

WEDNESDAY A BIG DAY AT THE BEACH.

Pacific Islanders' Reunion a Notable Event and One Which Will Interest All—A Little Polynesian History.

Next Wednesday, July 30, will undoubtedly be the biggest day of the year at Sautair. On that day occurs the seventh annual reunion of the Pacific Islands missionaries, this meaning not only a gathering of those who have seen service in that field, but also a meeting from all parts of the state and elsewhere, of those who have emigrated from these isles, to the number of perhaps several thousands. The missionaries will be joined by the Utah Beet Growers, and as a splendid program has been arranged, and special trains will be run from all Utah and Idaho common points, it seems hardly an exaggeration to say that as the committee expect, it will be the "greatest day of the season" at the beach. The Polynesians have quaint, not to say strange, and in some respects queer customs, and these will be illustrated on Wednesday next, much to the delight and enjoyment of those present.

describes the numerous isles of the Pacific grouped as follows: The Sandwich Islands, Society Islands, Navigator Islands (or Samoan) Tonga and New Zealand.

HAWAII.

The Hawaiian archipelago consists of twelve islands, the largest of which is Hawaii, which contains about 4,000 square miles. The soil is exceedingly fertile and sugar raising has become the principal industry. It has been called the "Island Paradise" perpetual spring, birds and flowers all the year. The population is about 90,000, of which nearly 30,000 are natives. The islands were discovered in 1542 and were visited by Captain Cook in 1778. The natives had numerous traditions relating to "a white god" who visited their ancestors and they looked forward to his return. When Cook landed at Hawaii he was hospitably received and the natives joyfully greeted him as "the white god." Soon, however, their homes were despoiled and when their hospitality was repaid with treachery and base cruelty they realized their error and retained by killing the great navigator on February 14, 1779. Kamehameha I was a young man when

Cook was slain and through his efforts the numerous tribes were united and Kamehameha became the first king over the Hawaiian group. The last king was Kamehameha, who died a few years ago. He was succeeded by his sister, Liliuokalani who recently visited Salt Lake City and who reigned until driven from her throne in 1893. The Hawaiian Islands have recently been annexed to the United States.

THE SAMOAN ISLES.

The Navigator or Samoan Islands is a group of volcanic islands the principal of which are Savaii, Upolu and Tutuila. The population of the islands is estimated at 20,000. The Samoans have been a warlike race and their numerous tribal wars have materially retarded the development of the islands.

THE SOCIETY GROUP.

The Society Islands lie east of the Samoan group, Tahiti being the largest. Its circumference is about 50 miles. Some of the islands are simply coral reefs and only coconut trees grow thereon. Upon the other islands tropical plants grow luxuriantly. The natives are principally engaged in the pearl fisheries.

NEW ZEALAND.

New Zealand is a group of three islands in the southern hemisphere. The area is a little larger than the state of Colorado. The colony has good timberlands and the kauri tree is king of the forest. The present population is about 700,000 and of these about 40,000 are natives, known as Maoris.

REMARKABLE SIMILARITY.

Although these various groups of islands are thousands of miles apart it is remarkable to observe the similarity in language and traditions. All Polynesians may be described as a gay, kind pleasure loving, indolent race. They are fairly intelligent and are noted for their happy and hospitable disposition. Even their war dances are similar, the Hawaiian Hula Hula corresponding closely with the Maori Haka. Book of Mormon students have connected the Polynesians with the American Indians believing that their ancestors left the mainland in the days of Hagoth (Alma 63). The traditions of the Pacific Islanders confirm this view although the general belief has been that they descended from the Malay race. Of late years, however, Polynesian students have traced the origins of the Pacific Islanders to North America.

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SIR GEORGE GREY'S BELIEF.

Sir George Gray, former governor of New Zealand and known as the Grand Old Man of the southern hemisphere, has devoted nearly a lifetime to the study of the native races. He is author of numerous works on Polynesia, notably Polynesian mythology and Maori legends.

In 1894 a reception was given in London to Bishop Selwyn, whose missionary labors in Japan in Maunesea. During the evening Sir George Grey, the venerable statesman and scholar addressed the meeting and declared that "he believed the Polynesians were descendants partly of the subjects of the kings of Mexico, an opinion he had formed from the similarity in language, religious rites and opinions, cannibalism and their war songs."

