

get the chief, and said we were afraid to take him by force, and this too in the presence of the missionaries.

Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold procured all the papers from the consul for my full understanding of the case, and prepared for his departure, after laying in a good stock of pork, vegetables, and fruit for his crew. The *Polenchano*, commanded by a Frenchman, was lying at Apia: this is the vessel the part of whose crew we saw on Hull's Island, engaged in taking turtles.

On inquiry being made about Opotuno, it was found that no claimant had appeared for the reward; the deposit was therefore taken on board again, and exchanged for the requisite provisions for the crew, which were found in great abundance here.

On the 10th of September, the *Porpoise* left the harbour for the Hawaiian Islands, steering for some islands which the missionaries had reported to me as existing about two hundred and fifty miles to the northeast; but no indication of land was seen on that bearing, and at that distance. In this passage they experienced similar winds and weather to those described in speaking of the passage of the *Vincennes*, and saw many birds flying about in the neighbourhood of the island we visited. They found the magnetic equator in latitude  $3^{\circ} 15' S.$ , longitude  $166^{\circ} 07' W.$ , and crossed the equator in  $166^{\circ} W.$

They had the east-southeast and east winds until latitude  $5^{\circ} N.$  Between that and latitude  $10^{\circ} N.$ , they experienced the same easterly current that we had done. In that latitude the northeast winds were fallen in with, accompanied with squalls of rain, and sometimes of wind. From latitude  $10^{\circ} N.$ , the current was found to set to the westward; and the winds settled with little variation into the northeast trades.

On the 7th of October they made the Hawaiian Islands, and on the 8th reached Oahu; by ten o'clock they had taken the pilot on board, entered the passage, and anchored in the harbour. The officers and crew were all well. Their passage from the Samoan Islands occupied thirty days; and their course was nearly direct.

The tender, agreeably to the orders given her, made the island of Kie, and ran down the sea-reef as far as Round Island, where it becomes a sunken one, running in the direction of Biva, the most western island of the group. The Round Island Passage is the only large break through it. There are, indeed, several narrow passages as Round Island is approached, but none that it would be advisable for a vessel to enter, the ground inside being thickly studded with sunken coral reefs.

The tender, after reaching Round Island, made sail for the Hawaiian