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OF
LUCIA RUGGLES HOLMAN

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PREFACE

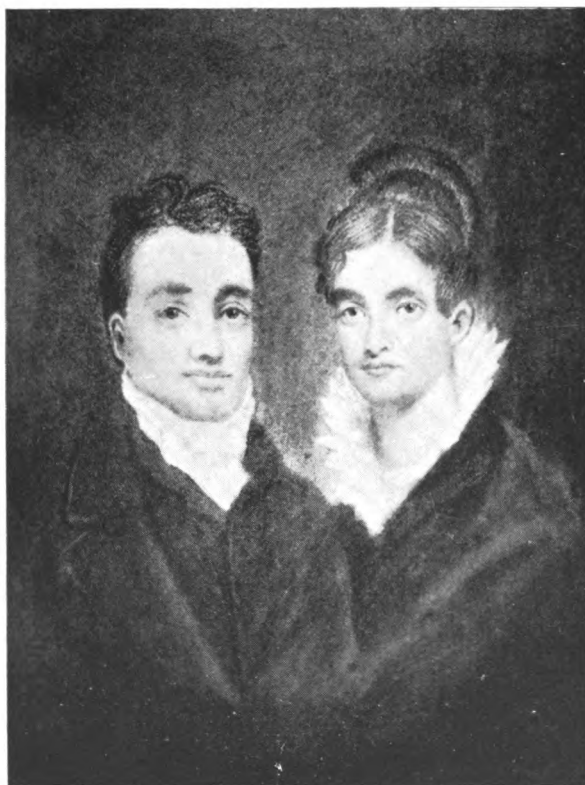
The pioneer company of missionaries sent to the Hawaiian Islands by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions left Boston on the brig *Thaddeus* on October 23, 1819. The doctor of this group was Thomas Holman of Cooperstown, New York. His wife, whose diary is published in the following pages, was Lucia Ruggles from Brookfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut. They were married on September 26, before leaving Boston for the long voyage of 164 days around Cape Horn.

Upon their arrival at the island of Hawaii, the Holmans and Thurstons remained at Kailua to establish a missionary station at the residence of the king, Kamehameha II. Mrs. Holman's health failed in the excessive heat at Kailua, so at the end of July, 1820, she and her husband went to Lahaina, Maui. They stayed there a month and then continued on to Honolulu, Oahu.

Later the Holmans spent eight months on the island of Kauai, where their oldest child, Lucia Kamamalu, was born in March, 1821. They left the Hawaiian islands for the United States, October 2, 1821, on the ship *Mentor*, Captain Porter; and, as they went by way of Canton, it is believed that Mrs. Holman was one of the first American women, if not the earliest, to circumnavigate the globe.

Dr. Holman died in 1826, at 33 years of age, survived by his widow and three children. Mrs. Holman was married again to Daniel Tomlinson of Connecticut, by whom she had one child. She was totally blind the last years of her life and died, June 20, 1886, lacking three months of attaining the advanced age of 93.

A copy of the original manuscript has been published by generous permission of the owners, Miss Mary Brown and her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth (Brown) Bassett of New Milford, Connecticut, great granddaughters of the author. Except for a few obviously desirable changes in spelling and grammar, the manuscript is a faithful reproduction of the original.



Lucia Ruggles Holman and her husband,
Dr. Thomas Holman

JOURNAL
OF
LUCIA RUGGLES HOLMAN

On board Brig *Thaddeus*
Blanchard, Master. Lat. 30° 37, Long. 45°

My Dear Brothers & Sisters:

The first time I have been able to use my pen, since our embarkation, I devote to the commencement of my journal, which I intended immediately after leaving Boston, but have been detained by sea-sickness.

My design in keeping a journal, will be merely for my own amusement and at gratification of you, my Brothers & Sisters whom I know will ever feel deeply interested in whatever concerns me.

I shall probably be more minute than were I writing for the perusal of the public, knowing that it is little, every-day circumstances that most interest our friends, and I am sure I shall feel less particular than were I writing for critics.

Feeling confident that you will consider my situation, the variety of scenes through which I may be called to pass, and the effect which this must have upon my mind at times—but most of all, my want of a talent at description.

I shall therefore proceed without the least reserve, and on all subjects give you my whole heart and feelings whether approved or not. And should I at any time feel to regret my undertaking or be convinced that it is not the duty of females to enter first upon so great and hazardous an enterprise you shall know it. No! it shall never be said that I have been the means of bringing one poor female into a life of trouble and

sorrow because I have enlisted. I have been led to make the last assertion from the observations of some of my friends before I left home. That, did I ever regret my undertaking I would not let it be known; this I should consider criminal. Besides, I should certainly need the consolation and sympathy of my friends, and what the enemies of all good, or those who would wish to have it so, could say, would neither effect my mind or hinder the prosecution of the Great work of evangelizing the world.

I sit in the long boat upon my mattress, with my face towards beloved America. A name, never dearer to my heart; I can take a survey of one-half of the sensible horizon—no mountains, rocks, or trees to intercept—water, sky and a few dark clouds are all that I can behold.

The sun is now sinking beneath the waters of the Atlantic, and to our view, as if to be swallowed in the bosom of the Ocean. To describe the sublimity of the scene would demand the pen of a Harvey.

The bell rings to call us to supper. I must go, as our law is, and fill my seat, altho I do not eat any. Good Night! May that God who governs the earth and manages the seas, protect you and me through this night and forever. L. R. H.

Saturday Morning, 15th day after sailing: My Dear Brothers: We weighed anchor soon after you left us. A gentle gale wafted us about 10 miles that day, when we had a calm, which detained us till the next morning. A kind providence seemed to order it for the best, however, for, in the course of the evening, it was ascertained that our soft bread and crackers and all the ardent spirits were left behind. Consequently, a boat was sent off for Boston that night, which did not return until the next day towards night. A fine breeze blew up, which took us off at the rate of 8 miles an hour. Our seasickness came on, and before morning every passenger, except the 4 native

youths, were broadside. I need not attempt to describe the horrors of seasickness, for I believe it is well understood by most of you. However, to make the best of us, we were a pitiable company. I think here was an exception to the saying that misery loves company, for I believe the miseries of one was no consolation to those of another.

Could the transactions of the first week have been penned, I am sure, while they would have called forth sensations of pity from your heart, would at the same time afford merriment. Sorrow and despondency were depicted on every countenance, while scarcely a look of love or complacency was discernable one towards the other.

To multiply our sorrows we were visited with unfavorable winds, high seas, and heavy gales, the three first weeks of our voyage. It will be 4 weeks tomorrow since we embarked, and we are now in Lat. $33^{\circ} 20''$. Eleven days calm.

November 30. All well this morning except Brother S. who is fast recovering. We often think and speak of home, and are no small consolation to each other in our separation from friends.

December 1. This day saw a shark and a dolphin. Porpoises are frequently seen playing about our vessel. These sights are all novel to us, and afford no small degree of amusement here in this barren clime, where fish and birds are the principal production.

