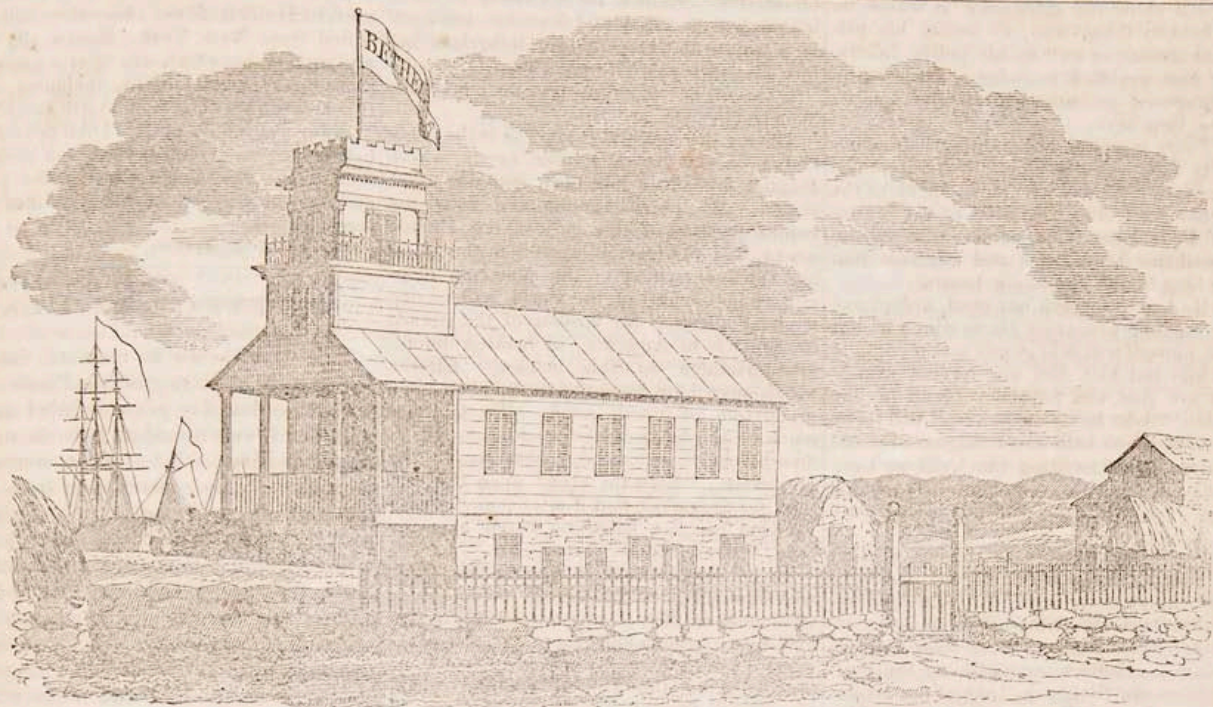


Temperance Advocate, AND SEAMEN'S FRIEND.

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SEAMEN'S CHAPEL, Honolulu, Oahu.

A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE SEAMEN'S CHAPLAINCY IN HONOLULU, FROM 1833 TO 1843.

This Port, as a field of usefulness among Seamen, presented such claims that in the year 1832 the American Seamen's Friend Society made liberal appropriations for the erection of a Chapel and the support of a Chaplain. The materials for a Chapel were purchased, in part, in the United States in the summer of that year, and were freighted to the Islands free of expense through the liberality of several ship-owners and ship-masters in New London and Norwich, Ct. The Rev. John Diell and lady were by the same liberality furnished with a gratuitous passage to their future field of labor. They arrived at Honolulu, May 1, 1833. After some delay, the Government granted a most eligible location for the site of the Chapel, as well as a suitable building lot for the Chaplain's house, for which grants the Society has never been called upon for a pecuniary recompense. The Chapel was dedicated to the worship of God and the spiritual welfare of Seamen, November 24th, 1833. The building is 48 ft. by 30. The basement story is built of stone, and con-

tains two rooms, each 27 by 15,—one for a Seamen's Reading Room, and the other is occupied as a vestry. There is also in the basement story a small room occupied as a Depository for Bibles, Tracts, &c. (The Seamen's Library has been removed to the Chaplain's Study.) The upper story is exclusively occupied as a place for public worship, and conveniently fitted up to accommodate about 200 hearers. Public services are held twice upon the Sabbath—at 11 A. M. and in the evening. A meeting for prayer and religious conference is held every Thursday evening in the vestry, and the Seamen's Concert observed the third Monday evening of each month, in the same room. On the 11th of January, 1835, several of the foreign residents and ship-masters (then in port) presented the Chapel with a bell. In May, 1837, the Oahu Bethel Church was organized, consisting of eight members. Some additions and dismissals have since taken place. During the period of 10 years above mentioned, this Chaplaincy has been supported at an expense of about \$20,000 to the Am S F. Society. The amount includes numerous appropriations for the erection of said Chapel and Chaplain's house, together with the

current expenses attending the establishment—Chaplain's salary, repairs upon the buildings, &c. Besides this amount several hundred dollars have been contributed by residents in Honolulu and foreign visitors towards defraying current expenses—ringing the bell, lighting Chapel, &c.

In sketching the history of efforts at this port, for the moral and spiritual welfare of Seamen, the labors of the first Chaplain, the Rev. John Diell, deserve special remark, as they will ever be referred to with peculiar interest by all either directly or indirectly acquainted with him, and are knowing to his efforts among that class of men, for whom he spent his strength and life. It was never the privilege of the present Chaplain to be personally acquainted with his predecessor, yet he could exhibit abundant evidence and summon a cloud of witnesses to his predecessor's good qualifications as a useful laborer among Seamen. His character combined a rare combination of excellencies. A mild, urbane and conciliatory address united with excellent good sense, admirably fitted him for those many trying, perplexing and harrassing difficulties which a pioneer in the Seamen's cause was called to encounter in the establishment of this Chaplaincy.

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depicting the Seamen's Chapel in Honolulu, printed by American Mission Press, edited and published by S.C. Damon.

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