COMMERCIAL.

HONOLULU, January 6, 1883.

The year opens with a fair degree of animation in business circles, considering the very general observance of the holiday season just passed, and the sparse movement in shipping for the week. January 1, 1883, was made memorable in the annals of this port from the completion of the Honolulu Marine Railway of Mr. S. C. Wilder—as per account given in our columns last week—and the hauling up thereon of the coasting steamer *Mokolii* for repairs, particulars of which will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The application recently of Chung Fan for relief in bankruptcy brings before our merchants the convenient one of business transactions where the books and accounts are kept only in the Chinese language, into which they cannot penetrate nor have any confidence of accuracy. The attempt in 1878 to have a law passed bearing on this very question, compelling Chinese doing business to keep their accounts in the English language, was a wise and judicious one that merited a better fate than defeat.

In business changes we round with pleasure the admittance of Mr. T. R. Walker to membership of the old established firm of Thos. H. Davies & Co., and feel assured that he carries with him the congratulations of the entire business community.

Mr. H. J. Agnew, we learn, has disposed of his interest in the Fashion Stables to Messrs. Buckley & Bolton, and Messrs. A. W. Eaton and W. S. Luce will draw their interests from the Union Feed Company.

On Thursday Mr. E. P. Adams held an important auction sale of groceries principally, to close consignments, which was well attended and satisfactory prices obtained.

Yesterday Messrs. F. S. Pratt & Co. held their sale of the large and well-selected stock of the late J. G. Tucker, without reserve. It was numerously attended and a fair degree of activity observed in the bidding, so that it realized as well as could be expected under the circumstances, staple goods bringing full figures.

Our export tables show but two clearances, viz: the *Discovery* with a good cargo of sugar, etc., valued at $86,615 54, and the *Consuelo*, almost full, valued at $45,[illegible] for San Francisco. The *Madras*, for Hongkong, took away over 100 returning Chinese from this port, and a small amount of freight. Other departures have been whalers en route for the west.

The *Claus Spreckels* has completed her repairs, reloaded her cargo of lumber, and resumes her voyage to-day for Coquimbo.

The *W. G. Irwin* and *Kalakaua* is considered fully due from San Francisco, with several days' later news than was received per steamer.

We learn that the P. M. S. S. Company have reduced their rates of passage for the round trip to San Francisco and back to $125.

SHIPPING.

Arrived at Port of Honolulu.

Likelike, stm., King, from Hilo ..... Dec. 31
Eva, Am. tern, Wickman, from Eureka ..... Jan. 1
Marion, sch., from Kukuihaele ..... " 1
Eliza, Am. sch. bk., Gilley, from San Francisco " 2
James Makee, stm., McDonald, from Kauai ..... " 3
Kulamanu, sch., from Ookala ..... " 3
Lihelihe, sch., Brownell, from Homopo ..... " 4
Waioli, sch., from Keokea ..... " 5
Iwalani, stm., Bates, from Kona and Kau ..... " 5
Halealoha, sch., Crane, from Pepeekeo ..... " 5

Departures.

Madras, Brit. S. S., Bradley, for Hongkong ..... Dec. 30
Discovery, Am. bktne., Perriman, for S. F. ..... Jan. 1
Likelike, stm., King, for Hilo ..... " 3
Lehua, stm., Lorenzo, for Molokai and Hana ..... " 3
C. R. Bishop, stm., Cameron, for Kauai ..... " 3
Ehukai, sch., for Waianae ..... " 3
Uihama, sch., for Hanalei ..... " 3
Jennie Walker, Haw. sch., Underwood, for Fanning's Islands ..... " 3
Consuelo, Am. bgtne., Howard, for S. F. ..... " 5
Kilauea Hoa, stm., Sears, for Kahului ..... " 3
Waimanalo, stm., Nelson, for Waimanalo ..... " 3
Maido, sch., for Hakalau ..... " 3
Kaala, sch., for Honua ..... " 3
Emma, sch., for Waianae and Waialua ..... " 4
Waimalu, sch., for Kawaihahahi ..... " 4
Mee Foo, sch., for Kualan ..... " 4
Gen. Sigel, sch., for Kualan ..... " 4
Ka Moi, sch., Swinton, for Kawaihahahi ..... " 5
Jas. Makee, stm., McDonald, for Kauai ..... " 5

Vessels now in Port.