December 15. Sabbath between services: Since I wrote the above I have not been able to sit up half the time. High seas and a constant rocking of the vessel have kept me sick, that I have scarcely been able to crawl upon deck, while all of the rest, brother S. excepted, are able to attend to their respective business.

December 16. This has been a peculiarly interesting day to all of us, having spoke a vessel, bound from Calcutta to

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Boston, in which we have sent letters to America, but very much regretted not having more time, which was not more than 20 minutes. The boat, which took off our letters, returned and brought with it a Portuguese Man-of-war, as the sailors call it. An animal substance (if substance it may be said to possess, for it appears more like a blubber than anything else) resembling a turn-over pie, with ten thousand fibrous legs and as many joints, each a foot long. The touch of this animal produces a sensation somewhat like an electric shock—the Dr. only, tried the experiment.

The colour is a changeable red and blue which gives a purple luster. We often see them floating upon the surface of the water, and they are objects of great curiosity to us who have never beheld many wonders of the sea. My jonny cake eats very well, which brother Sam'l told you about in his letter yesterday—altho at home you know I was never fond of Indian cakes—but anything that is fresh goes well at sea.

We have everything that is wholesome and good to eat and drink; that is, for hearty people, but I have not been long enough at sea yet to get an appetite for it. Monday we have pork and beef and puddings (rice or flour); Tuesday, pork and beans, or peas; Wednesday, salt fish and potatoes &c.; Thursday, fowls, or a sea-pye; Friday, pork, baked; Saturday, salt fish &c. Sabbath, fresh pork and pudding.

For breakfast we have coffee and hash; supper—tea, crackers and cheese; and now and then we are allowed the rich repast of water gruel. This is the greatest luxury I have enjoyed since I took up my residence upon the water.

I must drop my pen, it being past ten Oc. & all asleep but myself—a dread solemn seems to fill the whole ship—no sound or noise to be heard but the dashing of the waves against our vessel, which skims over the Maine at the rate of 8 miles an hour, and the gentle footsteps of the man at helm, and the

watch, who walks with half his weight, for fear of waking his brother tars, who are asleep below.

December 24. We are now in the Torrid Zone—warm days and nights moderated by fresh breezes. Suffer most during the night season, when we are obliged to be in the cabin. I am frequently obliged to get up in the night and go on deck to breathe the fresh air. Tomorrow is Christmas day. Purpose to have public services. Little did I think last Christmas of commemorating the next anniversary of the birth of our Savior upon the broad Atlantic.

Saturday, Christmas eve. The subject of this evening's discourse was chosen from Luke, 2 Chap., 14 V., "Glory to God in the highest" &c. An appropriate hymn was sung on the occasion, composed by one of the officers on board, Mr. Conant, a young man of liberal education, amiable deportment, and christian morals, an Episcopalian and a firm friend of Missions—the spirit of what is visible in his ode on Christmas, which I shall here copy.

The following hymn was composed by Wm. C. one evening during family prayers in the cabin, and presented by the Author to brother Samuel:

We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

All hail the bright star that the east once illumined
And blest with its radiance the Shepherds & Seers,
When religion the emblem of Mercy Assumed
And Glory appeared in the Valley of tears.

2d It rose o'er the gloom that enshrouded the earth,
And announced as it burst from the portals of heaven,
That the Savior of sinners Divine in his birth,
The Conqueror of death to the world is now given.

3d On this day from the regions of Glory and love,
As the Type of Salvation and symbol of hope,
Gently down through its beams, see the pure heavenly Dove,
Appear to mankind, who in darkness now grope.

- 4th May religion's bright star, as we traverse the Ocean,
 Illumine our way and its comforts impart,
 While our fond ling'ring thoughts we cast back with emotion
 To the country that holds the dear friends of our hearts.
- 5th Jehovah! 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 & mercy the gifts of thy hand.
- 6th When at length on the Isles of the Gentiles they tread
 We pray the rough waves may smoothe the rough way
 By them may the heathen to Jesus be lead,
 And receive with fond rapture the Gospel's bright rays.
- 7th By them may the Priests, of Idolatry learn,
 That their Mori's [maraes] and Tarboo's [tapus] and offerings
 are vain
 Let the nation from Idols and Violence turn,
 And the joy of salvation perpetual reign.
- 8th Now swell the loud Anthems of praise to the Lord,
 From whom streams of mercy incessantly flow,
 Be the Father, the Son, and Spirit adored
 By all nations and kindreds and realms here below.

December 31. This is the last day of a year, big with events, to me the most important. This year has witnessed the most trying yet interesting scenes of my life. A new course is marked out for me to pursue: new hopes, new joys, and new sorrows are before me. I often review with pleasure the past scenes of my life, tho this pleasure is mingled with regret that they are never more to be realized, and the places that witnessed them may never more bless my eyes. Yes, I can, I do look forward with the most pleasing anticipations of future enjoyment. Yes, with the eye of faith I can look forward to the day when the sons and daughters of Owhyhee (the devoted subjects of the prince of darkness) shall become the true and humble followers of the Prince of Peace; when the Idols of Moriah shall be given to the moles and bats, and the true God and Jesus Christ shall be the only objects of religious homage.

12 Oc. (according to the mariners mode of reckoning time, which is from 12 Oc. at noon). Another year has commenced—and now my dear dear brothers and sisters, I wish you a happy New Year. May the best of Heaven's blessings be yours, and er'e this year has passed away may your hearts be made glad with the reception of letters fraught with good news from Owhyhee.

January 1, 1820. Religious exercises in the cabin, but no sermon.

January 2, Sabbath. New-Year's sermon on deck from these words, "Preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Hymn composed by Mr. Conant was sung. The following is a copy:

NEW YEAR'S HYMN

- The Orb of day with rosy light,
Rolls home the shady gloom of night,
Ushering in the New-born Year,
Of joy and grief, of hope and fear.
- 2d Jehovah! hear our annual lays,
While grateful thoughts to thee we raise,
O God of mercy,—Heavenly King,
With feeble strains thy praise we sing.
- 3d Thy ever kind and bounteous hand,
Has spread thy wonders o'er the land
The sea has felt Thy sovereign might,
The Isles have seen with joy the light.
- 4th Thy arm has led us o'er the main,
To bear thy light, thy laws maintain,
Our hearts adore thy just decree,
And place our only trust in thee.
- 5th Soon may the heathen see the light,
Which dawns to close the pagan night,
And say with truth forever more,
Owhyhee's Idols are no more.

January 8, 1820. Had a most tremendous gale which came on, on the evening of the 2d, and continued to blow until the 6th, without intermission. We had never before learned what poor sailors have to suffer. The sea at this time was in terrific uproar; one moment we seemed as it were on the pinnacle of a lofty mountain, the next, plunged into a deep valley. I need not tell you that during this sudden transition it was as much as we could do to take care of ourselves—not unfrequently our persons, and furniture were tumbled together into one end of the cabin, and before we had time to recover, would be sent back again, sometimes with a bowl of broth or a dish of coffee in our hands. But this all helps to make up in variety, and is one of the comforts of a sea-voyage.

