

*Letter from the BISHOP of HONOLULU.*

IN reply to your circular I find that the first Mission of the Anglican Church to the Hawaiian Islands, although liberally supported here by the King, His late Majesty Kamehameha IV., at whose special request the Mission was sent to his kingdom, and in England by a very influential Committee, was nevertheless from its first inception aided by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The steady support that the Mission has continued to receive from that period from the Society has proved of the greatest value in enabling the Mission to hold its ground and prosecute its work, until there is every hope of its taking firm root in the islands. When the Mission was left without a head in 1870 and 1871, the continuance of the Society's grant contributed in no small degree to its maintenance. The second Bishop was sent out in 1872, directly dependent for one-third of his stipend on the Society, besides receiving a grant for the assistance of the Missionary clergy. The death of Kamehameha V. at the end of 1872, who contributed two-thirds of the episcopal income, was a severe blow to the Mission, and it became a very serious question how it was to be maintained, the successors to the throne showing no sign of following the example of the Kamehamehas. This anxious question was set at rest by the Society providing in 1876 the entire stipend of the Bishop on a reduced scale.

Judged merely by statistics, the Anglican Church cannot yet claim to have an equal hold upon the nation with the Congregationalists and Roman Catholics, who were both firmly established before the Anglican Church was represented in the kingdom. At the same time it has had an influence which has been felt far beyond the circle of its professed adherents, notably in its educational work, in causing the middle wall of partition between the white and coloured races to disappear, and not least in securing a general recognition of Christmas Day and Good Friday, which passed unnoticed up to 1862. What has been wrought is not to be judged merely by the congregations that assemble for worship, according to the form of the Book of Common Prayer. Much of the work of the Mission is hid from observation. Scattered throughout the islands are to be found homes in which the mother or children will speak with gratitude of the training they received or are receiving in the schools of the Mission; and in such homes may be discerned the nucleus of future congregations in the not very distant future.

The great development in recent years of sugar cultivation