock surrounded the table and partook of a frugal repast, consisting of fresh pork, sea pye, crackers and cheese. Various circumstances combined to render the season interesting. Brother T. remarked "Thanks for the gospel enjoyed by our countrymen, and promised to the heathen". A sister observed, while our friends rejoice on the present occasion, they also weep in secret on account of the vacancies occasioned by our absence. May we not comfort ourselves with the reflection that as we are frequently on the minds of our friends, many fervent prayers are offered up in our behalf. We now sail at the rate of 8 knots an hour, crossed the tropical line about 4 this afternoon, bidding the northern temperate zone adieu; probably for the last time.

3rd.

Continue to sail rapidly in the latitude of the Sandwich Isles. The weather is not so warm as I supposed it would be in this region, though I am to remember that it is now the coldest season in the year. Some of the family complain of sickness today, others of extreme stupidity. For my own part I feel unusually dull. I suppose it is in part owing to the continual motion of the vessel. Why is it, that, when every thing about seems to demand the most lively exercise of all the christian graces, the soul should become in a great measure insensible to divine things.

"Rise, rise my soul and leave the ground,  
Stretch all thy thoughts abroad,  
And rouse up every tuneful sound,  
To praise the eternal God."

4th.

Our dear mother may now look at the Atlas and find the I. of cape verd, and imagine she sees her children sailing along by it about three degrees to the westward, in the enjoyment of comfortable health, and good spirits. Your N.

5th.

How vast are our obligations to our covenant God. His mercies are new every morning, fresh every evening, and repeated every moment. This is the first day that my dear companion has been able to sit up the whole time since we came on board.

6th.

Attended the monthly concert this evening in the cabin. How animating the reflection that the disciples of Christ in every part of the world can unite at the same time in directing their petitions to the King of Kings for the extension and enlargement of the kingdom of Christ in all parts of the habitable globe. Who would not esteem it a privilege to take a part in this glorious work, even though trials and afflictions attend on every side; for it is through much tribulation that we are to enter the kingdom of God. How much better to suffer affliction in the service of our Lord and Master than to dwell in alluence, and have no other treasure but that of this world. How precious is that promise, Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world. ----

10th.

N. Lat. between 2 and 3 degrees. The equinoctial storms, which have prevailed for two or three days past, have rendered our situation very uncomfortable, though the water we catch is very useful. Firing these storms we have had much thunder and lightning; a flash has run down the lightning rod, but no essential injury has been done.

Good is Jehovah, in bestowing sunshine  
Nor less his goodness in the storm and thunder,  
Mercies and judgments, both proceed from kindness,  
Infinite kindness.

Sabbath - 11th.

A calm and pleasant morning; had religious exercises in the cabin, and in the evening public services on deck. Brother T's text, Be not conformed to this world. Alas! what are the honors and pleasures of the world, which soon pass away. Daily experience teaches me more & more that this earth cannot afford any solid peace or rest to the immortal mind. Since called from my maternal abode I have

felt myself in a peculiar sense a wanderer; no where at home.--

Oh when shall I see Jesus  
And dwell with him above  
And from that flowing fountain,  
Drink everlasting love!

13th.

Crossed the equator this morning, the heat is not so extreme as I anticipated; though the confined air in our little rooms is very uncomfortable, and on deck the sun beats down and causes a general head-ache; but being favored as we are with a fresh breeze we make ourselves tolerably comfortable.

14th.

This has been an eventful morning; had an opportunity to send directly to America by ship Mary from Calcutta to Boston. O how it will rejoice our dear mother, and other dear friends to hear from us. I know it will be like good news from a far country. I very much regret that we had not more letters prepared. We will endeavor to be ready for the next opportunity. While Capt. B. was gone to convey our letters to the Mary, and all of us on deck viewing the animating prospect, our attention was suddenly turned by the appearance of a large shark making his way towards our brig. The hook was immediately thrown out and almost as soon seized by the prodigious creature, it was drawn almost upon deck, when it extricated itself and again plunged into the deep. So our high expectations of having a nearer view of the animal were immediately cut off.--

17th.

Think not my dear mother that my mind is wholly absorbed with the trifling objects which occasionally come to my way, if I should again resume my pen to inform you of a visitor this morning from South America. A very large land bird came around the Thaddeus as if she rejoiced in the discovery she had made, then caught up a flying fish and left us. Strange that an object so insignificant in itself should attract so much notice; but anything from land affords us joy.

from your Nancy.

Sabbath - 19th.

Brother B's text Isa. 5th, 4th. 1st, the obligations which result from what God has done for us. 2nd, it becomes us to inquire why what God hath done for us, has produced so little effect. 1st, we have relied on our privileges, with feeling our obligations. 2nd, the effect of divine truth is prevented by the manner which we receive it. 3rd, It loses its effect by grieving the holy spirit. 4th, by a false hope.

Yours N. R.

Dec. 25th, 1819. Christmas.

Since it has pleased God in tender mercy, so far to recover my health as that I am able to write a little, I will joyfully embrace occasional opportunities, when it is not convenient for my dear Nancy, and note something for the perusal of our beloved friends in America. As the scenes through which we pass are various and as we know that every circumstance will be read with deep interest by our friends they will excuse us if we are not particular as to our manner & style. We will open our hearts fully, and relate occurrences as they happen. -When we experience mercies we will tell our dear Mother, brethren & sisters that they may rejoice and praise God with us; and when we are called to wade through trials and afflictions we will relate them also that they may sympathize with us and pray for us. Our friends may now look upon the map

and see us sailing pleasantly along under the tropic of capricorn. We entered the torrid zone on the 2nd inst. and have been only 23 days in passing through its sultry clime. To-day the sun is vertical. While you are seated by the side of a good fire, enjoying yourselves with a bowl of apples a minced pye or a good cup of tea, we are sweltering with the heat of summer trying in vain to find a cool place, with not so much as a cup of water that you would consider drinkable. But we are not destitute of enjoyments; we are far from being unhappy. Notwithstanding I am obliged to rise four or five times in the course of night with seasickness, still, I can eat a hearty breakfast of hash and onions, dine on sea pye, and sup on a pint of water gruel. The latter is a luxury to us all, it being the best way that we can make water palatable. We hope to reach cape Horn in three weeks; we dread that place but if we are carried safe around, we shall feel almost Home.

Samuel R.--

Dec. 26th

After a distressing seasick night, I awoke early this morning, hearing some one cry out "A heavy shower is rising in the west". I arose immediately took my tin cup and went on deck and was so fortunate as to catch three pints of pure rain water as it ran off my umbrella. -This was indeed a prize being so much better than our imported water; it will serve N. and myself two days.

The storm is over; the sun sheds his scorching beams upon us and we are obliged to seek refuge under the shadow of the sails.- We hope to enjoy a pleasant sabbath: we hope the sun of righteousness will visit our souls with His cheering rays, and inspire us with new zeal and activity in his service. - As usual we have a prayer meeting in the cabin this morning, in the afternoon public services on deck. Our Saviour can as easily be present with his humble followers, while tossing upon the mighty water, as when assembled in a house on land. We shall remember our American friends to-day and have the pleasure of believing that they are praying for us. - Yesterday was Christmas. We observed the day in a religious manner in commemoration of that divine Saviour whom we are going to proclaim to the perishing heathen. We have resolved ever to observe this day in this manner. - An appropriate hymn was composed by Mr. Conant an Officer of the brig, and we trust a brother in Christ. We will transcribe and send a copy of it. - S. R.

All hail the bright star the east once illumin'd  
And blest with its radiance the Shepherds and Seers;  
When religion the emblem of mercy assum'd,  
And glory appeared in this valley of tears,  
It rose o'er the gloom that enshrouded the earth,  
And announc'd as it burst from the portals of Heaven  
That the Saviour of sinners, Divine in his birth,  
The conquerer of Death, to the world is now given.

O this day from the regions of glory and love,  
As the type of salvation and symbol of hope:  
Gently borne through its beams, see the pure Heavenly dove  
Appear to mankind who in darkness now grope,  
May religion's bless'd Star as we traverse the ocean,  
Illumine our way, and its comfort impart:  
While our fond ling'ring thought we cast back emotion  
To the country that holds the dear friends of each heart.



J E H O V A H, assist, in the soul trying hour,  
The mission of peace, to a far distant land:  
And calm the rude Main, with thy all saving power,  
Be love, grace, and mercy the gifts of thy hand.  
When at length on the Isles of the gentiles they tread,  
We pray that thy spirit may smooth the rough ways,  
By them may the heathen to Jesus be led;  
And receive with fond rapture the Gospel's bright rays.

By them may the Priests of Idolatry learn,  
That their Morais and Taboos & offerings are vain,  
Let the nation from Idols and violence turn,  
And the joy of salvation perpetual reign;  
Now swell the loud anthem of praise to the Lord  
From whence streams of mercy incessantly flow,  
Be the Father, the son, and the Spirit adored,  
By all nations and kindreds & realms here below.

Tune Hermit.