January 9, Sabbath. A calm pleasant day. Divine service on deck—subject chosen from John's Gospel—10 Chap., 16 V. A most excellent Missionary sermon by Brother Thurston.

January 12. Cold, stormy day, off the coast of Patagonia, opposite Cape St. Joseph's, Lat. 42°-40". Begin to feel the effects of C. Horn.

Cold, blustering winds and high seas which seem as if they would throw poor *Thaddeus* on her "beam-ends," as the sailors say. Not unfrequently a sea takes her broadside, and breaking, overflows the whole deck, sweeping all before it—and one time came well-nigh taking our Capt. overboard. It might be called a hairbreadth escape. The report is "like the thundering cannon of the day of judgment."

I sometimes feel a little afraid because there is danger of our masts being taken away—but generally feel composed, and as safe as on Terra-Firma. He "who holds the seas in his fist and taketh up the Islands as a very small thing," can, and will surely protect all such as put their trust in him.

My health is better to-day than it has been for a month past.

I am consequently very happy—I have learned 6 sentences in Owhyhee, read 2 pages in the “Materia-Medica,” written 3 pages in my journal, drank a toast with Capt. Blanchard, besides spending a half hour in idle chit-chat with Mr. Loomis about our want of room and convenient accommodations, as our neighbors have; our station being in the cabin where all the commotion and news of the day is passing. I have accomplished all this since breakfast and is the greatest day’s work done since I came on board. Dined on baked pork and beans—nothing wanting but a good appetite and a thankful heart.

Yesterday, 17th, saw whales in abundance—of the size of this animal I had no conception before I beheld them. Of the animal kind they are the greatest curiosity that I ever saw. Samuel saw one (for nothing of the marvelous escapes his notice) which he called one of the first settlers, his head being covered with moss and seashells, resembling a craggy rock. We are visited every day by Albatrosses and Cape Pigeons. The former is a large bird resembling a goose only in its wings, which, when spread, extend 10, sometimes 15, feet.

January 25, 1820. This morning, 10 Oc., after a voyage of 96 days, we made the island of Tierra-del-Fuego which to the naked eye, appeared like a distant cloud rising above the surface of the water.

It is not easy to describe our feelings at the sight of land once more. Joy hung upon every countenance, while each heart seemed to palpitate with peculiar emotions.

January 26. At 7 this morning we made the island of Staten land on our left—just entering the Straits of Le Maire. This we deemed the most critical period of our voyage. The wind having turned against us, we were driven off and on for 12 hours, in no small danger of being dashed against the rocks, which border the surrounding islands. But Providence, interfering in our behalf as he is ever wont to do, we found our-

selves on the morning of the 27th quite past the Straits of Le Maire, steering up towards the Cape as fast as the winds could take us. Thus, was the Lord better to us than our fears. The appearance of these islands, as we sailed between them, were as follows:

That of Tierra del Fuego, is one of the most abrupt and mountainous countries that I ever beheld, appearing at the distance of 8 miles, like a continued mass of rocks and hills peeping over hills, some rising in the form of a pyramid, others terminating in steep, craggy cliffs, many of which showed marks of a volcano.

Staten Land is not dissimilar to the former—only in size—being much smaller. The perpendicular height of some of its mountains appeared to reach above the clouds, and [to be] covered with perpetual snow, yet, history informs us, that here, in this cold, barren, and unfriendly soil, dwells a savage race of men, whose natures are no less rude than the rocks among which they dwell, subsisting chiefly on fish and clothing themselves with the skins of wild beasts.

Upon these poor souls the Son of Righteousness hath never shone, no sound of the Gospel ever saluted their ears—but they must spell out their existence, by the dim light of nature, until the Lord in his own time shall give them to his Son for an inheritance.

These Islands abound in almost an infinite variety of birds and wild-fowl: such as Geese of different species, and of ducks, Pigeons, Cormorants, Albatrosses, &c. The morning on which we passed the Straits was calm and pleasant and not unfavorable for taking observations. I took a rude draught of both these Islands, as we passed them, which, for the sake of variety some future day (if permitted) I will retrace and send you.

January 30th, 1820.—Lat. about 57—20 Long. from Cape Horn. Sabbath preaching in the cabin by Mr. B. from 1st

Sam. 7, 12v. "Here we set up our Ebenezer, &c—for hitherto the Lord helped us."

February 1, Lat. 59 South—within 8 days sail of the regions of perpetual ice. Suffer much from the cold, there being no fire in the cabin, nor are we allowed a foot stove as the Magazine is under us; and consequently it would be running some hazard to admit fire into the cabin. The only way I can keep any way comfortable, is, to roll myself up in my blanket and lie in my berth. It is more than 3 months since I have seen a fire—but tomorrow I have the promise of the old cook that I may go into the Caboose, the place where he cooks our victuals.

O let me entreat you to prize a good fireside and other domestic comforts while you remember Him from whom all your blessings flow.

February 6, Sabbath, Lat. 59—off the Straits of Magellan, west of Tierra del Fuego. Last night, the winds began to blow and the seas to roll, as we had never before witnessed; so that the two conflicting powers seemed to agitate the ocean to its very foundations. Our vessel labored excessively, the seas constantly breaking over, threatened every moment to overpower her. I think I never so much realized the weakness of man, and the power of the Almighty. After all, it is said we have had an uncommon favorable time in turning the Cape, such as few experience; and we feel that we can truly say that mercy and goodness hath followed us hitherto.

Monday, February 21. A pleasant morning. It is delightful sailing in the Pacific, we have the trade winds which take us along at the rate of 7 or 8 miles an hour. In 25 days we hope to see Mauna-Noa, the highest mountain in Owhyhee. We are now nearly opposite Otahiti, and not many days sail from it. We should all like very well to call and see our brother & sister Missionaries there.

February 22. I am sure should you know how happy I was,

you would envy my situation. For a week I have enjoyed perfect health, the only time I have been able to make this assertion since I commenced writing to you.

March 11, Lat. 4° S. A calm of 6 or 7 days has detained us here in the most sultry region of the globe, where the hot and scorching rays of the sun are almost insupportable. We hoped to be at or near Owhyhee before this time, but the Lord would have it otherwise, and for wise reasons, no doubt; perhaps it is to try our patience and prepare us for future trials.

During the calm we caught 2 Sharks, and a Boneator [bonito], the latter of which made us an excellent dinner. A distinguishing interposition of Providence relating to the catching of the first Shark, I cannot fail to notice.

On the afternoon of Saturday 11th, 6 of our Missionary Gents went into the sea to bathe. They remained 15 or 20 minutes in the water, swimming about the vessel, heedless of danger—but they had not been out of the water long before George Termmoner discovered a large Shark close under the bow of the ship; which had no doubt been playing around the ship, seeking for prey while the men were in the water.