NONITO ..... Haw. bgtne
CLAUS SPRECKELS, Cousins ..... Am. sch
HOPE ..... Am. ship
LADY LAMPSON, Marston ..... Brit. bk
CATHARAN, Hubbard ..... Am. bk
LOCH LEE, Jenkins ..... Brit. bktne
KIMBERLY, Cuiller ..... Am bktne
EVA, Wickman ..... Am. tern

Expected from Foreign Ports.

BOSTON, Am. bk. AMY TURNER ..... Newell
Due Jan. 25-30. C. Brewer & Co., agts.
BREMEN, Ger. bk. C. R. BISHOP ..... Walter
Due Feb. 20-25. H. Hackfeld & Co., agts.
GLASGOW, Brit. ship ABERAMAN ..... Chapman
Due Jan. 20-25. G. W. Macfarlane & Co., agts.
LIVERPOOL, Brit. bk. ULLOCK ..... Swiotoslawski
Due Jan. 20-25. T. H. Davies & Co., agts.
NEW YORK, Am. bktne. ELINOR VERNON, Humphreys
Due March 1-10. Castle & Cooke, agts.
SOUTH SEA IS., Haw. sch. JULIA ..... Tierney
Due.
FANNING'S ISLAND, Am bgtne. W. H. MEYER, ..Howe
Due. Brewer & Co., Agents.
LIVERPOOL, Brit. ship JANET COURT ..... Jackson
Due April 1-5. G W Macfarlane & Co., Agents
PORT BLAKELY, Am. bktne. AMELIA ..... Newhall
Due. Allen & Robinson, agts.
PORT BLAKELY, Am. tern. DAKOTA ..... Wendt
Due. Allen & Robertson, agts.
BREMEN, Ger. bk. CANOPUS ..... Loose
Loading Nov. 15. Hackfeld & Co., Agents.
HONGKONG, Brit. S. S. C. T. HOOK ..... ——
Due. Hackfeld & Co., Agents.
SAN FRANCISCO, Am. bgtne. W. G. IRWIN ..... Turner
Due Jan. 5-10. W. G. Irwin & Co., agts.
SAN FRANCISCO, Haw. bk. KALAKAUA ..... Miller
Due Jan. 5-10. F. A. Schaefer & Co., agts.
SAN FRANCISCO, Am. bktne. ELLA ..... Brown
Due Jan. 10-15. C. Brewer & Co., agts.
SYDNEY, N. S. W. S. S. CITY OF NEW YORK ..... Cobb
Due Jan. 14. H. Hackfeld & Co., agts.
SAN FRANCISCO, P. M. S. S. AUSTRALIA ..... Tullah
Due Jan. 16. H. Hackfeld & Co., agts.
SAN FRANCISCO, O.S.S. SUEZ ..... Dodd
Due Jan 15. Wm G Irwin & Co, Agents
LIVERPOOL, Brit. ship GLENGERVIE .....
Loading Nov. 30. T. H. Davies & Co., Agents.
NANAIMO, Am. bk. FORREST QUEEN ..... Nanaimo
For Hana. Due Jan. 20-25.
PORT GAMBLE, Am. tern M. E. SMITH ..... Johnson
Due Jan. 20-25. Hackfeld & Co., agts.
SAN FRANCISCO, bktne. J. A. FALKENBURG .. Goodman
Due Jan. 10-15. Castle & Cooke, agts.
PORT GAMBLE, Am. bk. EUREKA ..... Lord
Due Jan. 20-25. Hackfeld & Co., agts.
MICRONESIA, Am. bgtne. MORNING STAR ..... Bray
Looked for anywhere from middle Feb. to May.
E. O. Hall & Son, agents.
HUMBOLDT, Am. bktne. MONITOR ..... Knacke
Due. Wilder & Co., agents.