27th.

A calm this morning the sun beats down upon us with such scorching beams, as renders it very difficult for us to be comfortable on deck or in our rooms. - I have just been into the water to bathe and find the exercise extremely fatiguing: I fear that I shall receive injury from it instead of obtaining relief. I have so little strength that I should consider it hazardous attempting again, unless I had a rope fastened to me. - We have been examining some of our provisions: find our vegetables nearly consumed. Several of our cheeses began to spoil, and we shall have to give them to the sailors. When another mission comes out I should recommend that they bring old cheeses instead of new; these will keep sound without any trouble, but it is almost impossible to preserve the new through this sultry region. 3 o'clock P. M. A gentle breeze again which wafts us along at the rate of 4 knots an hour, and renders our situation more comfortable. O how I long to be free from seasickness that I may be able to write and walk about without being dizzy. When it is best I shall enjoy health; let me be satisfied that God knows and does what is best. Nancy has been blessed with excellent health since a few of the first days. Dear Girl she has been severely tried with her sick husband, but I trust God has made his promise good unto her. "My grace shall be sufficient for thee". - I cannot forbear to mention how greatly the Lord has favored me in a companion. She is all and more than I could reasonably have asked. I cannot enough feel my obligations to God for the gift. O that a continual realizing sense of this expression of his kindness, may influence me to a closer walk with him, and to more faithfulness in his service. - I very much regret that I had no more time to visit E. Windsor friends. I shall ever remember them with the tender feelings of a son and brother. I am happy that I can speak of one there and call her mother. Farewell E. Windsor friends, farewell dear friends in Brookfield until another convenient season. Let us look forward with joyful anticipation, to the time when our labours on earth shall be finished; and let our life be such, that we may there meet again with the ransomed of the Lord on mount Zion.

Yours &c. S. Ruggles.-

27th.

Dear Mother, I trust you will be gratified to find the feelings of your absent children so happily blended as to dispose them to unite in their endeavors to afford you all the comfort in their power, by relating the daily occurrences of our lives. Though we frequently speak of things that would appear trifling to a stranger, we are confident they will deeply interest the feelings of our dear Mother. We are now in the southern temperate zone where the religion of Jesus, whose birth we have so lately commemorated, is not known or if it is only in a limited degree. O when will Christians duly realize their obligations to their God and Saviour. How just is the requisition, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature", yet how little is it regarded by the generality of those, who term themselves followers of him, who went about doing good. Very much land yet remains to be possessed, and blessed be God, we have the gracious promise that the time will come, and we believe the time is not far distant, when Jesus shall inherit every land, even unto the uttermost parts of the earth. O how slow of heart are we to believe all that the Prophets have spoken concerning the upbuilding of Zion, and thereby justly incur the admonition, "why stand ye here all the day idle". If grief could find admittance into the heavenly world how would those hearts which are now filled with pure seraphic joy be grieved that they did so little for the promotion of the cause of Christ while on earth. O my mother, may we ever pray for the peace of Jerusalem; and while your fervent supplications ascend for the cause in general I trust your children whom you have devoted to this best of causes will not be forgotten. Mr. B's text for Christmas, Luke 2nd 14th Glory to God &c. In the first place was described the manifestations of the birth of Christ. 2nd the birth of Christ the means of promoting peace on earth. 3rd The birth of Christ is an illustration of the glory of God. The discourse was very appropriate; the important object of our Mission was brought into consideration, which, with the circumstances of our present situation rendered the season peculiarly interesting.

28th.

Perhaps the particulars respecting our mission family may divert our dear mother a few moments some future day, while sitting by her fire side. We rise about 5 in the morning, family prayers at 7 when a portion of the scripture is read and a hymn sung, and the season closed with a prayer; breakfast at 8, dine at 1, and sup at 5, on water gruel. Evening prayers at 8 after which we generally walk half an hour for exercise and then retire. - Tuesday evening we devote to singing Wednesday evening a meeting of the prudential committee to transact on secular concerns, and Friday evening the sisters have a meeting by themselves; leaving the other evenings to the disposal of each individual. - Though there are trials and privations of a peculiar nature, attached to the lives of these who leave country and home, traverse the tempestuous deep, to spend their lives in a land of paganism, still if cheerfully complied with, at the call of providence, with a humble desire to glorify God, there are joys too, which the world can neither give nor take away. Our situation is in many respects much pleasanter than I anticipated, and I think it is every day becoming more and more so, notwithstanding our many little inconveniences. We are denied the society of these dear kindred and friends, whom we so much love, but this makes our little family circle the more precious. The sisters are very dear to me. A few weeks

since, and we were all, except in one instance, entire strangers, now the most tender love, and sisterly affection subsists between each of us. O may this affection continue to increase till we close our earthly pilgrimage and at length become perfect in endless felicity.

30th.

Various kinds of waterfowls have been seen to-day. Brother C. shot at one but did not kill it. We have some variety even at sea. Now and then a new object presents itself, of which we take the liberty to inform our friends. While you look to the South for the sun, we look to the north, while you are shivering with the cold of winter, we are suffering the heat of a torrid sun in a calm at sea; while you consider us tossing here and there upon the mighty deep, we have the pleasure of fancying you pleasantly situated in that goodly land which we have left the fond remembrance of which shall ever afford us pleasure. Mr. Ruggles has just entered our little room and says "Tell our friends that we are very happy to-day. When he finds a day of comfortable health we enjoy it extremely well, though it seldom happens.

31st.

Rose this morning at 5 and went on deck just as the sun was making his appearance above the eastern horizon, and viewed the firmament without a cloud, and the vast extended ocean without a wave to interrupt the sight. All was calm and serene, though we dread a calm in this region. I stood by the side of the vessel a considerable time contemplating the infinite wisdom and goodness of God manifested in the works of creation and providence; and particularly the mysterious leadings of his hand with respect to myself the year past. Surely the Lord leadeth the blind in a way which they knew not. Neither myself nor any of my friends would have imagined at the commencement of the year, that a few short months would remove me 1,680 miles from them, and that dear home. What may be the results of another year, and how great its changes with me is known only to Him who fitteth immensity and inhabiteth Eternity. O may the grace of God help me so to remember my days as to apply my heart unto wisdom.

Oh, time, how few thy value weigh,  
How few will estimate a day;  
Days, Months, and years are rolling on  
The soul neglected and undone?

Sabbath Jan. 2nd, 1820.

A delightful morning indeed; to me peculiarly so, my health is comfortable and I feel more like enjoying the sabbath than I have before since I left dear America. The weather is not excessively hot, tho' the air is faint; the sea calm and unruffled, no swelling waves dash against the sides of our floating habitation, threatening our destruction; no distressing gales beat upon us as if determined to overthrow us into the depths of the sea; all is peace and tranquillity while we proceed silently along the coast of Patagonia at the rate of one mile an hour. Perhaps if our A. friends could see us this morning, they would wish themselves with us. Though they cannot be with us they will remember us today with deep interest. While assembled in the house of God and seated round the table of their crucified Lord; their hearts will be uplifted in fervent prayer for their friends who have gone to erect the banner of the cross in a benighted pagan land. May God hear your prayers for us, and make you so unspeakably happy, as hereafter to

know that your desires have entered the ears of the Almighty and that those now degraded Islanders are become the true worshippers of God. I am full of faith, that the time has nearly arrived, when O. Idols will be no more; when instead of Marai, will be erected, houses dedicated to the service of Obookiah's God, and that land which is now grown over with thorns and nettles, become a fruitful field. But before this joyful period arrives, I am not insensible that much toil and labour is necessary; many trials and difficulties are to be endured; a battle is to be fought with the enemy of all righteousness, and a victory won. Perhaps some of this little mission company are soon to fall as martyrs in the cause, but should this be, it will not prevent a final conquest. Christ will yet be king of the Sandwich Islands. From yours in haste. S. R.

Same date of the above.

My mind at the return of the new year has been deeply impressed with a sweet remembrance of happy days spent in the enjoyment of Christian privileges in my dear native country. This pleasure however is mixed with pain, that those days, and privileges are no more to be enjoyed. Never again do I expect to surround the table of the crucified Redeemer with those dear friends I so ardently love, and recal to mind with emotions of peculiar interest. I am sensible of having spent the morning of my days in the most favorable situation and under the best circumstances for improvement in the divine life; yet I have to lament that I have not made those acquirements which my Lord and Master might justly have expected of me. What more could have been done that has not been done for me, yet how little of the fruit of righteousness have I brought forth. How faint and languid have been my exertions to glorify God by doing good to souls in laboring to promote the cause of Christ on earth. But instead of being cut off from all the ordinances of the gospel and means of grace as I have deserved; the indications of divine providence seems to be, forbear a little longer; stay thy hand and let her be transplanted in a heathen soil surrounded by the wretched worshippers of wood and stone and see what exertions she will then make to rescue souls from eternal burnings. What mercy is here displayed, what love, what condescension on the part of God and what renewed obligations are laid on me to be faithful to my covenant Redeemer. Six years to-day since I solemnly and publicly gave myself to God in an everlasting covenant never to be forgotten; and I can bear testimony of his covenant faithfulness towards me continually. But O, how few returns of love hath my Creator found. To grace how great a debtor. N. R.