On being caught (for the ship's company were so fortunate as to catch the Monster) it was found to be the blue Shark, a real Man-eater, 10ft . long, and a mouth sufficiently large to take in a man's leg or head. Within him, was found a beef bone which the cook had flung overboard just before the men went in, and a porcupine fish which was an object of great curiosity.

This merciful preservation of the lives of our brethren, was not passed unnoticed; and while we reflect that it was God who shut the mouth of the fish, may we not hope that it is an earnest of his further deliverance from the power of the enemy.

Thursday, 22d, Lat. 12° Long. 137 West. Owhyhee is now the nearest land—much talk about preparations for landing on the shores of the heathen. May the Lord prepare us for

whatever awaits us in his providence, and O! that the Heart of the King may be prepared to receive the law of Christ.

March 30. Lat. 20d Long. 155 W. The long wished for Owhyhee is now in full view on our left. We made the snow topt mountain of Mauna-Noa about 2 Oc. this morning. You may well suppose that after a voyage of 160 days, we were not a little glad. Our feelings cannot be realized but by those in like situation. The joy manifested by the native youth, is such as we should any of us feel to behold the land of our birth, after so long an absence.

9 Oc. We are now 8 miles from shore, and can see streams and rivulets of fresh water issuing from the mountain, empty themselves into the sea. The country before us is beautiful, wearing the appearance of a cultivated place—with houses and huts, and plantations of sugar cane and Tarrow.

2 Oc. Sent off a boat to make discoveries, and hope they will return bearing an “Olive branch in their mouth.”

4 Oc., P. M., boat returned with news of King Tamaha-maah’s death; that the worship of Idolatry and other heathenish customs are entirely abolished. Such glad news we were not prepared to receive. Truly the Lord hath gone before us in mercy.

We have not yet ascertained whether we may be permitted to land.

Saturday Morning, 6 Oc. A boat was sent off in quest of Krimakoo [Kalanimoku] the great Chief—brother S. was one of the number. They went to the house of the Queens, wives of the old King—were received with friendship and hospitality. The best which the islands offered was set before them—and as for brother S., if it was cooked and set before him in a rude style it would be all the better for him, you know.

Sabbath, 7th. This morning received a present from the Great Chief, Krimakoo; cocoanuts, bananas, plantains, bread-

fruit, sweet-potatoes, tarrow and 2 hogs. About 11 Oc. the same day—arrived at our Brig in a large double canoe covered with an awning—a part of the Royal family consisting of the high Chief, his wife, Tamahamaah's 2 widows with their attendants and servants, about 30 in all.

Krimakoo was well dressed, in the English style; his wife was dressed in Chinese silk and tapper [tapa], one of the Queens in striped calico, and the other in black velvet trimmed round the bottom with an elegant gilt ribband, and each an elegant wreath of yellow feathers curiously wrought around their heads, and all barefoot. Their gowns were made in the old continental style, with a long tight waist reaching to the bottom of their waists which did not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yd.

The attendants were dressed in Tapper, a sort of cloth of their own manufacture, made of the bark of a certain plant called the Kowoca [*ka wauke*] plant. It is coloured and printed with various figures, and some of it very handsome. This cloth they fold into 10 thicknesses, then wind it about the middle of their bodies (the females) two or three turns around—which in all makes 20 or 30 thicknesses about their bodies—their shoulders, arms, &c entirely naked. The servants wear nothing but a small strip of cloth tied around their waist. Their office is, to spread their mats when they want to sit or lie down, roll and unroll them their Tapper, which they change 3 or 4 times a day, merely for show—hold their wash and spitting bowl, scratch their heads and backs, and brush off the flies, which generally requires 2 or 3 and sometimes more, according to the dignity of the person.

We had the company of this honorable Group, from Sabbath till Tuesday evening. I will now give you a brief description of their manners while with us.

The first salutation was similar to our manner of introduction, that of giving the hand and Aloah, i.e., how do you

do, or good morning. They took seats and began to admire the Ladies, asking if they had any children, calling us "piccaninny" (too little). The larger and fatter the women in Owhyhee, the better. One of the old Queens weighs 350. She got me into her lap, and felt me from head to foot and said I must cow-cow and be nooe-nooe, i.e., I must eat more and grow larger. She admired my hair very much, and wished me to take out my combs, and let her see how long it was. She then wanted to see how I rolled it up. Not being accustomed to sitting upon seats, they began to be very uneasy, and ordering their servants to spread their mats, they flung themselves down, and rolled about the deck like so many hogs, requesting us to lie with them.

They eat when hunger suggests, without any regard to time or place—indeed they make no account of time—they eat and sleep, and eat again, frequently 8 or 10 times in the course of 24 hours.

They call for their food wherever they happen to be sitting or lying, which is brought to them in Calabashes. All eat out of one dish, and they suck their fingers and smack their lips as if it was all the better for it. They have a kind of pudding which they call poa, made of Tarrow, and which answers the purpose of bread for them. They have one kind which they eat with one finger, which is about as thick as hasty pudding; another, which is made thinner, and requires 2 fingers, and a third, 3. The Chief's wife and two queens formed one circle, and the attendants (nobility), another. If a servant who sits squatted behind to brush off the flies, can slip his finger into the dish of poa slyly it is all his gain, but if he happens to be caught, another takes his place.

They dined, and sometimes breakfasted with us in the Cabin, but found great inconvenience in sitting to our table and using a knife and fork.

Finally I know not how to describe their manners, for should

I make use of language as indelicate and uncouth as they really appear, which I must do to give you any correct idea of their manners, you must be disgusted. They were told that, there were ladies on board that would be offended to see them come naked, else they would have come in their native style, with only a piece of tapper wound about their waists; altho they have the richest clothes in abundance. The sight of their wretched situation without firm confidence and faith in Jehovah, is enough to dishearten any one in their attempts to reform them. But the Lord has already done great things for this people. It appears that, he has already begun to put down the strong holds of Satan—thus preparing a high way for his people. The most powerful obstacle which was anticipated could stand in the way of planting the standard of the cross upon these shores (the abolishment of Idolatry) is done away—and not by any human means either, but “it is truly the Lord’s doings and marvellous in our eyes.”

Monday, April 3, 1820. Our ears are constantly stunned with the noise and jabbering of the natives about our vessel. I have counted 20 or 30 canoes about the Brig at a time; some, bringing fruits and vegetables, and others out of curiosity. Our deck is covered through the day with natives, and I have got so tired with the noise and sight of these naked creatures, that I could almost wish myself as far from them as you are. Since I have been sitting here by the cabin window, not less than a dozen canoes have come up to tempt me with their fruits. They want in exchange, scissors, beads, and knives.

Brs. Bingham & Thurston, have just arrived from shore, where they have been to consult the King and Chiefs respecting the landing, and establishment of the Mission—with news that all appears favorable. They say “Miti-palla-palla-hannah-hannah”: good to learn to read & work.

Tuesday, 4th. All the Mission Gents gone to the house to

hear the final decision, upon which island we shall be stationed. The King is desirous to have all or a part of us stay here, and on many accounts it would be the most desirable place as all of the principal Chiefs and head men are here; other things seem actually to forbid it.