Who shall say that the Prophet Joseph Smith was not inspired when on May 23, 1843, he set apart Addison Pratt, Noah Rogers, Benjamin F. Grouard, and Knorrton F. Hanks for a mission to the Pacific Islands, thus recognizing the multitude of nations in Polynesia as a branch of the house of Israel.

It is quite probable, too, that the Japanese will yet be classed with the Polynesian race. In June last Mr. C. Asano, the Australian representative of a well known Japanese mission, named Mitsui Bussano Kaisha, visited New Zealand. Mr. Asano is a native of Japan and is described as a man of much intelligence, well up in questions of the day and a great student. In an interview with a representative of the Auckland Herald Mr. Asano stated that he was much interested in the Maoris. He saw some in Australia and from what he had seen and heard of their history and language he feels that they and the Japanese have a common origin.

RESULTS OF MISSIONARY WORK.

The missionary labors of President George Q. Cannon, President Joseph F. Smith and a large number of Elders of the Church have resulted in the establishment of flourishing missions upon these isles of the seas. Many thousands of the natives have received the Gospel of the Lord Jesus as revealed in the latter days and quite a colony of the Hawaiians have been established in Skull valley, Tooele county, Utah.

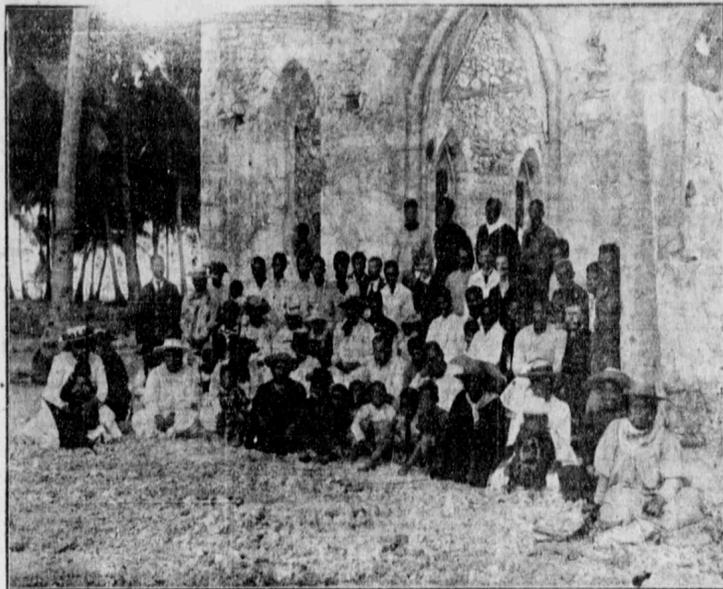
A number of Maoris from New Zealand are residents of Salt Lake City, and some young native Samoans are now being educated in the L. D. S. university at Salt Lake City, and B. Y. academy, Provo.

Each year a reunion of natives and missionaries is held where the Polynesian customs are portrayed and dances and songs rendered.

"Pacific Islanders Day" is a notable event and thousands usually assemble to witness the unique exercises.

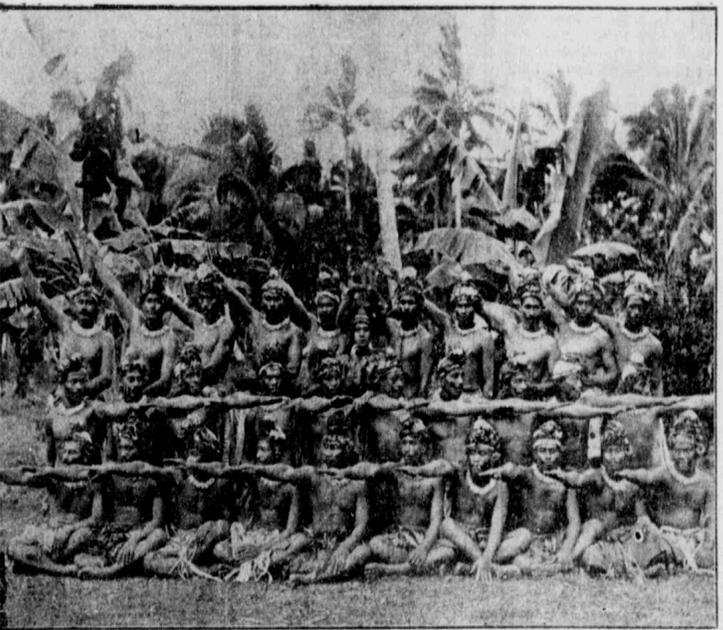
It Saved His Leg.