Memoranda.

Report of American tern Eva—Left Humboldt Dec. 11, had southeast wind first 30 hours, then southwest until December 30, when we took the trade wind, which we kept until the 19th, when we sighted Maui, and got becalmed, then southwest squalls, and calm until Dec. 31st. Received pilot at Honolulu, Jan. 1, 1883, 1:15 P. M.

SHIPPING NOTES.

The schooner Marion is at Swenson's wharf hove down.

The American ship Hope is at Emmes' ship yard undergoing repairs.

The British barkentine Loch Lee is discharging coal at the foot of S. S. Likelike dock.

The barkentine Kikitat has discharged her lumber, and sails to-day for Fort Townsend.

The Hawaiian bark Kalakaua is fully due from San Francisco, with two or three days' later news.

The American schooner Claus Spreckels is loaded and sails to-day from Coquimbo. We wish her bon voyage.

The American brigantine W. G. Irwin may be looked for hourly for San Francisco, with five or six days' later news.

The British bark Lady Lampson is at Brewer & Co.'s wharf loading for San Francisco, to sail about the middle of next week.

The schooner Mana will sail for the South Sea Islands about the middle of next week, to take home some of the Islanders whose time of service has expired.

The new scow built by George Ennes for Lilgate & Co., went by the Ka Moi yesterday for Kaiwilahihi, to be used in loading and discharging their freights at that landing.

The American bark Catharan, at the old Custom-house wharf, has discharged her down cargo from San Francisco and is now on the berth for return cargo, to sail in about ten days.

The American tern Eva arrived on Monday last from Humboldt with a cargo of redwood lumber, consigned to Messrs. Lewers & Cooke, which she is discharging at the esplanade.

The Hawaiian steamer Mokolii was hauled up on the new Marine Railway New Year's Day. She was finished yesterday, and the Nettie Merrill has taken her place to have her copper cleaned, etc. The steamer Lehua will follow, probably to-day.

By the arrival of the schooner Waioli, from Keokea yesterday, we learn that there was a heavy swell at that landing, and in loading the schooner, one boat load of sugar—twenty-five bags—was lost by the capsizing of the boat. She brought 360 bags of sugar, which she has discharged into the Catharan for San Francisco.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVALS.

From Eureka per Eva—J S Lopeland.
From Kaholuli, per Kilauea Hoa, Dec 30—Mrs Gray, Mrs S Obed, J O Kipp, Ayoung, See Hop, and fifty-eight deck.
From Maui and Molokai, per Lehua, Dec 30—Father Damien and about sixty-six deck.
From Kauai, per C R Bishop, Dec 30—His Ex P P Kanoa, A Spencer, and about fifteen deck.
From Maui and Hawaii, per Likelike, Dec 31—Chas Arnold, R M Overend, J Louis, S L Austin, A Canavarro, S Harrison, Miss L Hapai, L Severance, J R Mills, H Faubert, Dr Trousdale, I Awea, Kimo Pake, K H Atkins, W Banks, wife and five children, Hon R Mossman, J M Horner, Mrs F Rindel, J Wagner, J E Smith, J F Dayly, Dr F H Enders, H R Hitchcock, Mrs Lake and child, R Baker, Mrs Kaupea.
From windward ports, per Iwalani, Jan 5—Miss Ella Paris, Mrs C Wall, Hon D H Nahinu, J R Cook, D K Fyfe, J K Kekaula, and seventy deck.

DEPARTURES.