All the fresh water used by the natives is brought from the mountains 5 miles distant from the village. This is all brought on the kahnahka's (men) shoulders in calabashes. The natives use fresh water only to drink; they bathe in the sea. And should we be obliged to settle here, we must employ at least 20 men to fetch wood and water—the wood is brought the same distance and in the same manner, over a continued rock of Lava. There is not a spot in the whole village of Kiarooah [Kailua] large enough for a garden, but what is covered with Lava and cinders. What a tremendous scene must here have been exhibited, when this volcano first broke out! It is now, and has been, burning for this 40 years. This village is built upon the ruins of a former one which was buried by the volcano. But among the cracks of the rocks, and wherever a foot of earth is to be found, is it cultivated with something—but most of all, the tobacco plant. There is not a man, woman, or child, above 2 years old, but what smokes; one pipe answers for a whole family, or group. One lights the pipe, and hands it to the one who sits next him, without any distinction of age or station. He gives one or two puffs, and hands it to the next, and so on, until all have shared in the draught. And what is worthy of remark, they swallow the smoke, and then breathe it out of their nostrils and mouth.

Friday, 7th. Three of us with our husbands have been ashore to-day to visit the King. The first time that any of the Ladies had been on shore. We were no sooner landed, than surrounded by at least 200 of the natives who had collected as they saw us approaching—and such a noise of hallooing and

shouting you never heard. It was with great difficulty we passed the crowd, and had our guards too, some getting hold of hands and clothes, others running before us putting their heads under our bonnets, crying "Mah-ka—Mah-ka" (i.e., I love you). The crowd began to scatter and the noise to abate, as we approached the King's house, which was surrounded by kah-nahkas (men) which are his life-guard—all bearing arms.

They made way for us to enter the door, which we did with stooping a little. We found the King and his attendants seated around their poa and raw fish, which was placed upon a mat in the center of the room, their servants with fly brushes standing over them. They made no movement on our approach, but ordered the servants to give us seats (which they did, of elegant wrought Chinese gilt chairs), and fan us—it being very warm.

The King, after passing a compliment, asked us, through our interpreter, if we would stay to dinner. On being answered in the affirmative he appeared pleased, but did not leave his dish of poa, until he had finished his meal. We were then served with wine, and presently after appeared the Queens, five in number—dressed, some in calico and some in elegant silk gowns, silk stockings, and coarse leather shoes—with a wreath or coronet of yellow feathers around the tops of their heads and around their necks. After passing a very friendly salutation, they ordered a table to be spread which was done in the following manner: A large, round, mahogany table, with a scarlet tray cloth with a large waiter and china dishes set on it—a kind of tea with sugar cane boiled in it, was brought in a two-quart china bowl. This was ladled out into tea-cups, by one of the Queens, and handed to us with a silver tablespoon to sip it with. This, together with the addition of some sea bread and poa, furnished the present entertainment (refreshment). We were again served with wine and water—after which we walked out to view the country and curiosities.

We were followed again by the same rabble which we met upon the shore, with the addition of at least 100. In walking about a mile we passed upwards of 60 houses (thatched); and from every hut I concluded we received an addition of 8 or 10 to our train. I thought I had never before had my patience so much tried (as they all pressed to peep into our faces). During our walk we went to see the ruins of the Moriah [marae; heiau]—the Great temple of the Gods. It was sure enough in ruins, and such a scene of devastation, I never before beheld. There appeared to me to have been stone (solid lava) enough among the ruins of the temple, to build a city—4 of the wooden gods are left remaining for curiosity. I shall not attempt to describe them for they were so unlike any thing I ever before saw, that I must come far short of a just description. But I will send you a likeness of one of them. Here the bones of human victims which have been offered as sacrifice to these heathen deities, crumbling into ashes. In a large ohale (or house) near by lies buried the bones of the Great Tamahamaah—with a cross on each side, signifying Tarboo, (or no admittance). Upon this sacred ground was no common person allowed to step his foot. None but the priests were allowed to enter the Morias or come near the Gods. Should any other person accidentally step foot upon the tarboo ground—it was certain death. Such were the laws of the former King: that it was death for a man to enter one of his (the King's) houses who had ever been known to eat with a woman; and on no account could he enter his house, or come into his presence, but upon his hands and knees, and with his shoulders bare; and none but a white man (a foreigner) would be allowed to sit to the table with him. He always dressed in the English style, and was fond of English manners and customs—and was a friend to all white people who treated him well. But he was a complete tyrant and governed the people with absolute sweep. Yet, he was beloved and

respected by all his subjects. It appears that the more rigid his laws, the better they loved him. One little anecdote will serve to illustrate this fact:

“The King was one day passing by a house, where some women had retired for the purpose of feasting upon a bunch of Bannanas which they had stolen somewhere, (no woman was ever allowed to eat a Banana, cocoanut, or hog). Certain death was sure to follow, if such a report came to the King. On passing the house he heard his name mentioned—curiosity induced him to listen a little to their conversation. He soon learned that they were praying over a bunch of Bananas, invoking blessings upon the King at the same time, and instead of expressing any displeasure at his laws, they seemed to approve them—passing the highest encomiums upon him, in the midst of which he entered the house to their great astonishment. He told them, all that would save them from immediate death was their prayers for, and their love of him, but were they caught in the like situation again, there was no mercy for them.”

His dying charge to the Chiefs was, “Govern the people after my laws, and you will do well, otherwise you will ruin the nation.” Previous to his death he expressed his doubts respecting the power of his Gods to save life, as he was convinced that, he must die soon, notwithstanding the thousands of prayers and offerings which had been made to them to save his life—and he expressed a strong desire to become acquainted with the Christians’ God, of whom he had heard so much. Poor soul! he had no one to lead him to Christ who alone could give him “even life forevermore,” but died as he lived, a heathen.

We returned about 1 Oc. to the house of his Royal Majesty (Oreho-reho, son of the deceased King) where we dined upon roast pig, fowls, vegetables, well dressed, etc., etc.—a glass of wine crowned the dish. After sitting awhile we repaired to the Brig which seemed like going home again.

My feelings the ensuing night, I cannot well describe. The idea of spending my life upon these barren rocks and among this heathen people, whose manners and habits are so rude and disgusting, appeared for a moment almost to overwhelm me. I felt sensibly the force of this truth, that it is impossible for us to imagine what our feelings will be in any situation, till brought to the trial.

Saturday, 8th. The King gives orders that Dr. H. and our teacher must land at Kiarooah—the village where he now resides, and the rest of the family may go to Oahhoo, or Wahhoo. We plead earnestly that we might all go to Oahhoo, at least to do our washing and become a little familiarized to the country before we separated—not knowing how a family could live upon a rock of Laver, without wood or water, with six months washing on hand. Our entreaties however were unavailing. The King and Chiefs said that everybody liked Oahhoo better than Ohyhee, and if we all went there we should not come back again. Besides, he wanted the Dr. to stay with them, as they had no Physician and appeared much pleased that one had come; as to pulla-pulla (learning), they knew nothing about it. Consequently it was agreed that Dr. H. & Mr. Thurston should stay with the King and the rest of the family go to Oahhoo.