Sabbath eve. the same date.

How comfortable how pleasant to the dejected heart is an interview with the Saviour. I have had a sweet interview with him this morning in the stearn boat while the family were in their slumbers. My soul has been refreshed and I feel new courage to go on my way rejoicing.- A large turtle is seen a few rods distant floating upon the surface of the water.- The sailors are preparing the boat to go after it, for they have no regard for the sabbath.- They have succeeded in taking it as it slept; it is the first sea animal we have caught since we have been at sea. We shall probably have a soup made of it tomorrow. farewell. S. R.

Sat. Jan. 8th, 1820.

This week has been marked with circumstances which, I trust will not soon be forgotten by any of us. It has indeed been a season of affliction and trial, such as we have never before seen. Mrs. R. has been considerably ill, and my health tho' feeble ever since I left A. has been unusually so the week past. On tuesday morning last very early we were awaked from sleep by the cry "all hands on deck". A heavy gale from the S. W. had come upon us unawares: our sails were all spread and we were going at the rate of 8 knots an hour, when the first gust of wind shattered one of the sheets, and split a number of others so as to considerably injure them. The winds continued to blow with much force all day and night; by this time the sea was all in commotion the gale still increasing, took down every sail and lay to with bare poles entirely at the mercy of the waves, or more properly at the mercy of him who holds them in his fists and is able to control them at his pleasure. The seas run in mountains one moment we were tossed as it were upon the top of a lofty mountain; the next, plunged into a deep vally with a mountain on each side of us. It seems indeed as if the old Atlantic was torn up from its lowest bottom. We were obliged to keep close in our rooms, and most of us in our births for the deck was frequently several feet under water, and often a wave would force its way down the companion and hatchway and drench all before it. Not less than 8 or 10 plank were beat off the side of the brig by the dashing of the waves. At one time Capt. B. was knocked down by a heavy sea and thrown from one side of the Thaddeus to the other, severely bruised and narrowly escaped being swept overboard. Thus it continued a dreadful time until thursday night when the wind changed and the storm abated. It was remarkable to see the composure of all the family: every countenance was cheerful; every mind appeared calm and tranquil. All seemed happy in casting themselves on the arm of the Lord and confiding in his mercy. We rejoiced that our dear mother and other friends could not then know our situation. They will bless the Lord for us, when they hear of his preserving mercy.

Jan. 9.

During the gale a great number of sea-fowls were constantly flying about the vessel: of these are several kinds; the most remarkable is the Albatross resembling a goose tho' much larger: we see great numbers of them every day. I endeavored to catch one the other morning but he broke the line and went off with the hook in his mouth. I tried a second time and drew one almost into the boat when he tore himself away and left us. broth. C. has just shot one & the sea being calm we were able to get it. It measures 10 feet from tip to tip. I am now writing with one of its quills which is 18 inches in length. I intend to send one to A. if possible. We see whales every day. they are often close along side and afford us much diversion with their jumping and spouting. A very large one was seen yesterday half as long as the Thaddeus his head was covered with shell fish. -

10th.

Three large ships seen yesterday and one this morning supposed to be the S. sea whalers. We hope to be in sight of the Falkland in 3 or 4 days. We long to get into the Pacific ocean. Capt. B. says we cannot expect rougher weather in doubling the cape than we have already had.

Samuel Ruggles.

As Mr. Ruggles has mentioned the particulars of our trials during the long and tempestuous gale, which we have recently experienced, I shall only add my desire to unite with him in requesting our American friends to bless the Lord in our behalf for his perserving mercy. I did not venture on deck myself until the storm abated, but when I did, it seemed indeed as if the foundations of the great deep were broken up; while peace and serenity prevaded every countenance. -

"The storm is laid the winds retire  
Obedient to thy will;  
The sea that roars at thy command,  
At thy command is still."

Nancy R-

Jan. 20th.

Sounded and found it 65 fathoms. We are about 40 or 50 miles from the South American coast; Lat. 45. Long. 60. our Lat. is the same as it was last sabbath. I have been viewing our track which Capt. B. has marked out on the map, and think it must bear a striking resemblance to that which the children of Israel pursued while in the wilderness. May we have no disposition to indulge a murmuring thought against him who rides upon the stormy winds and manages the seas. Surely if our Pilot and guide is possessed with infinite skill as we know he is, we will not fear tho' the earth be moved, and the mountains be carried into the sea.

Jan. 22nd.

We have sailed rapidly since yesterday morning now progressing  $8\frac{1}{2}$  knots an hour though I can scarcely perceive the motion of the vessel, while I am writing. Now in Lat. 48. Lon. 63. sounded again this morning and found bottom, but owing to the rapid moving of the brig were not able to ascertain how many fathoms of water. Sea weed frequently appears floating on the surface of the ocean which has been beat off the rocks by the waves; some of it is covered with small shrimps. - Expect to see the Falkland Isles this afternoon or to-morrow if the wind continues in our favor. All of us in good spirits. I have not before to-day been sensible how great a tendency favorable winds have in dispelling gloomy feelings, and making our hearts cheerful. The cause which we have espoused is no less dear to our hearts, than when we first embarked. Though our voyage thus far has been long and unpleasant, yet we experienced no trials too great to be endured, for the sake of Christ, and the salvation of the poor heathen. Ninety one days since I bid dear America farewell. -N. W. R.

Jan. 23.

The same sun which is wont to rise on America and gladden the land with his cheering beams, rose on us this morning with more than usual brightness. It is the morning of the Son of Man, and commemorates that illustrious morning when Jesus the Saviour of the world burst asunder the cords which held him three days a prisoner in the grave, and arosé, leaving captivity captive. - O that the all-glorious Sun of righteousness may arise upon me as I open my eyes on this sacred day, and shine into my soul with his enlivening rays, that my languid affections may be lifted up to things heavenly and sublime. - A gale last night, which lasted but a short time. A calm

succeeds. Though calms are unfavorable to our progress, they are very acceptable on the sabbath, as then we can enjoy a peaceful rest, and are afforded a better opportunity to attend on public worship of God and such other duties as belong to the holy sabbath. When looking back on the two preceding days, it seems as if we had hastened as it were to prepare for the day of rest. -

A day of all the week the best,  
Emblem of eternal rest. -

Some part of the time we have sailed more than 9 miles an hour. O may such displays of the kind care which our Heavenly Father exercises toward us, be regarded with gratitude, and improved by his glory. - Sabbath eve. Religious exercises in the cabin as usual; in the morning brother B. expounded the last part of the 11th of Mat. Christ's yoke is easy &c. in the evening brother T. preached on deck; from Amos 4.12. We are now opposite the Falkland Islands, but we shall not see them as we expected and fondly hoped, the wind carrying us too far ~~to~~ westward. We feel somewhat disappointed but all is well. -

Nancy Ruggles.

Jan. 25th, 12 o'clock.

After sailing 95 days without seeing land, we this morning at 10 o'clock with joyful eyes and hearts discovered the Island of Terra del Fuego, about ten leagues ahead. Though it had more the appearance of a cloud than land yet the bare thought that it was land gave us pleasing sensations. Joy ran through my bosom, and for a moment I almost forgot that I was seasick. I have not enjoyed health for a single moment since I came on board the Thaddeus, nor do I expect to until I reach Owhyhee (Hawaii), but I would be far from complaining. The Lord lays his hand gently upon me and I will rejoice that I may suffer for his sake. I feel as I did before I left America, an increasing desire to spend my life in a remote corner of the globe, and wear out in the cause of my dear Redeemer. I am interrupted by the appearance of a large whale alongside. 2 o'clock P. M. The land appears in full view before us not more than 6 or 8 miles distant. We are sailing along its N. E. coast in pursuit of the straits Le Maire thro' which we hope to pass if successful in finding them. Terra del Fuego is the most uneven country I ever saw. It appears to be little less than a continued map of barren hills, and lofty ragged mountains, some of whose tops reach above the clouds, and are white with perpetual snows. It is indeed a dreary land. In this bleak region mariners always expect roughest weather but we are highly favored and have been for several days past. To-day it is uncommonly pleasant; not very cold and a fine breeze wafts us 7 knots or miles an hour. Dear friends unite with us in blessing him whose power controls the raging wind, and says peace be still. - 5 o'clock P. M. The strait begins to open before us, and we have a fair prospect of a pleasant passage through. Should the present wind continue we shall probably see C. H. to-morrow. - Who knows but we shall be wafted directly around the long dreaded cape without experiencing any storms; but perhaps such a passage was never known. We have a safe Pilot an Almighty guide who stands at our helm, he can do all things. 5 o'clock. Staten land to the E. of us, is if possible more uneven than Terra del Fuego. The mountains rise one above another in a great number of sharp and lofty peaks, some in the form of pyramids

and some in the form of a sugar loaf. In the sides of some appear vast holes, which probably are the effect of volcanic eruptions. Now near cape St. Diego at the N. W. entrance of the strait. Few ships pass through here as it is considered dangerous: the passage narrow\* and both shores lined with solid rock. But as we have a fair wind Capt. B. thinks it better to attempt a passage through, than sail around Staten land which would be 200 miles farther. - We have entered the mouth of the strait but as it is almost night and finding a very strong current\* sitting in against us, we shall lie to for the night. Farewell dear friends till morning. May the God of Isreal bless you and give you repose; May he be mindful of us also and be our refuge and sage defence. -

Jan. 26th. 1 o'clock P. M.