For Humboldt Bay, per Loch Lee, Jan 5—Miss M Taylor.
For San Francisco per Discovery—G H Strader, wife and two children, Mrs Emerson.
For Hongkong per Madras—Gilbert Waller and wife, 102 Chinese, 60 Chinese in transit.
For Fanning's Island per Jennie Walker—George Rickards, Mrs Rickards, R Briggs and two South Sea Island laborers, Wm Craig and family, Wm Marshall.
For San Francisco per Consuelo—H Benedict, E Fletcher, J Fletcher, E Perry, Joseph Mann, A McCrosty, J Hanks.
For Kauai, per James Makee, Dec 28—L Thrumb, R M Buchanan, and fifteen deck.
For Maui and Hawaii, per Iwalani, Dec 28—Wm J Maxwell, D K Fyfe, W F A Brewer, S T Alexander, A H Smith, H Center, Sam Parker, Mrs D D Kinney, Mrs C N Spencer, Miss Brown, C Gunn, wife and child, P N Makua, O Steubel, Miss Whitney, G A Jackson, J R Smith, and seventy five deck.
For Kauai, per C R Bishop, Jan 2—J C Glade, A D Cornwell, J Kauai and wife, J Austin, F F Kanoa, C Beckman, Mr Dafberg, F Turner.
For Maui and Molokai, per Lehua, Jan 2—J A Mills, C W Clark.
For windward ports, per Likelike, Jan 2—J Louis, H A Widemann, S Spencer, C Brown, Judge Forman-dee, I Severance, Miss K Makee, Dr Trousdale, D Wolcott, Mr and Mrs Monsarrat, H D Walker, H Mossman, H R Hitchcock, R M Overend, Dr Enders, A Starke, J M Horner, W S May, J Fritz, L Aseu, Rev W Swan, Mr and Mrs J Marshall, A Perrin wife and child, A D Bell and wife, Charles N Arnold, S L Austin, Dr Bennett, Mrs Corning, E C Fishbourne, S G Wilder, G T McLean, J A Abeong.
For Kaholuli, per Kilauea Hoa, Jan 3—Mrs Fuller, Miss L Fuller, and eight others.

IMPORTS.

From Eureka per Eva, Wakeman master—Lewers & Cooke, 180,904 ft redwood lumber, 291 M redwood shingles, 4 doors (packed). J A Wakeman, 18 bxs apples.

EXPORTS.

For Hongkong, per Madras, Dec 30—130 cs oil to value of $[illegible].

For San Francisco, per Discovery, Perriman master, (loaded Dec 30—Sugar, 5,157,193 lbs; wool, 14,362 lbs; rice, 197,400 lbs; 1[illegible] cs effects valued at $[illegible]. Domestic value $86,615 54.

For San Francisco, per Consuelo, Jan 5—[illegible] bgs sugar, 600,821 lbs; rice, 110,000 lbs; 9 gasoline tanks (empty) valued at $[illegible]. Domestic value, $45,[illegible].

BORN.

CAMPBELL—In this city, January 1, to the wife of James Campbell, a daughter.

MARRIED.

ASHLEY-TURNER—In this city, December 25, 1882, by J. A. Cruzan, pastor of Fort-street Church, W. George Ashley of San Jose, Cal., and Miss Kittie E. Turner of Honolulu, H. I. No cards. [San Jose papers please copy.]

ROSS-LADD—In this city, January 1, at the residence of Hon C. R. Bishop, by Rev. A. Mackintosh, Major Antone Ross and Mrs Joanna Ladd. [No. cards.]

DIED.

ROBINSON—In this city, December 30, Mrs. Rebecca Robinson, relict of the late James Robinson, aged 66 years.

SATURDAY PRESS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1883.

All matter for the Saturday Press should be addressed to the "SATURDAY PRESS."

THE CABINET IN COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Cabinet, we understand, was held on Thursday last to consider the advisability, or otherwise, of calling a special session of the Legislature during the time of the proposed coronation. Now the constitution provides, by Article 28, as follows: "The King, by and with the advice of his privy council, convenes the Legislative Assembly at the seat of Government, or at a different place, if that should become dangerous from an enemy, or any dangerous disorder; and in case if any disagreement between His Majesty and the Legislative Assembly, he adjourns, prorogues, or dissolves it, but not beyond the next ordinary session; under any great emergency he may convene the Legislature to extraordinary sessions."