June 1, 1820. Owhyhee—Village of Kiarooah. The following, I shall put in the form of letters which I shall address to each of My Brothers & Sisters severally as I have opportunity. I shall commence with

My Dear Sister Marcia:

I am just ready to commence the story of my landing, after a residence of more than 2 months upon the Island. You will not, my dear sister, conclude however, that I have just begun to think of you and all that I hold dear in my beloved country.

I will not attempt to tell you how often my fond imagination

has taken its flight across the trackless ocean—through rugged and impenetrable forests, and entered the dwellings of my much loved Sisters and friends in Brookfield.

The evening on which I gave my hand to Dr. H. and the morning on which we took our departure, with all their attendant circumstances appear to my mind but of yesterday.

Fond recollection would fain recall days and scenes that are past, and make them seem almost to be present. In thinking of friends and home I feel a pleasure never before experienced—altho now and then an involuntary sigh of regret steals from my bosom, that I am never again to behold them in the land of the living. There is however a satisfaction in believing that we live in the constant remembrance of our friends; that we are the subjects of their daily prayers, and best wishes, and above all the hope of ere long meeting in a world where partings are unknown.

It being concluded upon how many and who should land at Owhyhee, preparations were made; and on the 12th of April—being 170 days from the time of our departure—we, with our property were set on shore of the heathen, our friends sailing the same evening for Oahoo. I need not tell you that the separation, altho a temporary one, was trying to our feelings, but our path appeared to be made plain and it was our duty to submit. Our goods were set on shore in the afternoon, and we in the evening [at] 9 Oc.

We were conducted to the house which the King had ordered to be prepared for us, about 20 rods from shore, where we found our goods promiscuously displayed about the room. We soon, however, cleared a place to spread our mattresses; and after committing ourselves to the care of our Divine Protector, we laid ourselves down to rest—thankful to find a pillow upon terra firma once more. We did not feel the least apprehension of danger from the natives, with whom our house

was swarmed, the King having set a guard about our house, and one old man (whom we named Dick) to attend us within doors.

The next morning we arose with cheerful hearts and went about setting our goods in order. The King's steward brought us a breakfast of fish and wullah (sweet potatoes) cooked in the native style, and served upon a large pewter platter. We spread a cloth upon my large chest and seated ourselves around the plain, but welcome dish, and made a good breakfast.

I will now give you, a description of an Owhyhee dwelling house. These are built with long posts driven into the earth about as close together as the posts to a common framed house, and rafters the same, fastened to the posts or beams with cords made of bark vines or splinters. Across the rafters and posts are fastened poles or sticks, 2 or 3 inches apart, which are for the purpose of supporting the frame and weaving in the thatch, which is composed of different materials, such as hay or grass, Bamboo, tea [ti], banana, and cocoanut leaves. To some houses there are 2 doors but generally but one, and no windows. The floor of the houses of the nobility are first paved with small pebble stones, then a layer of hay, next a coarse mat made of the cocoanut leaf, and wove in the manner of a splint basket—next a finer mat made of the rush, a plant peculiar to this climate. Next a straw mat and so on according to the dignity and property of the person. The richer or higher the Chief, the more mats he walks and sleeps upon. I have counted 20 or 30 upon one floor. In short, an Owhyhee house resembles a hay stack, as near as anything you could imagine. They afford a comfortable shelter from the rain and answer well the native style of living, which requires nothing but a mat, a calabash for poa, and another for water. Their property, those who have any, is deposited in store houses built of mud and stone. A fire will consume one of these houses in 5 minutes—indeed, I

have known seven in succession, burnt to ashes in the space of 20 minutes.

After breakfast, we had nothing to do but to adjust our goods and make the best of our accommodations. The King ordered all our lumber, provisions, medicines &c. to be put into a storehouse near by the one we lived in—so that when evening came we had cleared a place large enough to make up a comfortable bed.

About Sunset entered Her Royal Highness, one of the Queens, with her train of attendants. She appeared astonished to see us, Mrs. T. and myself, put our hands to anything, and asked Thomas Hoopoo, who was our interpreter, why we troubled ourselves about putting up our things. He told her that it was customary for the Ladies in America, whatever, their rank or station, to be doing something, that they were seldom idle. At which she expressed her surprise and pitied us, saying we must not trouble ourselves about anything, but must have servants. She then gave us one of her servants which composed her train, a boy about 12 years of age. This, she wished to be considered as a token of her particular friendship for us; as he was a favorite servant of hers, and we must have as many more as we wished to employ, for (you will understand that women in Owhyhee never work until they get to be old and despised) she did not like to see us or our husbands at work. At the same time I was employed in spreading the clothes upon my bed, she asked what that was for and why I did it. Thomas told her, that it was a bed to sleep on, that in America we slept upon bedsteads, and the reason why we had none—there being no room in the vessel, for bedsteads, chairs, or tables. She went out without saying any more, and presently after, came 2 elegant Mahogany, high-post bedsteads, with cane bottoms. I need not tell you that these were as acceptable as they were unexpected.

The fourth day after our arrival, the King sent us a Mahogany round table with six drawers, which answer the place of a cupboard. A few weeks after our arrival on shore we were visited by 2 English Captains (whalers) who had come to these Islands for water and provisions. From them we secured many valuable presents, such as crockery, wine, butter, and each of us a chair. Thus you see my dear Sister, that every day brings with it fresh testimony that the Lord is with us, that the work is his and we believe he will accomplish it in his own time. Pray for us my sister that we may have strength given to us according to our day. Pray that we may have wisdom to direct our steps, that having begun, may we come off conquerors at last.

I want to say much to you but my time is short and I wish to write a little to all—we hope to have an opportunity of sending home soon, and I must improve the opportunity. Remember me affectionately to brother Williams and the children. Tell them I want to see them more than I can express. Let no opportunity slip of writing, don't consider the distance; nor the uncertainty of its getting to me but write as if the mail came every week.

Dr. H. wishes to be remembered to you and yours—while I remain your affectionate

SISTER LUCIA.

Owhyhee—Khiarooah, June 21, 1820

To My Dear Sister H.:

As I am copying my journal into letters, making no alteration except addressing individuals, the introduction to one is the introduction to all; you will therefore turn to Sister M's letter.

One week after our landing I was taken sick with symptoms of a fever. Through the good providence of God, however, I soon recovered, being confined to my bed but one week. While the Lord has dealt out his mercies to us with a liberal hand, he has been sparing of afflictions—we have as yet experienced few trials to what we had anticipated. But we do not flatter ourselves that it will be always thus, it is not his usual way of God's dealing with his faithful Servants. But when he is about to perform a great work, he usually tries the faith of his friends with some unexpected or unforeseen affliction.

