

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
Harbour of Honolulu,  
November 10th, 1840.

SIR,—

You will receive on board Messrs. Peale, Rich, and Dana, of the scientific corps, and Mr. Hall and servant, of this place, and proceed to the port of Kaleakeakua, island of Hawaii, where you will land the above gentlemen, and thence proceed to the examination of a reef said to exist off the southwest end of Kahoolawe, and locate it with the land, carefully ascertaining its latitude and longitude.

From thence you will return to Hawaii, to Hilo in Byron's Bay; where you will await the arrival of these gentlemen.

Ten days are allowed them to rejoin you, from the time of their landing; after which you will make all haste to return to this harbour: your return will be expected on the 28th or 29th, beyond which time you must not delay.

During your stay in Byron's Bay, you will make a sketch of it.

I am, respectfully,

CHARLES WILKES,  
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

ACTING-MASTER S. KNOX,  
Tender Flying-Fish.

P. S. You will furnish the gentlemen bread for their excursion.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
Harbour of Honolulu,  
November 10th, 1840.

GENTLEMEN,—

You will proceed in the Flying-Fish to Hawaii, where you will be landed in Kaleakeakua Bay. From thence you will proceed across the island. Messrs. Peale and Rich, with Mr. Hall, will take the route by the ancient temples, to the north of Mauna Loa, passing by the craters of Kilauea, and thence to Hilo. Ten days are given you to reach Hilo.

Mr. Dana, with Midshipman Hudson, will follow the line of coast as far as Apua, thence trace the eruption to the volcano, making examinations and sketches in his route.

Ten days are given him to reach Hilo.

You will obtain as many Kanakas as are required to carry the burdens, whom you will reward for their labours, which expenses will be refunded on your return, on producing necessary vouchers. Mr. Knox will furnish you with the provisions you may require to take with you.