Hoisted sail early this morning and the wind still breezing in our favour, at 10 o'clock were half thro' the straits of Le Maire, when a sudden and tremendous swell of the sea came in, and our wind died away leaving us tossing to and fro upon the waves which were comparatively as high as the mountains on each side, and in no small danger of being dashed against the rocks. Here for the first time I realized immediate danger; Capt. B. was much agitated; we could neither proceed nor go back. But He in whom we trust who has always been trying us with mercies as well as judgments soon appeared for us and now the water has become calm and the weather pleasant. We are so near the Terra del Fuego shore, as to discover that there are some trees upon the mountains but it is a black and barren place. It seems hardly possible for man to exist here, but there are few wretched inhabitants, whose condition is but little better than the wild beasts around them. We discover a smoke on the beach, and with the help of a spy glass can distinctly see two men. Probably they see us and make the fire as a signal for us to go to them; but we think it not proper. The natives on this side of the Island are said to be friendly; those on the south side savage and barbarous. The thought is interesting that we are so near heathen grounds; we would remember affectionately these poor people, as we pass by their dreary land, and pray that Jesus may soon possess them for an inheritance. An immense number of birds are constantly flying about us. Four or five kinds of ducks, several of geese, Albatrosses, Penguins, Cormorants, Teal, and many other kinds of land birds, visit us as we lie becalmed. 7 o'clock in the eve. The wind again breezes in our favour and we begin to proceed through the strait. Surely the Lord Jehovah is on our right hand and on our left. S. R.

27th.

Early in the morning. We now find ourselves clear of the dangerous shoals and rocks of Terra del Fuego and Staten land, and sail 5 knots an hour, in a direct course towards C. H. The Lord has been our deliverer hitherto, we will bless his name, and still trust him. 12 o'clock. See cape H. about 8 leagues to the N. W.; 9 or 8 knots an hour, and the sea is so smooth that we can scarcely perceive the

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\* 15 miles in width. \* This current would render it impossible to sail at all if the wind was not directly in our favour.



Brig to move. This is rarely the case in this region of storms. How long it will continue thus, is known only to him who is able to make the wind the sea obey him. - I have taken a Northwesterly view of Cape Horn which is said to be correct, I intend to send a copy; also a view of the strait of Le Maire. Both of them are just representations. Perhaps they may gratify American friends. 2 o'clock P. M. How suddenly is our situation changed a few moments since all was peace and we were sailing as pleasantly as at any time since we left America; Now all is confusion, a hailstorm is rising, all hands are summoned on deck to take in sail, one cries out from Masthead "a whirlwind" what the Lord is about to do with us we know not; one thing we do know, and this shall comfort us in every trial and danger; He loves his own cause, and if he has any work assigned in Owhyhee (Hawaii), he will be our refuge and our Salvation. 5 o'clock. The storm was terrible but it is now over. The whirlwind passed a few rods from us, but did not affect us. The wind is a head the waves run very high and a strong current takes us back to the E. 4 miles an hour. 1 o'clock lost sight of C. Horn by being carried so far to the east. -

28th.

Lain to all day by reason of head winds.

29th.

A fair wind which carries us towards Cape H. again.

30th.

Passed west of the cape which we have so long dreaded. What shall we render to the Lord for all his benefits to us. It becomes us to devote our lives anew to his service, and live more than ever to his glory. We know not what is yet to befall us ere we reach the fields of our labours, but we know that hitherto the Lord has helped us; and now not all the storms and tempests and dangers which may await us, shall hinder our erecting here in this cold and dismal region, around this memorable way. - Mark our E B E N E Z E R of praise to him who has thus far been our preserver & Deliverer. Brother B. has written the following lines for the occasion which was sung at the close of our public worship. -

Brig Thaddeus off Cape Horn Jan. 30th 1820

E B E N E Z E R

- 1st. With joyful hearts and grateful praise,  
Our helper God thy name we hail;  
Our Ebenezer here we raise  
While round the stormy cape we sail.
- 2nd. Conducted by thy Sovereign hand,  
Mysterious, mighty, wise & good,  
We left our friends and native land  
To toss upon the raging flood.
- 3rd. When adverse winds our course delayed,  
And dangerous currents rolled below;  
Thy voice the roaring tempest stayed,  
And made the breeze propitious blow.
- 4th. From want from pestilence and death,  
Defended by thy gracious care,  
To thee we raise our tuneful breath,  
Our Rock of Help forbids our fear.

5th. This way mark in the trackless seas,  
Fixed by his hand who rules above,  
The tempests of six thousand years  
Have ne'er bēen able to remove.

6th. So shall our grateful record stand,  
That hither by thine aid we come;  
So will we trust thy constant hand,  
To bring our souls in safety home.

Cape Horn appears to be an island of rocks piled one above another; the horn or point is a huge black rock of terrible appearance and seems to bid defiance to contending elements. - Sam. l Ruggles.

111 days out. Lat 40. Long 83.

Two weeks to-day since we doubled the cape and bade farewell to the Atlantic. During the last eighteen we have made 25 degrees Lat. and 15 Lon. We have been detained only two days since we came in sight of Terra del Fuego a day becalmed in the strait of Le Maire and a day we lay to in a storm off the Cape. We have had rough seas a considerable part of the time but the wind has been almost constantly in our favor. We anticipated that our passage round the Cape would be the most tedious part of our voyage, but favor has been shown us far beyond our expectations. We have not only had some as smooth sailing as at any time since we embarked, but in some respects it has been the pleasantest part. Perhaps no vessel ever passed this cold region with more uninterrupted prosperity. We now consider ourselves out of the reach of the C. storms, and the weather is warm enough for us to sit comfortably on deck. We hope to reach the field of our labours in about 40 days. O how pleasant the thought that I am so soon to set my feet on land; and on that land where I have so long desired to be placed. I believe I shall enjoy health if I live to reach the shore --- --- We have never been able to catch any fish until we entered the Pacific, since then we have caught several Porpoises, which have furnished us with some rare meals.

S. Ruggles.

Having found what we have written during our passage around the cape to be so similar, I have concluded not to transcribe mine but send it in a letter as it fell from my pen at the time it transpired. Though I would not forbear here to notice the tender mercies of our covenant God towards us, particularly while we were doubling the tempestuous cape. Here we set up our Ebenezer of praise; hitherto the Lord hath helped us. Here we have made our vow, and may the God of mercy enable us in our future lives to perform it.

Nancy W. Ruggles.

Feb'y. 16th.

We are now opposite the island of Juan Fernandes remarkable for having been the residence Robinson Crusoe. This has been a very busy and interesting day, have been employed in examining our trunks and boxes put up for the Mission. Opening a keg directed to Brother B., I discovered a bundle with a letter directed to me. I put out my hand to receive as it were fresh intelligence from my dear native land, after an absence of more than 16 weeks. On breaking the seal

my heart was filled with a grateful sense of renewed obligations to friends, and to God as the author of all good, for this expression of kindness from dear sisters in Christ. Nothing short of an assimilation of feelings can make you realize my dear sisters, how closely you are entwined around my heart. Tears involuntarily burst from my eyes, when I saw your dear names, at the thought that I am to see you no more on earth. But if we are indeed the children of God our separation will be short, and our meeting endless and happy. May this consideration cheer our hearts while on the way and make us more watchful, prayerful, and useful in the world. The kindness of friends has already contributed much to my happiness, and I hope it will also promote my future usefulness among the heathen. I am confident after all you have done, you will not cease to present your devout supplications, in behalf of a far distant sister, who is now tossing upon the tumultuous ocean, with the prospect of becoming a stranger in a strange land, where all is moral darkness and desolation,

"But Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun,  
Does his successive journies run,  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more".

May this precious promise encourage and animate us, and God be glorified in the salvation of the heathen, which he will accomplish in his own time, and with the use of means of his own appointment. -

Nancy W. R.

Feb. 17th.

