

instruments to carry on simultaneous observations with our mountain party. I had also a house built after the native fashion, in order that some of the officers might be engaged upon the charts.

Waiakea Point is situated on the opposite side of the bay from Hilo. The distance between them is a little more than a mile, and the path leads along a sandy beach, on which the surf continually breaks, and at times with great violence.

Hilo is a straggling village, and is rendered almost invisible by the luxuriant growth of the sugar-cane, which the natives plant around their houses. A good road has been made through it for the extent of a mile, at one end of which the mission establishment is situated. This consists of several houses, most of which are of modern style, covered with zinc and shingles. One of them, however, the residence of the Rev. Mr. Coan, was very differently built, and derived importance in our eyes, from its recalling the associations of home. It was an old-fashioned, prim, red Yankee house, with white sills and casements, and double rows of small windows. No one could mistake the birthplace of the architect, and although thirty degrees nearer the equator than the climate whence its model was drawn, I could not but think it as well adapted to its new as to its original station.

The whole settlement forms a pretty cluster; the paths and roadsides are planted with pine-apples; the soil is deep and fertile, and through an excess of moisture, yields a rank vegetation.

The church is of mammoth dimensions, and will, it is said, accommodate as many as seven thousand persons. It is now rapidly falling into decay, and another is in progress of erection. Many of the native houses are surrounded with bread-fruit and cocoa-nut trees, and have a fine view of the bay.

During our passage from Oahu, it was arranged that each of the natives employed by us should be designated by a tin disk, in order to keep them in some sort of order or discipline. These were painted of different colours, so that the wearers might be known to us and mustered, without having recourse to their names or asking any questions. It was intended to divide them into companies of fifty, with a petty chief and one of our interpreters to each. Dr. Judd very kindly arranged all the preliminaries with Pea, the king's agent for the district of Hilo, and the keeper of his fish-ponds, whom his majesty Kamehameha had authorized to employ people for our service. The natives had consequently been ordered to assemble and assist us as we might require. The king had likewise ordered a large number of hogs to be collected as a present, and Pea was further instructed to make a provision of taro, poe, &c.