Hawaiian Gazette Supplement, March 9, 1881.

Cruise of the Pomare.

VOYAGE OF THE HAWAIIAN BARK "POMARE"—LABOR CRUISE.

Sailed July 20, 1880, for Jaluit. Crossed the 180th Meridian from Greenwich, in Lat. 9° 32' N., carrying so far steady to N. E. trades, and fine weather to Aug 9th. From date, light variable winds and calms to Jaluit. Arrived Sept. 1st—37 days passage.

Sept. 10th, 1880, light N.E. wind; 1:30 a. m. got underweigh. At dawn was clear of the Islands and shaped course to the eastward. Oct. 15th—crossed the Equator in Long. 177° 17' E.

Oct. 18th, 1880, squared away for Rotumah, and up to date experienced continual head wind and calms. From date Oct. 18th, strong E.N.E. wind and fine weather to Rotumah where we came to anchor Oct. 7th, 1880—44 days passage.

Oct. 28th, 1880, up anchor, made sail, stood for an offing, and shaped course for the Island of Tanna.

Nov. 3d, 1880, at daylight close to the land 1:30 p. m., came to anchor off Black Beach; went on shore in the boats and engaged a boat's crew for recruiting purposes.

The chief of Black Beach tells me that a Capt. W. J. McDonald of the bark *Melbourne* from Victoria, Australia, has purchased a large tract of land from him for the purpose of a cattle ranch—7 miles sea frontage and 10 miles inland. The chief expects the vessel's return shortly with stock and material for houses.

Nov. 5th, up anchor and stood over to Erromango Island and at 4:30 p. m. came to anchor in Dillons Harbor. Went on shore and visited the Polynesian Mission Station. Mr. J. Robertson, a native of Halifax, B. America, and his lady Mrs. Robertson, received us very kindly. They say they are and also appear to be very comfortable; he informs me that all the natives are Christians, and requested that I should oblige by not taking any of their close people.

Nov. 6th strong S.E. trades, 8:30 a. m. up anchor and shaped course for Sandwich Island, New Hebrides Group.

Nov. 8th came to anchor at 4:30 p. m. in Havana Harbor, Sandwich Island. Vessel in port, schooner *Isabel Cora*, Capt. W. McDonald, from the Solomon Islands on labor cruise; 94 laborers on board bound for Lewuka, Fiji. Capt. McDonald reports that a great number of laborers can be obtained from the Solomon Islands. These recruiting have to be very cautious and not put too much confidence in the natives and also to be well armed.

Nov. 10th, having replenished water, at 4 p. m. got under weigh, passed through Deception Passage.

Nov. 11th off Api, commenced recruiting laborers successfully up to Dec. 13th, 1880, being 32 days in recruiting 205 immigrants.

Dec. 13th came to anchor in Mission Bay, Vanua Lava Island, Banks Group; lowered the boats and went on shore—the natives friendly. I traded for yams, etc., and took several natives on board; they seemed well pleased with the vessel and some of them promised to recruit next day; 5 p. m. returned the natives on shore.

Dec. 20th great change in the weather. At 2:30 a. m. a heavy squall from N.E., 5:30 a. m. wind and sea rising. All hands were busy getting the vessel underweigh; 6 a. m. set fore top-sail, commenced heaving up anchor. The barrel of windlass was carried away and the windlass axle bent, rendering it perfectly useless. The vessel being in imminent danger of dragging on the reef, Capt. Tripp gave orders to slip the chain, which was done immediately; the vessel paid off handsomely clear of the reef. At 7 a. m. fresh gale from N.N.E. and a heavy sea. Dec. 23d wind varied to N.W. by W., fresh gale; 6:30 p. m. passed between Santa Maria and Vanua Lava and shaped course for Honolulu, having left one bower anchor and 30 fms chain. The windlass also being perfectly useless, and it being the hurricane season it was deemed prudent to leave the group.