P. A. Danforth, of LaGrange, Ga., suffered for six months with a frightful running sore on his leg, but writes that Bucklen's Arnica Salve wholly cured it in five days. For Ulcers, Wounds, Piles, it's the best salve in the world. Cure guaranteed. Only 25c. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.



A NATIVE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' CHURCH.

Building in course of erection on the island of Takarua, Tuamotu group. There is a branch here of about 150 members. The building has now been completed and is a credit to the native Saints.



SAMOANS RENDERING THE SIVA.

This is a characteristic dance or exercise given in a sitting posture, usually performed for distinguished visitors or at receptions. The above was rendered in honor of the Kaiser's birthday.



LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MEETING HOUSE, HONOLULU.

The basement is used for Sunday school and various other meetings and regular meetings are held in the assembly room, which is well furnished and comfortably seated.



A GROUP OF MAORIS.

These gentlemen are clad in their "Kakahu" ready for the war dance or "Haka." The "Kakahu" was originally the only native garment and is made of flax adorned with feathers from gorgeous plumed birds.

QUESTION—WHO OWNS THE BABY?

Massachusetts women are rejoicing because the legislature has just passed a law making mothers equal guardians of their minor children with the fathers. Under the old law, the husband had the sole control and disposal of the children.

This sometimes led to great hardship. In the legislative debate, Senator Jones told of a case where a Chinaman married a respectable, Irishwoman. When their first baby was three days old, the husband gave it to his brother to be taken away to China and brought up there. The mother, through the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, appealed to the courts; but the judge promptly decided that the husband was within his rights. He was the sole legal owner of the baby; he had the sole right to say what should be done with it.

Lucy Stone began to ask for a change in this law as far back as 1847. The Massachusetts Woman Suffrage association has petitioned for it again and again. Fresh attention was called last year to the need of a change in the statutes by the Naramore tragedy. A

hard-working and tender-hearted young mother killed her six children, in a fit of distraction caused by the determination of her shiftless and drunken husband to separate them from her and place them in the hands of strangers, as he had the legal right to do.

This year the equal guardianship bill was endorsed not only by the Suffrage association, but by the Children's Friend society, the State Federation of Women's clubs, the State W. C. T. U., the Woman's Relief corps, and more than a hundred other societies, aggregating 34,000 women.

The only society of women that has ever ranged itself on the wrong side of this question, so far as known, is the "Massachusetts Association Opposed to the Further Extension of Suffrage to Women." It has for years been circulating over its imprint a leaflet defending the old law which excluded the mother from any voice in the control and disposal of her children.

The bill was fought in the legislature with all the objections commonly urged against the ballot for women. Representative Leahy said there must be one head to the family, and it should be the father. Representative Marshall said that the bill would "create strife, separation, and divorce," and that its advocates were "sentimentalists and woman suffragists." He added: "Those who appeared before the committee were practically the same crowd that appeared before the committee on sen-

situational amendments for woman suffrage." Senator Perry "did not think anybody except organizations favoring equal rights for women and men cared anything about this measure." And Representative Sleeper exclaimed: "If you want to enact legislation which will disrupt the home, and under the tenderest and most sacred relations, pass this bill!" All the opponents declared that the mothers of Massachusetts were fully protected already, and had all the rights they ought to want. But the house and senate turned a deaf ear to these time-honored pleas, and passed the bill by a large majority.

It has taken Massachusetts women 55 years to secure this self-evidently just law, by the slow method of "indirect influence." In Colorado, after women were granted the ballot, the very next legislature passed a bill giving mothers equal guardianship of their children.

Massachusetts is the twelfth state to enact such legislation. In 33 out of the 45 states of the Union, the husband still has the sole custody and guardianship of the children. Fortunately, in America most men are better than the law, and few hundreds use the extreme and tyrannical power that the law gives them.—Progress.

Permanent Muscular Strength.

There is this to be borne in mind in these days when so many young men are giving so much attention to physical development, in gymnastic and athletic exercises, that there cannot be permanent muscular strength where there is not blood strength.

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