Being confident that the most trifling or minute circumstance which interests us, will meet the feelings of maternal affection, I intend to give full scope to my pen in mentioning little particulars, which to others will probably appear insipid, and uninteresting. Were I by the side of my dear mother, I would tell her that we had new bread for tea this evening for the first time since we came on board. In addition to the enjoyment which we received in partaking of what seemed to us a rarity, it brought to mind those tables we have been accustomed to surround in the dear family circle, and produced a familiar conversation upon the subject. Our entertainment ever has been, and still is good and comfortable; though very different from what we have been accustomed to on land. May we hope that the time is coming when we shall be permitted to meet all the ransomed of the Lord and partake of that new wine, and living bread which Jesus has prepared for those who love him. - The mission family have not enjoyed as good health as they now do since they left America. Mr. R. observed last evening, that he has not felt like himself before since he came on board. The health which he now enjoys demands our gratitude and praise. May the afflictive hand of God, ever be laid gently upon us, and we be supported under it. Entered the trade winds this morning. The consideration that we are shortly to land on the heathen shores, covered with sin and pollution would be overwhelming, and cause us after all the advances we have made towards them, to think back, and exclaim, "who is sufficient for these things". were it not that our help is in the name of the Lord who made Heaven and earth.

"When through fiery trials thy path-way shall lie,  
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply;  
The flames shall not hurt thee, I only design

Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine".  
No fearing or doubting, with Christ on our side,  
We hope to die shouting, the Lord will provide".

N. R.

Feb. 24th.

Crossed the tropic of Cancer this morning. We have again entered the torrid zone expecting to spend the remainder of our days in this unfavorable climate. Who would not be willing to endure the scorching heat of a sultry region, a few fleeting days if thereby they may be instrumental of plucking immortal souls from the scorching of eternal burnings? Nancy W. Ruggles.

Feb. 26th.

We are now in the latitude of society Isles. The thought is peculiarly interesting, after viewing places, shrouded in total moral darkness, that we are now comparatively near one of the most promising Missionary stations on the globe. How desirable would it be, were it consistent, to touch that place, and invite the dear Missionaries to unite with us in commemorating the death and sufferings of our dear Redeemer. But the Governor of the universe has a perfect right to determine our lot. We are richly furnished with a variety of comforts, and we have the high satisfaction confidently to believe that the Lord hath sent us with blessings of salvation, to a people whose moral character is degraded almost to a level with brute creation. -

Sabbath 27th. Lat. 15.

This has been a day replete with the mercies of the choicest kind. In the morning we convened in the cabin to hear and renewedly assent to our covenant with God and each other. At 12 public service, on deck. Brother T. preached from Ps. 17.15. The ships company made an interesting appearance, while they listened to the word of life. At 4 in the afternoon this little church met around our family board, to partake of the symbols of the broken body, and flowing blood of a crucified Saviour. Probably this is the first time that this sacred ordinance was ever administered on the bosom of the Pacific; if not on any ocean. Many circumstances combined to render the scene peculiarly interesting, and in some respects, I think the most so that I ever experienced. Here in the midst of the vast ocean, this little band of christian Soldiers, who, a few months since, were for the most part entire strangers, but now most tenderly allied to each other. Nancy W. Ruggles.

March 9th.

Crossed the equator this afternoon for the last time; have been becalmed several days which in this region renders our situation uncomfortable. We suffer much from the heat and are obliged sometimes to arise in the night and use our fans to prevent suffocation from the stagnated air in our rooms. We hope for a breeze soon, if we should not be favoured with one, we fear that some of us must fall a prey to disease. Our Father knows our wants and will take care of us. In all our little trials we cast not one look behind to wish ourselves back in our country, but feel happy in the prospect of soon reaching the Isle of our destination and imparting the rich treasures of the Gospel to those degraded idolaters for whom Christ died, and to whom he has never been named. -

10th.

Caught a shark, and two Boneters, beautiful purple fish about the size of a shad.

11th.

Extremely hot, seems sometimes as if we should melt. Caught a shark measuring 10 feet in length.

12th.

Still very hot but are all contented and happy.

March 20th.

Sail rapidly at the rate of 200 miles a day. Expect to see our long wished for Owhyhee (Hawaii) in 6 or 8 days. O how shall we rejoice again to set our feet on land.

21st.

Today have been thinking much of beloved brethren and sisters in Brookfield; perhaps some of them are now in eternity, if so, O that it may be a blessed eternity. Do you my dear friends enjoy the stated ordinances of Gods house? Do Christians in B. feel for the heathen? Tell them to be up and doing for the Lord requires their exertions, the heathen are calling for their assistance.

27th.

Today our dear brother Whitney fell overboard as he was assisting the sailors paint the outside of the Brig. We were sailing at the rate of 6 knots an hour and it was some time before the Boat could be lowered to go after him but he was able to reach a bench which was thrown to him and so was spared his valuable life as we trust for great usefulness in Owhyhee (Hawaii). Thus is the Lord right to help in times of trouble. -

March 30th.

Last night about 1 o'clock brother Hopoo came to my room almost in an ecstasy of joy and told me to get up and see Owhyhee (Hawaii); I went on deck and by the bright moonlight could just discover it 60 miles from us. At daylight we could see plainly the high mountain Mahoonah Kaah (Mauna Kea) clothed in a thick mantle of snow. I will leave it to my friends to imagine what our feelings are at the sight of land, that land which we have long wished to see, and in which we hope to plant the standard of the cross and labour for Christ.

This afternoon we sent a boat for the shore, but it was met by some canoes of natives, who gave us information that Tamahamaha (Kamehameha) the King\* was dead; Oréoréo (Li ho liho) his eldest son succeeded him to the throne. They also informed us that their Taboos were all broken their Marais burnt to ashes and their idols destroyed. They had been at war, but now, all was peace and prosperity; and the men and women ate together and enjoyed equal privileges. We could hardly credit all this, but were constrained to exclaim in the language of our hearts, "What hath God wrought."

Sam'l Ruggles.

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\*The King died on the 8 of May 1819.

31st.

Thomas and I had been on shore at Toahie (Kawaihae); Larokrimakoo (Kalanimoku) the head chief, and two of Tamahamaha's (Kamehameha) widows; all seemed pleased to see us, and treated us with kindness. The news which we heard yesterday was confirmed by them. Yes, beloved friends, "Owhyhee's (Hawaii) idols are no more". God has done a great work for us apparently without any human agency; a work to accomplish for which we expected to labour for years. Their high priests are now ranked among the lowest class of people. This revolution took place about the time we left our native shore, the time when so many prayers were offered up for us, and for this nation. They have now no worship but seem to be waiting for the law of Christ. While on shore I visited the ruins of the most celebrated Morai on the Island; saw the ashes of more than 300 human victims who had been offered in sacrifice to their dumb idols. The land on this side the Island is barren being almost entirely made of lava. The natives go naked except a narrow strip of cloth fastened round the middle.

Sam'l. Ruggles.

April 1st.

Had a visit from the chief, his two wives, and two widows of Tamahamaha, with a numerous train of attendants. The name of heathen has long been familiar to my ears, but half of their real wretchedness was never told me. O my dear Christian friends, you who enjoy the exalted privileges of the Gospel & civilization, I entreat you to think of the heathen and remember that you must shortly meet them at the bar of Jehovah; and answer for the feelings and conduct which you now exercise toward them. The chief was dressed in English and appeared well. His wives and the Queens were clothed in China dresses on account of our being on board. They generally go almost naked. The Queens are monstrous women, judged to weigh about 400 pounds each. Their heads were both crowned with a wreath of yellow feathers. The sight of white females was a novelty to them. They expressed a desire to become acquainted with our customs were much pleased with the idea of writing, tried themselves, and succeeded very well. The Chief dined with the mission family, but the Queens chose to eat by themselves. Their provision was raw fish and poe. They ate with all the simplicity of untaught barbarians, without any politeness or even decency. -- Nancy R.

2nd.

This has been a new Sabbath to us all. The Chief and his family came on board for the purpose of accompanying us to Kiarooah, (Kialua) the place of the king's residence. One of the Queens brought a piece of cloth and requested us to make a gown like ours. Thomas told her it was the Lord's day and we would make it to-morrow. She answered, miti (that is good). How unlike to those peaceful Sabbaths I have enjoyed in America, have been the scenes of this day. Instead of a little retired spot in my chamber, I am thronged with these degraded natives, whose continual chattering has become wearisome to me, yet I think this has been the most interesting Sabbath of my life. In the afternoon brother B. preached from Isa. 42.4. "and the Isles shall wait for his law". The heathens paid a listening attention to the sound of the voice and the appearance of the

audience. Oh may the time be hastened in its season, when these Chiefs & Queens who have now heard the words of life shall become nursing fathers and mothers to this little church. - N. R.

4th.

Arrived this morning in Kiarooah (Kialua) bay, in full view of the kings seat. Brother B. & T. have gone on shore with the embassy of peace and mercy to a people without law and without religion. It is an important moment with us. The grand council are to convene this evening to consider whether to permit us to land, or send us away. May the Spirit of God dispose their hearts to receive us and the word of life at our hands. --

5th.

The natives appear very kind, express their generosity by sending us hogs, potatoes, melons, and various kinds of fruits. Fresh provisions relish well after living almost half a year on salt food. We understand that the Kings and Chiefs are all pleased with our object in settling among them but some wicked white men are endeavoring to prejudice them against us, by telling them that our intention is to get possession of the Islands. We know not yet what God designs to do with us, but trust the enemy will not be suffered to triumph over us. --

Saml. Ruggles.

