

Camp Kuu Home
Howland Island
Nov. 15, 1935

Dear Dr. Homer F. Barnes.

Aloha nui loa to you from the members of our party. We thank you for ^{the} letter you sent us.

We are in the best of health. The only sickness that ever visits our camp is homesickness. Occasionally we get minor cuts and bruises from wandering out on the reefs. James and I know now from practical experiences the remedies to be used and are quite sure to say that there is no danger of missing a finger or toe.

Sometimes when we are diving in channels looking for fish or lobsters we accidentally get our bodies in contact with a slimy yellowish coral and suffer a ~~sensitive~~ itch for a short time. We try to avoid these coral beds but they seem to be everywhere.

William Anahn and William Toomey probably must have given the schools an interesting speech of their recent stay with us. James and I hope them the best wishes for a successful year.

I read Bryan's "Hawaiian Nature Notes" and found the book very interesting. I was particularly interested in the migratory birds he mentions because we find that some of them habitate this island in the late Fall. We have the curlews, turnstones, and the golden plovers. ^{on} Our shores besides the others.

I am still collecting shells with ^{the} aid of Edmonson's book "Reef and Shore Fauna of Hawaii" which I find so valuable. You'll be surprised to know that the shells found here are practically identical to those found in Hawaii. Climatic conditions about these waters ~~seem~~ to be very favorable.

The current about this island is very swift. When the Kinkajou was here a few months ago we slept aboard her. The next morning the skipper found out that the schooner had drifted nearly thirty-eight miles from our home.

The equatorial current travels in a westerly direction and from accounts I read that in some places this treacherous current travels at a speed estimated to exceed four knots an hour.

I have found the ruins that Bishop Museum bulletin reports. There are eight or more footpaths on the eastern shores. Some of them extent about 75 feet into the interior while others are 10 to 45 feet ^{long}. They lay over coral beds. Also strewn about the islands are giant clam shell piles.

I dug an old abandoned well about a month ago and found brackish water. This well probably must have been built by the early whalers or guano workers about fifty years ago. Elmer Williamson found a ^{whale} harpoon head close to one of the cisterns.

We no longer have the Southern Cross with us but there are many other constellations that are clearly visible at this time of the year.

I am taking this opportunity to say aloha to all our kinds friends in school and especially to you and your family.

We may not return in Xmas and so I wish you a merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

(continued)

Killarney Opiopis

I found an old cannon a few days ago in our camp grounds. It weighs about 300 to 500 pounds and is about five feet in length. We took several photographs of the relic. Some of these days we may mount it before our entrance. If the B. Museum is interested we will try get it back to Hawaii on the next boat.

The Kinkajou arrived to-day December 1, 1935 after being delayed by calms and rough seas.

They were at Baker Island about six days trying to land. Several times the boat capsized.

The Kinkajou will probably make a trip to Samon after leaving us.

I got the checks from Dr. Coman. Had it endorsed and followed instructions. Wrote on it for "deposit only." Hope you get ^T safe.

If there is another expedition to the South Seas in the near future will you please recommend me. I will try to do my best in any line of duty and to the fullest of my ability.

JTB.

I again bid you Aloha.

Kilauea
Opiopio