June 24. Since I wrote the above, we have removed from our former habitation into the one which the Royal Family occupied when we came on shore, they having moved into new houses, about 1/4 of a mile from ours. They occupy 3 houses, 1 for eating, one for sleeping, and another for sitting. The King and chiefs visit us daily, and manifest an increasing pleasure in our coming. The Queen and some of the high chiefs come every day to be taught, and they will some of them learn the alphabet in one day—the King forbids our teaching any but the Blood Royal.

The natives, common people, with whom our house is constantly surrounded, have caught the sound of some of our letters, while we have been teaching—so that wherever we go, we can hear “a, b, c” &c.

We are the objects of so much curiosity, that they have come from all parts of the Island to see us. White man is no uncommon sight, but a white woman was never before seen upon the Islands.

For the first 3 or 4 weeks after our arrival, it was hardly possible for Mrs. T. or myself to go either to the storehouse, or the stove (both of which stood but 3 or 4 rods from the house) without a guard to clear our way before us. You may well suppose that this constant rabble about our house, was very unpleasant, altho they appear to be perfectly friendly.

The King has tarbood our house, ie. no one can enter it without we wish. The house which we now live in stands upon a high wall, with a walk 4 or 5 feet wide all around the house, and paved with white coral and seashells—and is the pleasantest part of the house, particularly in the evening, affording a pleasant sitting place. The situation is airy, upon the brink of the Ocean, and the constant sea breeze renders the heat less oppressive than I have frequently found it in America.

But I have now said all in favor of this place as there is neither wood, water or earth within 3 or 4 miles of this village except the sand upon the seashore. We are obliged to employ 2 kah-nahkas (men) to fetch water, 1 to attend the house and stove, and when we can obtain water enough, which is seldom, we employ 2 men to wash for us—besides doing the greatest part of it ourselves—or else have it half done.

Two men in Owhyhee will accomplish as much work in 2 days as 1 good man in America will do in 2 hours. We have this advantage, however, it costs nothing to keep them. Their food is all they require (as they wear no clothing), and this is furnished by the King. We may have as many men and women servants as we please, and it will cost us nothing but the vexation of having them about, which is more than I can bear.

They sleep in little huts, upon a mat and eat their Tarrow

and fish (which constitutes their principal food) on the same. Mrs. T. and myself have taken each of us a little girl, for the purpose of teaching them to work and read—hoping in some future days to make them helps to us and blessings to themselves. But not being used to any restriction, they could not bear the confinement and ran away. Parents have no more command over their children than any other person, but as soon as they can stand alone they act for themselves.

July 1. We receive daily supplies of provisions from the King such as the country offers, hogs, fowls, fish, tarro and potatoes—but they are all of an inferior quality. The hogs & fowls are ill-flavored, having but little sweetness to them. Of the fruits of Owhyhee, the Bannana & melon is all that I am fond of. The breadfruit has been quite overrated by narrators. It has an insipid taste, not much like gingerbread to which it has by some been likened.

We have had a few fine apples and oranges, but they are scarce upon this Island. At Attooi where we hope to go soon, they grow in abundance. Raspberries and strawberries, I am told grow upon some parts of these Islands, but they bear no resemblance to those of America. They are raised by the natives, only for painting their tapper.

In short, the fruits and vegetables, and everything that these Islands produce, taste heathenish.

I believe that if the pleasant sunshine of the Gospel should beam upon this land, it would have no small tendency to sweeten its fruits. And I cannot but hope the period is not far distant, when the Son of righteousness will arise with healing in his beams, and shine upon this nation, till it shall bud and blossom as the rose.

But deplorable, beyond description is the present situation of this people, sunk to the lowest depths of sin and depravity—they appear to glory in what should be their greatest shame.

There is no sin, the commission of which, disgraces them—indeed, there is nothing that disgraces them but work. In short, drunkenness is an honor, theft a virtue, and murder a mark of valour, if it can be done slyly. Such my dear sister is the wretched condition of this people, and such the society among whom the Lord in his providence has cast our lot.

The trials and privations of a missionary life can be easily talked of at home, but cannot be known and felt. Think not then to imagine what would be your feelings, situated more than 18,000 miles from friends and home amidst a savage race of people—a people whose very best appearance must shock the delicacy of an American beholder—where the sabbath and sanctuary privileges cannot be enjoyed without molestation—and where not only the comforts and conveniences of life are denied, but the necessaries also.

Think not, my dear sister, that I am complaining or repining at the allotments of providence, or, that I mention these things to pain you—far from it—but only that you should know the truth of my situation according to my engagement and likewise that I may have your sympathy and prayers, which is all I ask, and all that you can give.

I could say much that would interest a dear sister but shall be obliged to abridge many circumstances, and things, which, for want of time I should otherwise notice, and I purpose to be always talking to some of you every day, or at least every week, until I meet you.

Farewell my Dear Sister—remember my love & the Drs. to Brother B. and the children, and not forget

YOUR SISTER LUCIA.

Oahhoo—Hannaroorah, September 18th, 1820.

My own dear Sister:

Since I concluded my little narrative with Sister H. there have been so many changes in my situation that summing the multitude of what I would say I hardly know where to begin. However, to be short, I will inform you that we were called to leave Owhyhee, on July 29 on account of the scarcity of water—it being impossible to obtain enough for absolute necessity. The King thought he could furnish one family with water, but 2, he could not, as we required more than he had expected. He, therefore, together with the Great Chief Tirimokoo, agreed that Dr. H. and myself might go to the Island of Mowa, about half way between Oahhoo, and Owhyhee, the 2 stations; provided, that Dr. would come to Owhyhee to attend on them when they were sick—which was agreed to. We arrived at Mowa, village of Lahaina, on the 39th, about sunset, where we were conducted to the house which the Chief had given orders for our entertainment, amidst a throng of hundreds.

It being very warm we were invited to sit upon the mats in the yard before the door of the house—which was surrounded with people who had collected to behold the wonderful sight of a white Lady. After sitting awhile, I proposed going into the house, being afraid of the evening air, we took our seats in the house upon the mats, they then asked us if we would have some supper, and what we would have. We told them we loved fish & potatoes, knowing that to be as convenient for them to get as anything, and in the space of half an hour they brought us an excellent dish of fresh broiled fish and roasted potatoes.

I had never relished a dish so well before, since I had been upon these Islands. We had each of us a knife, but no fork. After supper I was invited to play a game at cards with the

Chief women. I told them that the American Ladies were not fond of playing cards; at which they wondered—but I concluded before morning that they were, for they kept it up all night.

In the morning we arose and were led by our conductor, to the house which was building for us, followed by a train of a hundred or two. The path which led to our house, was bordered on each side with plantations of tarrow, sugar cane, banana & breadfruit trees and the Kowoca [?] plant. As I had not seen anything of vegetation growing before since my residence upon the Islands, it gave me new sensations, and even the smell of vegetation once more seemed to put new life into me.

