

Kukui
[Lanikāula]

Lei ana 'o Kalama'ula (*I ka ulu niu*)

I ka ulu niu (*Niu haohao*)

Me ka wai māpunapuna (*E pipi'i ana*)

E pipi'i ana e ho'āhu i ka 'ae one

E pipi'i ana e ho'āhu i ka 'ae one

Kukui (*Lanikāula*)

Ua kaulana (*Nā kānaka*)

E naue mai (*A e 'ike*)

I ka mea hou (*O ka 'āina*)

A he 'āina (*Ua kaulana*)

Mai nā kūpuna mai

Ha'aheo Moloka'i i ka ulu kukui o Lanikāula

Kalama'ula is festooned
With its coconut grove and its yield
Of sweet young coconut
And the spring water that
Bubbling up, mounding up sand

The kukui grove of Lanikāula
Is renowned among the people
Hasten here and learn
The news of the land
A land famous
Since the times of our forefathers;
Moloka'i, proud because of its
Lanikāula kukui grove

(Translation: Robert M. Mondoy
& Puakea Nogelmeier)

It is my guess that this borrowing of "Pūpū A'o 'Ewa" was arranged some time after the establishment of the first Hawaiian Homesteads at Kalama'ula in 1922.³ It was first recorded ca. 1930 by the Moloka'i Jubilee Singers. The song alludes to the two famous groves of Moloka'i: Lanikāula and Kapuāiwa. The song might have been assembled to joyfully commemorate the founding of the Moloka'i homestead lands at the numerous homesteads' promotionals and political gatherings in the following decade. Many throughout the island chain were encouraged to apply for a Hawaiian homestead, and families began altogether new lives on Moloka'i. The "niu haohao," which is the sweet, tender meat of the young coconut, is probably a cheery metaphor for this wholly new beginning for many Hawaiian families, who beckoned to the "news of the land," the establishment of Hawaiian Homes. The Kapuāiwa Coconut grove at Kalama'ula (2 lowest photos) has a remarkable

collection of fresh water springs that surface in the middle of the grove and also at the water's edge; it is really something to behold. The mention of this natural wonder in the song further encourages new settlers to experience for themselves this cool, refreshing vision of a future on Moloka'i. In reality, the early years were tough on the homesteaders. The on-line interactive site for this book has some delightful video of these springs.⁴ (all photos; Robert Mondoy, 2011)



above; Lanikāula Kukui Grove, Hālawā



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Mele Aloha
O Moloka'i

Ōlelo: Unknown arranger, 1920s-1930s Leo: Pūpū A'o 'Ewa, (ca. 1876)
transcribed after Moloka'i Jubilee Singers 78 rpm, ca. 192-?-193-?

March or Chang-a-lang, straight eighths

♩=138

i ka u-lu ni - u niu hao-

Le-i a - na 'o Ka-la-ma - 'u-la i ka u-lu ni-u

hao E pi - pi - 'i a - na, E pi - pi - 'i

Me ka wai mā-pu-na - pu - na E pi-pi-'i

a - na e ho - ā - hu i ka 'a - e o - ne **Refrain** *La - ni - kā -*

a - na e ho-ā-hu i ka 'a - e o - ne Ku- ku - i

u - la Nā kā - na - ka a e 'i - ke o ka 'ā -

ua kau - la - na E nau-e mai i ka me-a hou

i - na U - a kau - la - na

A he 'āi - na ma-i nā kū-pu-na mai ha-'a-he-o

G/D D7 G

Mo-lo-ka-'i i ka u-lu ku - ku i o La-ni-kā - u - la