

him to death in Kealakekua Bay. Till within a few months past, the government was monarchical. The reigning king in 1880 was Kalakaua.

Fourteen years after Cook's death, Vancouver, one of Cook's companions, visited these islands, and acted with much greater wisdom towards the natives. He endeavored to improve their condition in every way by introducing various industries among them. He even promised to procure for them teachers who should instruct them in Christianity, and he made an honest endeavor to do so by laying the whole matter before the Prime Minister of England; but owing to the little interest taken at that time in such matters in England, nothing in the matter was done.

In 1820, the first Christian missionaries to the Hawaiians landed in the islands. These early missionaries were Congregationalists, sent from Boston by the American Board for Foreign Missions.

Considerable success attended the labors of these men during the first few years of the landing, the king himself adopting Christianity and issuing orders for the strict observance of the Lord's day. In 1825, the Queen Regent and her prime minister joined the mission church; and in 1828, or eight years from the first arrival of the missionaries, while there were only 50 baptized converts, there were over 12,000 attendants on the services, and 26,000 pupils in the schools, and no less than fifteen to twenty thousand copies of the four gospels were in circulation. In 1831 a temperance society was started at Honolulu, and in 1837 additional missionaries arrived from Boston. Boarding schools and public schools were opened at different points; also manual labor schools. In the same year a great awakening commenced, and for four years the missionaries were taxed to their utmost in dealing with the enquirers. As a result, in the succeeding six years over 27,000 persons were baptized. In 1839, the whole Bible was translated into Hawaiian. Passing on to 1851, we find in a report of the Minister of Public Instruction that there existed 535 schools, with 15,482 scholars, or more than one-sixth of the whole population; the number of members admitted to the church up to that date being 39,201, and children baptized, 14,173. In 1850 a Hawaiian Foreign Mission was established, and the following year sent two Hawaiian teachers, with their missionaries, to labor on an island 2,000 miles from Hawaii. To this mission the Hawaiians contributed upwards of \$24,000 in one year. The next year they sent a mission entirely of natives to one of the Marquesas Islands.

The Church of England at last moved in the direction of permanent mission work for Hawaii by establishing a bishopric at Honolulu in 1861. Dr. T. N. Staley was consecrated its first

bishop, and he was succeeded in 1872 by the present bishop, Dr. A. Willis. The missionary work is conducted chiefly through the agency of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

In 1863, the American Board handed over the work entirely to the native pastors and churches. Another awakening in 1860 resulted in an addition of 2,000 communicants. We have not space at our disposal to trace further the progress of the work.

If you seek that which shall bear witness to the mighty deeds done in the name of the Gospel, go to the Hawaiian Islands; take with you a free, unbiassed mind; learn of the condition of the native people even so recently as three-quarters of a century ago; learn of the polluted depths of foul barbarism into which they had sunk: learn how La Pérouse was compelled to abandon his opinions as to the "innocence of savage life," one of the teachings of the Rousseau school, before the fact of the shameless degradation into which the natives had fallen; consider the frightful waste of human blood poured upon the altars in the *heians* or temples built to the thousand and one gods worshipped by the islanders; learn of the degrading fear prevailing amongst a people whose very lives and means of sustenance were in the hands of a tyrannical band of chiefs and priests; and then contemplate the civilization of the islands of to-day; see in the people a nation of great promise, from the descendants of the savages of but a century ago.

"It is no small thing," says Mr. R. H. Dana, "to say of the missionaries of the American Board that in less than forty years they have taught this whole people to read and to write, to cipher and to sew. They have given them an alphabet, grammar, and dictionary; preserved their language from extinction; given it a literature and translated into it the Bible, together with works of devotion, science, entertainment, etc. They have established schools, reared up native teachers, and so pressed their work that now the proportion of inhabitants who can read and write is greater than in New England. And whereas they found these islanders a nation of half-naked savages, they now see the more elevated of them taking part in conducting the affairs of the constitutional monarchy under which they live, holding seats on the judicial bench and in the legislative chambers, and filling posts in the local magistracies."

Although the native race of Hawaii is fast disappearing, and is probably doomed to extinction, there is great reason to thank God that so many of those who have passed away have been led into the light, and that that light still continues to shine, and light up the path of this apparently decaying nation.

MAKE life a ministry of love, and it will always be worth living.-- Robert Browning.