We were invited to move in with a Mr. Butler, a reputable white man, who has a half native wife, and a family of children. He has 3 large houses enclosed in a yard, and good accommodations for this country, and is our nighest neighbor. With him we lived until our house was finished, which was 2 weeks. We had lived in our house 2 weeks more, when the St. Martins, arrived from Oahhoo with a letter requesting Dr. H. to go to Oahhoo immediately, to attend on Captain Dean, an American Merchantman, who had just arrived from Manilla, one of the East India Islands, dangerously sick. It was then night and we were obliged to pack our things and be on board before 9 Oc. We arrived at Oahhoo the next day at sunset, where we again met our friends whom we had not before seen since our landing. Found them all well and engaged heart and hand in the good work—with the addition of one to the number, a little son of Mrs. Loomis. How long we may be obliged to stay here on the account of Capt. Dean, I know not. Dr. thinks it not probable that he will ever get well. At all events we are to stay here till the first of October when Dr. must go to Attooi, to administer medical aid to the family there. You will understand that Brother S. and Mrs. Whitney

are stationed at Attooi, under the protection of King Tam-morer. Their prospects of usefulness there are thought to be greater than at either of the other stations. Where we shall be stationed, is yet uncertain, but it is probable either at Oahoo or Attooi, which we should have done in preference to going to the Lahinah had the King been willing. Our residence at the Lahinah, we expected would be only a temporary one—until the affairs of the natives were settled, and the King fixed upon a permanent establishment. We hope it will be here, as this is much the pleasantest and best Island to live upon.

But we must not consult our own temporal ease as this is not our business, but to seek the good of others—is our grand object. It would seem, however, very desirable to settle down and feel at home once more, but I do not expect to very soon; the family being divided into so many parts, and but one Physician to attend them it will take him a great part of his time to visit them. The distance between them is so great and the length of time so uncertain which he may be required to stay, it is thought advisable, by the family that I should accompany him, in his excursions, and were it on land, I should take a pleasure in it, but O! the horror of travelling by sea! for the moment I step my foot into a vessel I am seasick until I leave it.

One might well suppose that after a voyage of more than 20,000 miles (which was the distance of our route) I should not mind a voyage of 100 miles. Brother Samuel writes to have me come with Dr. H. and spend 4 or 5 months with them at Attoi. But so uncertain is our future destiny that I make no calculations for the morrow.

I learn this truth every day, that we have no abiding place, no continuing City here; and feel more & more the importance of seeking one which is to come, even an Heavenly.

The first week of our residence here, we boarded with the family consisting of Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Bingham, and

Mr. Loomis. But they have now removed from their former station, one mile, into new houses, which were built by the Government for them. Since their removal, Dr. & myself have boarded with Capt. Dean & Mr. Green, partner of Capt. D., by the particular request of Capt. D. as he wished Dr. to be near him, and we could have good accommodations. We lodge, and stay, the most of the time, in a house near by his, where we both now sit writing.

Dr. says, tell your folks that the Ship in which we send our letters sails to-morrow, and he will not have time to write any of them, as he is writing to his friends in Soho-harrie, but will, by leave of Divine Providence embrace the first opportunity. [He] wishes a place in your warmest remembrance and most fervent prayers and believe my dear sister there is not an hour in the day but we think and speak of you all. But you are never dearer to our hearts than in our addresses to the Throne of Grace for each other. There is consolation my dear sister, such as the world cannot give. That we may bear each other in remembrance before God—with hope in his promise that it shall not be in vain. O my dear sister it seems while I am writing, that I am already with you—I cannot realize that the separation is so great—and the time so far distant when you will peruse these pages if ever—and I shall never give up hope of seeing you again in the land of the living should we live—if not, it will be all well, the Lord's will be done. In all my trials of sickness and privations by sea and by land, I have never regretted my undertaking; but, I have never seen the time, when I could say in truth (as some others, better than myself have said) that I had no desire ever to behold my country and the faces of my friends again should ever so good an opportunity present. No! My Country and friends are dearer to me than ever; and I would humbly hope that the cause of Christ is none the less so for that.

I am fully convinced that females may be useful, eminently useful to a foreign Mission; that their influence and example are everything to a Missionary establishment. Yet where it can possibly be, that men can go first onto the ground, and begin and prepare the rough way a little, before he brings her who, after all he has done, is capable of suffering enough—I think it would not be inconsistent with reason, humanity, or revelation. But this cannot always be the case; it could not here, conveniently.

I believe the females of this Mission have done more, much more towards the prosperity of it thus far, than the men—on account of the jealousy existing towards the white people. It has been thought by some, that they would not have got permission to land had it not been for the females. I will further add that could any female know before she left her home, all the trials and afflictions through which she must inevitably pass, she would not of herself have strength or grace to enlist in so great an enterprize. I think I may say the same of man.

In this we may see the wisdom of God manifest, that we, weak and timid mortals should not foresee future events, how unhappy should we be, and how illy calculated, to prosecute the work allotted us.

Let us then, My dear Sister, in all our trials and privations, and afflictions rejoice in them all knowing that if we sincerely love God, and are his true and unfeigned followers; they will “work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”

My health through a kind providence is better, far better, than it has been for months and I feel encouraged that it will continue to be so. But I have thought that the days of my pilgrimage here on earth were few—the fatigue of a long voyage together with the many privations I have since experienced has seemed sometimes almost to overcome my nature. But the Lord

who is my health and my strength, He alone has preserved me. Nor is a kind, faithful, and affectionate husband among the least of Heaven's blessings to me. I have no doubt you have at times felt an anxious solicitude respecting my choice of a companion, as it is one of the most important considerations in the list of our enjoyments, and having but a short opportunity of becoming acquainted with him yourselves. It is not necessary, neither would it be consistent for me to speak of all his virtues here—I will only say that in him I have found a kind husband, a faithful friend, and a pious and intelligent companion. In the eyes of some of our brethren, he has been kind to a fault, who have thought, were he less attentive to my wants I should put more confidence in my own strength. However, as this is a fault that men are seldom accused of, I feel willing to pass it by and will condense this subject in the Poet:

Thy bounteous hand with worldly bliss,
Hath made my cup run o'er;
And in a kind and faithful friend,
Hath doubled all my Store.

Remember me affectionately to brother W. and your little ones; tell them I never before knew what it was to want to see them. Remember me likewise to Chloe, tell her I esteem her as a sister and friend and consider her entitled to a perusal of these pages, which to those less interested, must appear uninteresting and trifling. But to such, I have not addressed them; and into the hands of such I presume they will not be committed. I cannot enumerate all that I have love for—but wish you to present my love and acknowledgments to all those, who took a particular interest in my welfare who manifested themselves not only friends to me, but to the cause in which I am professionally engaged. I likewise earnestly request the remembrance and prayers of that Church of which I was unworthy to be a member—and which I still hold most dear to my heart.

And now, with all the tender ties of love and consanguinity
which in a peculiar manner bind the hearts of our family—I
subscribe myself,

Your affectionate, tho far absent,

SISTER LUCIA.