Jan. 12th, 1881, moderate N.W. winds; at 4:30 a. m. the vessel grounded on the north point of the outer reef of Bishop's Island. It was very dark—impossible to see land at any distance. Fortunately the vessel went on very easy. Capt. Tripp had the boats down in a few minutes and a hedge run out astern; the wind being light had all sail furled. At daylight took about 30 people on shore including the women and youngsters. Also started the water tanks that were on deck and pumped water from tanks in the hold; at 7 p. m. this flooding, have the vessel off and made sail. Satisfied pumps—the vessel making no water. At 4 p. m. I left the vessel in the boats to fetch the recruits from shore. Fortunately just in time, as on our arriving we found the natives attacking our people, having already stripped the women and threatening to kill the men if they interfered; however on our arrival they soon cleared. Having returned all safe on board, up boats and shaped course for Jaluit.

Feb. 13th, 1881, strong N.N.E. wind; crossed the Equator in 172° 30' E. Long.

Jan. 19th came to anchor in Jaluit Harbor. Vessels in port, schooner *Pomare* from China, consigned to Messrs. Hamsdorf & Co.; also one boat trader at anchor.

Jan. 21st having replenished water sailed for Honolulu; fine weather up to Feb. 17th. Fresh westerly gale and a heavy sea running, carried away our port boat, foremast davit and midship rail. Feb. 19th weather moderating. Jan. 28th sighted Maui, arrived at Honolulu Feb. 28th—passage 39 days. Left the New Hebrides with 205 recruits on board; deaths on passage 17—disease—dysentery.

MASSACRE.

On Nov. 28th, when off Aurora Island at dusk, we observed two schooners astern of us at 8 p. m. A boat boarded us from one of the schooners, the *Jessie*, Capt. McCloud, from New Caledonia, trading. The other schooner, the *Minnie*, owned by Mr. Chaffins, an American gentleman, who with his partner, Mr. Johnson, has been living the last four years on the Island of Ota as traders. Capt. McCloud and Mr. Chaffins were in the boat; the gentleman came on board to advise us not to recruit at Ota, as he, Mr. Chaffins, had that day shot the principal chief Onley and then left the Island.

Mr. Chaffin's statement is that the deceased chief, Onley gave orders for the murder of his partner Mr. Johnson and himself. Fortunately for Mr. Chaffin he is suffering from asthma and could not sleep that night, and went on the beach for a walk to cool himself, and during that time he heard the report of firearms near his house, he went up to see the cause and found his partner shot dead in his bed. Since then he himself has not been molested. Mr. Chaffin states also that it was Onley that gave orders to take the *Mystery's* boat and kill all hands. The people in the boat were the chief officer of the vessel and native boat's crew recruiting labor for Queensland, and that the said chief Onley had a cannibal feast off the body of the white man that, Mr. Chaffin saw himself. Mr. Chaffin says he has written to the authorities about the murder of his partner, and as no notice has been taken, and being about to leave the island, he considered it his duty to avenge the death of his partner, and the death of many others, and proceeded Captain Tripp and myself to make his statement public, so as to warn traders not to trust any of the natives five miles north or south of the north point of Ota.

November 30th.—Not being successful on the south point of Aurora stood over to Ota, and near the place where Onley was shot; hove to off Longanna, the north point of Ota, lowered the boats and pulled in for the beach. A great number of men and women on the beach were more inclined to fight than to recruit; pulled about five miles south to another chief's meeting. The chief of the district was not on the beach, but his son, Fangamey came to us and said his father had just returned from a big meeting and feast, all the chiefs of the two island had met, and it was decided that any boats coming near the shore were to be fired on and the crews killed if possible. The young chief advised me not to attempt recruiting at Longanna beach in the morning, as I told him I thought of doing; he said if I did, they would decoy us close in, and shoot us all. I thanked the young man, and at 5 p. m. returned to the vessel without recruiting any this day. On returning to the vessel I met a canoe with a young native in it, that I have known this last four years. I asked him about the disturbance on shore, and what kind of a man his chief Onley was, pretending that I knew nothing of his death. The lad told me he was a very bad man, and had killed a lot of white men. It was he who had the *Mystery's* crew killed, and another chief was punished for doing it by a man-of-war; he also gave orders for Mr. Johnson and Chaffin to be shot, but Mr. Chaffin was not in the house at the time or he would have been killed, also; but Mr. Chaffin has shot him now, so I am not afraid of talking about him. The youth's account corroborates Mr. Chaffin's statement.

J. DOMINGO,
Government Immigration Agent, brig *Pomare*.

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