other plain, which was almost entirely barren. Beyond
this, the main mountain ridge runs directly into the sea, and seems to bar our passage entirely. The trail which we were following led up a narrow, rocky valley, along which our horses picked their way with extreme difficulty. At the head of the valley we found ourselves directly on the summit of the range, in one of its lower portions, and on the edge of a perpendicular precipice of about six hundred feet in height, at whose base directly below us the waves dashed with a tremendous roar. At first, our horses utterly refused to descend along the steep, zigzag path, where a mis-step would have precipitated them to the depths below, but by urgent treatment we induced them to descend. This was by far the worst place I have ever taken a horse, and we were both thankful when we were safely on the shore below.

We found the scenery beyond this point entirely different from that through which we had passed. The mountain ridge presented one bold precipice, almost and in fact often quite vertical, stretching away as far as the eye could reach; its height varying from six hundred to more than three thousand feet. Between its base and the sea for the first few miles there was scarcely more than room for a road, after which it gradually broadened into low, level plains a mile or more in width, which were covered with fields of sugar-cane. At 3 P.M. we rode into Cummingsville, the largest of the plantations, and obtained accommodations for the night at the Mission-house. Here we found just the reverse of the usual condition of affairs in Mormonism, there being only one woman and twelve or fifteen men. The latter were all missionaries, who had come here, principally from Salt Lake City, to propagate their faith among the Hawaiians. We were cordially entertained, and given the best they had, though they live rather frugally.

Our next day's journey was at first over low coral plains, which skirt the northeastern end of the island, and on which we rode around the end of the great precipice, which there is diminished to a very low elevation. Along the shore we found the breakers rolling in with great force, forming the finest surf-scene I have ever witnessed in clear weather. We passed the entrances to some very pretty valleys, and in crossing the stream which issued from one, my companion and his horse were nearly engulfed in a treacherous piece of quicksand.

At noon we rode into Waialua, a very pretty village, where we were very pleasantly entertained for an hour by Mrs. Emerson, the widow of one of the earlier missionaries. We were now only twenty-eight miles distant from Honolulu, by the direct road across the island, but we continued on the almost untrodden trail which passes around the northwest extremity of the island, leading at first through large fields of cane, then across broad plains, where large herds of cattle were feeding, and finally entering a desolate, barren region, where our horses found it very difficult to pick their way through the masses of crooked rows in which the Chinese plant all their grain and vegetables. They do this in order that, if ill-luck should attack one side of a field, it will get lost before reaching the other side.

Our road was smooth and fit for carriages throughout all the day's journey, but the scenery was not quite so picturesque as that of the day before. The high precipice was still on our left, but it had retreated some distance inland. At 3 P.M. we reached Laie, the Mormon Mission, and obtained accommodations for the night at the Mission-house. Here we found just the reverse of the usual condition of affairs in Mormonism, there being only one woman and twelve or fifteen men. The latter were all missionaries, who had come here, principally from Salt Lake City, to propagate their faith among the Hawaiians. We were cordially entertained, and given the best they had, though they live rather frugally.

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