

charge twenty-three native girls for education, clothing, and food, is one of no ordinary labour. She is one of the most useful of the missionaries; and were it not for the less liberal notions of her husband, would be much more so. I could not but perceive that his interference in the matter of this school is detrimental to the progress of the scholars in civilization: when this is the case, it cannot advance their progress in true religion.

The number of district schools in Hilo and Puna, is said to amount to one hundred; but of these I saw only one, which was under Mr. Wilcox, a teacher attached to the mission. This was kept in the old church. The numbers in attendance varied from sixty to eighty, consisting of all ages between five and fifteen.

I was in the habit of passing this building almost daily, during the latter part of my stay, and frequently was much amused at the behaviour of the scholars and their teacher. These little boys are for the most part nearly naked; but what they wanted in clothes they made up in curiosity, and on my passing on Kanuha's white horse, out they would come without the consent of their teacher. On one occasion, I was not a little amused at his attempts to restrain them, through which a kind of hurry-scurry ensued, as though so many rats were escaping from a cage; all the teacher could do, escape they would; and when he ran to one door to close it, they would nimbly seek the other, until none were left but such as he had tumbled over. I could not help laughing at this scene. This will give some idea of the difficulties to be sometimes encountered here in teaching, although I would not have the reader suppose that such is the case always.

During our stay at Hilo, I visited the Rainbow Fall: it is about a mile and a half from Hilo, and is well worthy of a visit. The Wailuku river, which I have mentioned as dividing the village of Paneo from that of Hilo, here descends about one hundred and twenty feet into a circular basin, formed apparently by the caving in of the lava, with which the whole country is covered: the strata of sand and clay has in places become undermined, and has left the ledge over which the fall shoots, projecting beyond the walls of the basin. This has the effect to bring the water in broad relief, and the height is sufficient to dissipate it into foam before it reaches the quiet and secluded nook below: this causes a fluctuation in the quantity of spray that is constantly arising, which being agitated by the breeze, throws it about in various directions, and with a bright sun, causes innumerable rainbows to be seen, from those of great brightness to the most delicate tints. The walls showing the