6th.

Oreoreo (Liholiho) and his five young Queens came on board to-day and dined with us. He is a young man of about 20, appears very good-natured, but extremely indolent in his habits. The wives appear pleasant, and say they wish to learn to read. Two of them are his half sisters, and one of them was formerly the wife of his father. N. R.

7th.

My dear Mother, were it in my power I would gladly paint to you in lively colors the interesting scenes of this morning, and the emotions of my heart in placing my feet on land for the first time after a confinement of about five months and a half on board the Thaddeus. It is impossible for one who never experienced the inconveniences and trials attending so long and tedious a voyage at sea, to realize the peculiar sensations of being set at liberty on their native element. As soon as we approached the beach we were discovered by the natives, who flocked about the boat in such swarms that it was with much difficulty we could land and force our way to the King's house, which was about 20 rods from the water. When we arrived at the door we found the King at breakfast on his mat; we took our seats and were soon treated with a glass of wine, and invited to stay and dine. Soon after the Queens made their appearance, each attended by a servant holding a feather fly brush in their hands. After the usual ceremonies were passed they sat down on the mat and amused themselves by looking at us & making their remarks. At dinner we were happily disappointed to see the order and decency of the table. It was set in the American style, furnished with a baked pig, roasted fish, potatoes, tarrow &c. &c. After dinner we took a walk but were thronged with such a multitude, that our walk was uncomfortable. We are the first American females that ever visited these Islands; if an old man or woman could run before us and take a peek

under our bonnets they appeared highly gratified. The King has not yet given us a decisive answer but says he will soon. It will be a severe trial to us if we should be sent away without being permitted to tell them the way of salvation. I think that notwithstanding our prospects look rather dark at present, the cloud will soon disappear and we shall see our way before us. Our God is all powerful, his arm will protect. - N. R.

10th.

At length we have received a decisive answer from the King. He wishes two couple to stay with him, and also two of the natives; and the remainder to establish themselves at Woahoo (Oahu), an Island 100 miles distant. This is just what we desired as Woahoo is much more fertile than Owhyhee (Hawaii) and much better calculated to be the place of our principal station. He requests that our physician be left with him, accordingly we have concluded to leave here brothers Thurston & Holman with their wives, and Thomas & William. He has provided a house for them, and promises to furnish them with a cooking stove, provisions, and water. Kiarooah (Kialua) village is built on a bed of lava where nothing will grow but coconuts, tobacco, and a few shrubs. There is no fresh water but what is brought in Calabashes between four and five miles. The houses are covered with hay; the floor is of mats made of butrushes, which answer also for their beds. -- N. W. R.

12th.

Today our dear brethren and sisters went on shore and entered the field of their long anticipated labours. Our tenderest feelings were brought into lively exercise, when we were called to give the affectionate embrace and parting hand. We hope our friends will be made comfortable even in this barren place; the greatest inconvenience will probably be the scarcity of water. We shall sail for Woahoo about 10 o'clock tonight.

Saml. Ruggles.

14th.

Arrived at Woahoo (Oahu) at 11 o'clock this morning and anchored near the village of Hanaroorā (Honolulu). Brother B. & myself immediately went on shore and were received with much apparent friendship by a Capt. Picket, a gentleman who has resided several months in the Island. He invited us to dine with him and generously offers to assist us in providing houses, and render us every other service in his power.

S. R.

April 19th.

By the friendly exertions of Capt. Picket and several other American gentlemen, we have obtained three of the most convenient houses in the village, and today left the Thaddeus, and taken us our residence on land. I hardly know how it will seem to sleep on a bed and not be obliged to brace myself, to keep from rolling out. N. W. R.

June 15th.

I must commence writing in my Jour. with an apology for past neglect though I am persuaded that my dear mother would think I had an ample excuse if but one half were told here. --



In addition to our own personal concerns after so long a voyage, we have been employed a considerable part of the time in making garments for the chiefs and nobility and in teaching them to read. Besides we have a little flock of children which we instruct daily. We met with a very favorable reception at this Island found the chiefs and people friendly and desirous to receive instruction. We found several American people residents here, who have been of very material service to us. Every day we receive some testimonies of their kindness. A black man who has been on the Island several years, and collected some property has been our constant friend. I believe scarcely a day has passed over our heads but what he has sent us something, either milk or provisions of some kind. -- N. W. R.

20th.

Mr. Ruggles was called in the Providence of God about two weeks after we landed to accompany George P. Tamoree to his native Isle. When he will have an opportunity to return is very uncertain. His absence so soon after landing has rendered my situation trying, but by the friendly assistance of the brethren, I have been able to accomplish all my washing and other work. I have also done sister Holman's, and sent her clothes to Owhyhee (Hawaii). I hope that which to me is now a trial, will be the means of great good to that poor people who are destitute of the knowledge of God, and of his son Jesus Christ. --

22nd.

We still experience the continual kindness of both white and tawny friends. The King has ordered the chiefs of this island to build three houses for our use, and enclose them in a yard of about 5 acres. He has also given us a tarro patch, and says when we have eat out all the tarro he will give us another. Hanoore lives in our family, is a dear brother to us; he has had a piece of good land given him, with three houses upon it! We cannot help enjoying ourselves when the Lord is doing so much for us. -- Nancy.

June 27th.

This morning I arrived from Attooi (Kauai) having been absent eight weeks found my dear companion and friends in health and prosperity, busily engaged in the work of the Lord; found the Levant from Boston which will sail for A. in a few days, and offers to carry our letters and Journals. I must therefore improve my time in writing. I shall here transcribe some part of my Journal kept during my absence from Woahoo (Oahu). -- S. R.

May 2nd.

Today brother Whitney and I have been called to leave our dear little number at Woahoo (Oahu) to accompany George P. Tamoree to his native Isle and to the bosom of his Father. It was to us trying to part from our dear brethren and sisters, and especially from the dear companions of our bosom, not knowing when an opportunity would offer for us to return, as vessels rarely sail from Attooi (Kauai); to the windward Isles. But if duty has called us to the separation, we trust that a gracious God will in his own time return us again to the embraces of our friends and permit us to rejoice together in his goodness. O that the Lord will go with us and be our preserver from sin and temptation, and our guide and director in all

duty. If we are blessed as instruments of preparing the way for the introduction of the Gospel on that Island, we shall be compensated for all our trial & privation. We have a fine breeze which we expect will take us to Attooi (Kauai) in 24 hours. --

3rd.

Made Attooi at daylight this morning. Like all the other Islands its first appearance was rude and mountainous, but on approaching nearer, beautiful plains and fruitful vallies presented themselves to view, looking almost like the cultivated fields of America, while large groves of cocoanuts and bananas waved their tops as if to welcome us to their shores. Thought I while passing these pleasant fields, can this be one of the dark places of the earth which is filled with the habitation of cruelty? Has the sun of righteousness never yet shone upon it? Is it a fact that the immortal beings are shrouded in midnight darkness, without one minister of Christ to direct them to the city of refuge, the place of rest and glory? Alas! they are heathens. Their mean and scanty dwellings and the appearance of men, women, and children coming off to us naked, plainly bespeak that they are yet savages, ignorant of God and unacquainted with the precepts of the gospel. They have indeed thrown away their idols as worthless things unable to save them, but they have not heard of Jesus, no Christian has yet said to them, there is a God in heaven who made them and the world, nor pointed them to the Saviour, the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world. O thou God of nations, here make Thyself known; here plant Thy cross, and possess this land. -- At 11 o'clock came to anchor at Wimai (Waimea), opposite the fort. A canoe came off to us with several of the King's men, one of whom could speak English. George had kept himself concealed in the cabin until we told him that one of his father's favorite men was on board, and we thought best that his arrival should be made known to him. We then introduced him to the young prince; He embraced him and kissed him without saying a word and turned around, immediately went on deck, and into his canoe telling his companions, they must go on shore, for their young master had come. A salute of 21 guns was soon fired from the brig and returned from the fort. -- Brother W., George, and myself, made preparations and came on shore on account of the surf. We were obliged to land half a mile west of the King's house. We were there met by a crowd of natives who would have obstructed our way entirely, had there not been men appointed to clear a passage for us, which they did by beating them off with clubs. When we arrived at the house, Tamoree and his Queen were reclining on a sofa; as soon as George entered the door, his father arose clasped him in his arms and pressed his nose to his son's after the manner of the country both were unable to speak for some time. The scene was truly affecting. I know not when I have wept more freely. When they had become a little composed, Tamoree spoke and said his heart was so joyful that he could not talk much till to-morrow, but discovering brother W. and myself, who had till then remained unnoticed, he enquired who we were. George then introduced us to him as his friends who had come from America to accompany him home. The old gentleman then embraces us in the same manner as he had done his son, frequently putting his nose to ours and calling us his hieahne or friends. A supper was soon provided

*oibane*

for us consisting of a couple of hogs baked whole after the American manner, several fowls and a dog cooked after the style of the Island, together with potatoes, tarro, bananas, cocoanuts, and watermelons, brandy, gin, wines, &c. The table was set in good style; our supper was indeed excellent. A new house was assigned for brother W. and myself during our stay on the Island, a few rods from the King's and several men to attend upon us. We shall now retire to rest after looking up to God with thanksgiving for mercies already received and humbly praying that a blessing may attend our visit to these heathens. Perhaps it will be the first Christian prayer that was ever offered to God on this Island. S. R.

