

U. S. Frigate Savannah  
Honolulu, Oahu

Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> 1844

My Dear Brother.

We sail from this place to-  
morrow for California & the Coast of Mexico, and  
I have no doubt that I shall have an opportunity of  
forwarding your letters more directly from there than  
this will come; but, learning that a whale boils from  
here in a few days via New Zealand, I leave a  
short notice of my whereabouts, lest any contin-  
gency should prevent other communications at some  
time.

My Cruise has been one of such interest that  
it would require more time and much deliberate  
writing to give you an account of it. Before  
coming here, we visited the Marquesas Islands  
where the natives are in their most unimproved  
savage state, and cannibals. They are a beautiful  
race of people with clear light skins, and long  
soft hair. I was three weeks at Hawaii for-  
merly called Owyhee, and there I walked forty  
miles into the interior to visit the volcano of  
Hilauea, the largest in the world, having an enor-  
mous crater of from 20 to thirty miles in cir-  
cumference; being 2000 feet deep, and having  
in the bottom a burning lake three miles in  
circumference. I descended into the crater & the