It has been held by some who wish to shove up the foolery that is about to be consummated, that Article 46 affords ample justification for the King to act his own discretion in the matter of assembling the Legislature; but there are happily few who would submit to such an interpretation. It is evident to any thoughtful mind that the intention of the constitution is clearly that there should be regular sessions held, and that special sessions should *not* be called excepting they be made *necessary* by the occurrence of some very extraordinary and unforeseen event. It is generally understood that the proposed special session is for the purpose of obtaining additional appropriations of money in order to carry out the *coronation*, the appropriation already voted having been exhausted. Upon this matter let us say, that the present state of affairs is no unforeseen contingency, but one that was anticipated not only by the outside community, but by the ministry themselves, and the speech of J. Mott Smith in opposition to the coronation on the ground of the inevitable and enormous expense it would involve, well fitted the occasion, and will be long remembered as a timely, temperate, but unheeded opinion and argument. It is also patent that members of the last session were promised that they should be called again in February 1883, so that if the pretence of an emergency is now sought, it must have been an emergency that the King and his Cabinet sought and designed to create. The Cabinet well know that so insignificant an appropriation as $15,000 was altogether inadequate to meet the expenses that would arise in carrying out the programme that they themselves had made, and it was the knowledge and the anticipation of an enormous additional outlay that united the voice of the country against so useless a ceremony. Under the circumstances we cannot wonder that even so servile a ministry as are now in office should object to an extra session. Let it be, and we have no more guarantee of faith under the constitution of the land—one part so openly and unjustifiably broken, all may follow.

"PIPING TIMES OF PEACE."

It would seem that preparations for converting Honolulu into a military camp are still being made. It is well known that large appropriations were passed for this purpose by the last Legislature; that the sum of $15,000 was appropriated for the purchase of improved ordinance in Vienna, which took the King's eye while he was abroad; and that a quantity of small arms and ammunition was sent for some months ago. A few days since the papers noted the arrival of 425 rifles and carbines with ammunition, etc. Some time before that other war material arrived. At home also, the King has been active in awakening a military spirit among the people. The cavalry, artillery and infantry companies have been frequently and more thoroughly drilled of late, and the number of members increased. The boys in the street have been drilled by the King in person and his officers, and many of the latest acquisitions to the ranks of the volunteer companies are young boys. Nothing has been left undone to increase the army (?) and supply it with proper accoutrements. The only company of foreigners, the Hawaiian Guards, was disbanded some time ago, and at present a movement is on foot for the organization of a company of half whites. With the recent acquisition of improved arms and those of almost obsolete pattern that have been in possession of the government for years, there will be enough to supply all.

And now, we ask, what is the meaning of all this, and where will it end? What is there to induce this arming? What danger threatens at home except that caused by the actions of these same parties who are promoting it? An army is an expensive luxury. It is entirely unnecessary here, and the King, minister or other officer who advocates such measures in a country like the Hawaiian kingdom is an enemy to the country's good and unworthy of the confidence or support of its most lowly citizen. To possess a thing is an inducement to use it. Those nations which have large armies are most liable to become involved in war. On whom is it intended to use the arms now in possession of the government?

Is it the intention of the government to provoke trouble to enable the host of epauletted officers who wear the German-Hawaiian uniforms to make a military record for themselves? Is it the intention to overawe every person who does not blindly follow in the footsteps of the profligate government without a whisper of disapprobation? Does the King intend to force his own ideas of autocracy, which have developed abnormally since his return from abroad, down the throat of every inhabitant of the group, whether they will or no? It must be admitted that where such a spirit prevails a shadow of danger may be hinting about. The King is not making himself the most popular of monarchs, and complaints may be heard from among his own people every day. If by the actions of the government the people should be provoked until forbearance ceases to be a virtue, what protection, we would ask, would the foreign residents receive? Have any preparations at all been made to defend their interests in case of absolute necessity?

OUR WATER SUPPLY.