May 4th.

This morning early, I went to the King's house, was met at the door by himself & the Queen who took me by each arm, led me in and seated me between them upon the sofa; and after having several times put their noses to mine the King inquired if it was true that I had lived with Hoomehooe (the real name of George) in America, and eat with him and slept with him, saying his son had told him many things that he could not fully understand, and that I had been his friend a long time, and would stay here and instruct his people to read. I told him it was true, and that the good people of America who loved his son and loved him and his people, had sent several men and women to instruct his people to read and work as they do in America. When I told him this, he with his wife broke out in one voice "Miti, miti, nooe coah aloha America"; that is, good good, very great love for America; and then burst into tears. After a short time he asked me how long I would be willing to stay and teach his Island. I told him I wished to spend my life here and die here. He then embraced me again and said, "kacke o'ouoe Mahkooah oe ooū, wihena o-ou Mahkooah oe; that is (you, my son, I you father, my wife you mother.) I endeavored to tell him something about God, but the subject was entirely new to him and he could understand but little. This afternoon brother W. and I took a walk in the valley of Wimai (Waimea); found Cocoanuts, Bananas, Plantains, Tarro, Potatoes, Oranges, and Lemons in abundance, and a few pine apples and grapes. The soil is of the best kind, and I doubt not would yield excellent grain. A stream of water passes thro' the valley sufficient to furnish mill-seats of any description. The place is indeed delightful. I have seen none at the windward Isles that looked so rich and promising. -- S. R.

8th.

Spent the former part of the day in walking about 6 miles into the country. Visited many families which are indeed the abodes of ignorance superstition and wickedness. The inhabitants treated me with all the attention and hospitality which their limited circumstances would afford, and even carried their generosity to excess; but oh the darkness and ignorance in which they are shrouded! It is enough to draw tears from the eyes of any friend of humanity, to enter one of their dwellings and witness the vices to which they are abandoned. No sooner is the stranger seated upon the mat, than the husband as a token of respect and kindness offers him his wife and the father his daughter. I have frequently told them, that, such conduct was not good, and that there was a great God who saw all their actions & was displeased with such things; but they will say all white men before say it is good, but you are not like other white men. - What would the missionary of the cross do if it were not for the consola-

tions contained in the promises of God; these to him are sweet and refreshing. Without them before him, he would soon faint and die; but with them he may go to his work and cheerfully labour and toil through life amidst all the depravity and degradation of heathen and savages, remembering that God has pledged his word, that the heathen shall be given to Christ and become lovers of righteousness. --S. R.

10th.

This morning Tamoree sent for me, said his interpreter was going away to be gone several days and he wished to say a few things to me before he went. "I want to know, says he, if you love Hoomehoom, if you love me, if you like to stay here and learn my people." I assured him, that I loved his son and him, wished to spend my life in doing them good, and not only I, but Mr. Whitney and all who came with us, wished the same. "Hoomehoom tell me so," says he; he then shed tears freely, and said, "I love Hoomehoom, I love him very much, more than my other children.\* I thought he was dead; I cry many times because I think he was dead. Some Captains tell he live in A. but I not believe; I say no, he dead, he no more come back. But he live, he come again, my heart very glad. I want my son to help me, he speak English well and can do my business. But he is young, young men are sometimes wild they want advice. I want you stay here and help Hoomehoom, and when vessels come, you & Hoomehoom go on board & trade, so I make you a Chief." I told him I wished not to be a Chief neither could I do any of his public business, but was willing to advise his son and assist him in every thing when it was consistent with the object for which we came to his Island. He expressed some surprise when I told him I wished not to be a Chief, but when I explained to him what we wished to do, he appeared satisfied and pleased. This afternoon the King sent to me and requested that I should come and read to him in his Bible. I read the first Chap of Gen. and explained to him what I read as well as I could. He listened with strict attention frequently asking pertinent questions and said "I can't understand it all, I want to know it. You must learn my language fast, and then tell me all. No white man before, ever read to me & talk like you". -- S. R.

14th.

Extremely warm to-day I feel languid and unfit for anything. We are greatly annoyed by fleas. Some nights we can sleep none, they are so numerous and troublesome. They are the most disagreeable insect found in these Islands, but the natives are fond of them, both chiefs and people will spend hours in picking them off the dogs and eating them, and there is generally a good supply. S. R.

16th.

Visited the King, read to him in his Bible. He expresses an earnest desire to know all that is contained in the Bible saying frequently I want to understand it; when you learn my language I shall know it. He often says he wants Attooi to be like America. To-day he told me he would support all the mission family if they would come to Attooi; that he would build as many schoolhouses as we wish-

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\*Tamoree has two other children besides George, a daughter older and a son younger.

ed, and a large Meetinghouse, and have a sabbath day and have prayers and singing. -- It is reviving to my heart to go and converse with the old gentleman and see his thirst for knowledge, and desire that his people should be informed. --

Friday 26th.

Last night I returned from a visit to Poonah a village about 25 or 30 miles to the east of Wimai. I set out on Monday and walked; brother W. came on Tuesday on horseback. Our principal object was to explore the country but we also intend to shoot a wild bullock if any should come in our way. I was attended by 6 of the king's men to carry my baggage and prepare my food and lodging, and 15 to carry salt for the beef. On my way I passed through the following vallies most of which are pleasant and capable of high cultivation.

Hannahpapa	Paháh
Wiáwah	Paháh
Telehó a	Tepóo
Lahwi	Tepóo
Tata'	Hietoo
Tooloo-oólah	Neooma'lloo
Tooáhlo	Náhwilléwille
Tolóah	Hannahmahóolo
Toloah	Telooáhnah
Walawála	Wieroah

In each of these vallies is a considerable stream of fresh water, and in most, grow great quantities of sugar cane, Bananas, Tarro &c. &c. -- On Wednesday we succeeded to kill a large cow out of a herd of about 20; judged she had upwards of 100 weight of tallow in her. --

29th.

Last night we were kept awake by the cries of some women, who by their excessive groans we supposed had lost a relative. In the morning brother W. and I determined to visit the place from whence the noise proceeded, and on entering the house, such a spectacle presented itself as I never before witnessed and as I cannot describe. A man, one of the Queen's trusty favorites, had just expired. Several females were seated around the dead body which lay naked on a mat, rubbing and turning it about with their hands and uttering forth such horrid shrieks and groans, as must have shocked the most hardened heart; and as another expression of their grief and humility, covering their heads with old filthy mats and tappers. The King was not present but the Queen was inconsolable; stamping with her feet and crying with all the vehemence in her power. We tried to tell them that it was not good to behave thus, but they paid no attention to what we said. We then visited the King, who appeared rational and composed; said he loved that man very much. He asked me where the breath went to when he died. I told him that God gave him breath and took it away when he pleased. I then endeavored to explain to him something about God, the soul, & Heaven and Hell, to which he listened attentively, & said this was all new to him. - S. R.

June 2nd.

For several days past the King and Queen have manifested a great anxiety to learn to read; sent for frequently to instruct them,

say they will spend ten years if they can learn to read well in that time. Wherever they go they carry their books with them. I have seen them while bathing in the water stand with their books in their hands repeating their lessons. They have expressed fears that we shall not return from Woahoo. I went into their house this morning and found the Queen bathed in tears; and enquiring the cause the interpreter said that Mr. Whitney had told her yesterday that we could not return, and neither she nor the King had rested any of the night. I told them they had misunderstood Mr. W. we did intend to come as soon as possible. So earnest are they for us to settle with them and instruct them. -- S. R.

June 7th.

Capt. Quizley anchored here about 11 o'clock this morning and brought news from our friends at the windward. Good news refreshing to our hearts as a draught of cold water to the thirsty. Surely the Lord is on our side and is doing wonders for us. Our way appears to be smoothed before us and we have nothing to do, but go to our work. O for wisdom humility & faith. O for the spirit of the Apostles and Martyrs, that we may endure all things as good soldiers of the cross. --

Sat. 17th.

The week past I have spent principally in visiting the different parts of Wimai; believe there is scarcely a house that I have not entered and my friendly Aloha. The more I visit and become acquainted with this people, the more I feel interested in them, and the more I desire to spend my strength and life in endeavoring to secure to them the eternal welfare of their souls. I sometimes feel almost impatient to know the language that I may explain to them the way of life and salvation. What little I can say they will listen to with the greatest attention, but their answer will be, "I want to know more, by and by I shall understand". One said yesterday, "the God of America is good but the Gods of Attooli are good for nothing; we throw them all away; by and by the American God will be the God of Attooli". The King appears more & more desirous for instruction; complains that he cannot spend time enough with his book, but says it is a time of unusual hurry at present, and he is soon to give his mind more thoroughly to it. He with his Queen and several servants are able to read in words of four letters. Neither of them knew the alphabet when we arrived. Says the King at one time when I visited him, "Hoomehoomo says you no tell lie like some white men, now you must not tell lie when you go Woahoo, but you must come back and live with me". The week past has been a busy time with the natives. The King's rent has been brought in from all parts of the Island and from Onehow (Niihau) a small Island about 15 miles to the westward. It consisted of hogs, dogs, mats, tappers, feathers, pearl fishhooks, calabashes and paddles. This rent is to go to Owhyhee (Hawaii) as a present to the young King. It was interesting to see the natives come, sometimes more than a hundred at a time, with their loads on their backs and lay down their offerings at the feet of their great and good Chief as they call him. When will the time arrive that they shall come and bow down to Jehovah, and give themselves living sacrifices to Him who has purchased them with His blood. I trust the day is at hand. -- S. R.

Sab. 18th.

If I could but enter the sanctuary of God to-day in A. and unite

with my beloved friends in the worship of Jehovah, my soul would receive a feast of fat things but this privilege am not again to enjoy. While I live I am to sojourn among heathens, a stranger and foreigner. And this I am willing to do, I heartily desire to do, if I may be made useful to souls, and servicable to God. Seven sabbaths since I have enjoyed the stated ordinances of gospel. Not an individual on the Island except brother W. and myself, that regards in the least this holy day and the institutions of the Bible. All is confusion and wickedness as on other days; God is not known nor feared. -- My dear friends you know not the privileges you enjoy, you do not realize how greatly you are distinguished above the poor heathen. You may read about the state of the heathen and in some degree feel for them but before you visit them you can have no just conception of their wretchedness and depravity. Pray much for the heathens dear friends, and pray much for Missionaries, that they faint not nor be discouraged by the way, but have strength given them to persevere in their work, & faith to hold out to the end. --

19th.

Have been packing up my things in order to return to Woahoo expecting the King's schooner will sail in a day or two. The natives are busily engaged in loading her with mats, tappers, &c. Spent some time with the King to-day and received several presents from the Queen. I had an Owhyhean (Hawaiian) name given me immediately after landing have been called Neho-pahoo (that is, foreteeth lost) until to-day the King gave me the name Kaeke after himself before he became King, and said I must no more be called Neho-pahoo. -- S. R.

Attooi (Kauai) July 25th.

We cannot close our journal without giving our dear mother a description of our present situation. Though every event however minute is amongst the secret purposes of Jehovah, yet to us as they occur, are new and unexpected, and we often are led to wonder why things are thus. But the counsels of the Lord shall stand, and he will do all his pleasures. Bless the Lord O my soul. This sudden separation from the body of the little church united and set apart for the benefit of the perishing heathen, is indeed to me very unexpected. But the path of duty was so plain, and so the field so inviting, that we could not conscientiously refuse the invitation. Accordingly after prayerful deliveration, and consultation of the brethren the important decision was made, that brother Whitney and Mr. Ruggles should come to this place to erect the banner of Christ on their heathen shores, and on the ruins of idolatry. We embarked yesterday on board the Lavant, Capt. Carey from Boston, and after a short seasick passage of about 24 hours we landed at Attooi. The King and Queen and their two sons, came on board to welcome our arrival. Hoomhoom told us that his father had frequently enquired what he thought with respect to our coming to live with him and expressed his apprehensions that we should not come, but purposed to deceive him as other white people had done. He however made every possible preparation, by procuring plaintains, Bananas, Cocoanuts, Melons, Oranges, and Pine Apples. We were invited to dine with our friend George, who had dinner prepared, of an excellent baked pag, beef, fowls, and vegetables. I think I never witnessed such expressions of joy on the arrival of friends, as I did here.

The Queen embraced me, seated me by her side on the mat and told me I must call her mother. She immediately sent her servants to prepare a house for us. They have furnished us with two bedsteads in the native style, and mats and tappers in abundance. In the evening the King sent us 13 Bunches of Bananas and 10 Pine Apples. Never before were our obligations of gratitude so great as they now are. Surely the King's heart is in the hands of the Lord, and he turneth it whithersoever he will/ After offering on the altar of praise our evening sacrifice we retired to rest relying on the arm of Jehovah for safety and protection.- N. W. R.

26th.

We have found another quiet resting place on pagan land guarded by the great Shepard of Isreal, who neither slumbers nor sleeps. The natives continued to fetch us fruits until we told them we had enough. Spent the morning in writing to friends, and in the afternoon walked out with my companions on the banks of the river Wimai (Waimea). The natives appeared to have their curiosity much excited with the novelty of the scene, as we are the first white females who were ever on the island. We called at the door of an aged woman who knew not how to express her joy but by saying, "Aloha nooe roa nume oe makooahaw". That is, I love you very much, you must call me your mother. She gave us a number of oranges; we then returned to our humble cottage and resumed our pens, until we were interrupted by a call from the King and Queen, with their numerous trains. The King is 46 years of age, and his wife about 25. He is very pleasant and discovers a good degree of civility in his manners. He enquired whether my parents were living and to whom I was writing. I told him I left a mother, and was writing to her to inform her of his kindness to us. He appeared much pleased, and asked me if I loved her very much. I informed him that I did, and that it would do her heart good to hear that the King and Queen had kindly offered to be a father and mother to us. They gave me the name of Matooah which is the name of the King's mother. They then requested us to sing a few tunes, while Hoomehoomo played on the bass viol. We view the secret hand of our Heavenly Father with peculiar delight, and feel constrained to walk with cautious steps before him, in the sight of the heathen, lest we prove stumbling blocks, over which they shall fall into endless perdition. Our dear mother now views her children in a new and untried situation, without a minister of the gospel to preach to them, or a physician to administer to their necessities in the day of distress; a little number of defenseless objects, on land shrouded in moral darkness, where the sun of righteousness is scarcely risen. I am sensible that the heart of maternal fondness will now be moved with the liveliest sensations of affection and interest, for the safety and welfare of her dear children. But I think if she knew how cheerful and contented we are in our work, she would rather rejoice than otherwise. We trust the Lord our God is with us and requires us to be patient and persevering in laboring for the heathen, with the animating hope that he will ere long send us a faithful servant, who will break for us the bread of life, and point these wretched wanderers to the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world.

N. W. R.



July 29th.

This afternoon the King exhibited a scene of plays, gave us an invitation, to which we did not readily comply; sent the second time, accordingly we went, I don't know when I have had my mind more impressed with the vanities of the heathen than I had in witnessing this scene. O when will this untutored tribe, sit down at our Immanuel's feet, and receive the benign influences of the Gospel. -

Nancy R.

July 30th.

Dearest of Mothers, instead of worshipping the Lord with his people, in a temple consecrated to his service, your children have attempted to appear before him and call upon his name this day for the first time on this heathen Isle, in our little sanctuary made of cocoanut leaves. The royal family seated themselves on trunks and mats and apparently listened to the word of life; while the common people crowded around without our yard, and pulled away the grass of which the fence is made and presented their tawny countenances, anxious to see and know what new thing the white people were performing. But oh, how much more degraded their darkened minds, than ever their miserable appearance, how imperceptible to the truth as it is in Jesus! We made use of Mr. Clark's sermon, entitled the Church safe. The flock of Christ be scattered abroad in the earth, some of them as sheep without a shepard yet; consoling thought, in due season they will be gathered and there shall be one Fold, and one Shepard. - N. R.

August 4th. [1820]

We expect the Levant will sail this evening, consequently our communications must be carried on board this afternoon. I have the pleasure to inform our dear friends on this last page of our journal, of our continued prosperity and hopes of usefulness, but we cannot, we dare not depend much upon present appearances. Fix we on this terrestrial ball? when most secure, the coming hour, if Thou see fit, may blast them all. But we do take pleasure in speaking of the wonderful dealings of God to this people, and to us, as unworthy instruments in his service. The King and Queen sent six gown patterns to be made, and present of pine apples. To-day the King has commenced a large building for a meeting, and schoolhouse, in his own yard. It is peculiarly pleasant to witness the interest this heathen king takes in preparing the way for the spread of the gospel amongst his people. He says he will protect all who come here for this purpose. Though the promise of man, especially of a heathen prince is not a sufficient warrant for me to engage in great an enterprize; yet have not the children of God His promise also, that He will supply all their wants, and will withhold no real good thing from them. What more can the Christians need for his security while labouring for Christ? What more can he desire in life, or enjoy in the hour of death? This unconnected journal we present to our ever dear Mother and hope she will thereby be comforted while thinking of her far distant and affectionate children.

Samuel and Nancy Ruggles.