In our last issue we adverted to the fact that the lower portion of the slope under Punchbowl Hill, between the stone quarry of Mr. Lishman and the upper end of Emma street, was being rapidly settled; that new lots were being constantly measured out, and that new buildings were being constantly erected thereon. Now, while, as we have said before, it may be pleasing to note such marks of an increasing population, there are other considerations involved in the subject referred to not less worthy of our thought, though certainly less pleasant to contemplate. Loud and repeated complaints have been freely uttered about the already scanty water supply of the town; and before the supply had been tapped to any extent to meet the needs of this recent but fast increasing settlement, the scarcity of water in the pipes about town had become, upon occasions, almost alarming. Little gardens of valuable plants in town had, in many instances, become almost waste, while in one notable instance the supply was so small as to render ineffectual all attempts of the fire companies to get water to burning buildings, which, in all probability, would have been saved with a comparatively small loss had the condition of the water supply been otherwise. But, notwithstanding its knowledge of such facts and their dangerous import, the Government still continues to grant new privileges, whenever and wherever asked for, at the same time it is utterly lethargic of all endeavor to increase the supply in correspondence with the augmented and still increasing drain.

Under the present reign, *revenue* seems to be the only object worthy of consideration, besides the origination of tawdry and unworthy objects upon which that revenue may be spent; and this seems to be the basis upon which the workings of the water works, in common with those of other departments, are carried out. Were this not the case in the instance referred to, it is difficult to conceive how the Government could attempt to justify its action. It seems to us simply a fraud practiced by government upon those with whom it has already contracted to supply, knowing, as it does, that that supply during certain seasons is often dangerously scant; and the sooner the public look the matter resolutely in the face the better. This is but one of many modes by which the Hawaiian Government, of late, has sought indirectly to increase the taxation of the people, and it may well be characterized as the most unjust of all. The town, in its center, as well as in the suburbs, is being rapidly built up, mostly of wooden structures, and the danger from large and destructive conflagrations is thus being every day proportionally increased, while the water supply is being daily diminished by the addition of new taps; and is it not to be supposed that insurance companies will fail to recognize the fact and make it apply in fixing their rates of insurance?

Means have before been suggested by which the supply of water could be greatly increased and made adequate for every present need; but the present administration seems to have been too busy with coronation affairs, and such like display, to attend to the actual needs until the discontent of a district famished for want of water shall assume the proportions of an emergency *compelling* them to act. It has been suggested that a number of artesian wells be sunk in town, by the Government, to supplement the supply from the reservoirs; that these be connected together and with the pipes from the reservoirs, and that by steam pumping, either through additional reservoirs or directly applied to the connecting pipes, a uniform pressure be induced, equal to that from the main reservoirs. The difficulties in the way of such a system could be readily overcome, and it is estimated that the cost would not be excessive. Something of this kind *must, sooner or later*, be done to meet our growing needs, and the cost, whatever it be, should be a question of secondary consideration only. We deem this question of an adequate water supply for the town one of immediate and paramount importance, and any delay of its proper consideration fraught with danger to the community.

Reverting again to the settlement under Punchbowl, we would state that the land spoken of is Crown land, the proceeds from the rentals of which go to the King's private purse. The land has been measured out in numerous small lots and rented for short periods, mostly to Portuguese, upon an understanding that a supply of water could be got from the pipes. Possibly this fact is sufficient to account for the readiness with which the Government has granted new privileges, notwithstanding the knowledge that privileges so granted would add to the deprivation already seriously felt by the town.

OUR MORTUARY STATISTICS AND WHAT THEY SHOW.

A careful study of our Honolulu mortuary reports, imperfect as they are, will well repay the labor spent. Take, for instance, those for 1881. Total deaths, 818; 633 natives, 92 Chinese, 93 other foreigners; 263 were under five years of age; 160 had no medical attendance. These are the figures given by the Agent of the Board of Health. But there is a great discrepancy between these figures and those published under the direction of the Board of Education. The whole number of deaths reported by the school teachers, who give in every case the name and residence, was 1,260, a difference of 442, or over fifty per cent. The number of deaths from small-pox reported by the Board of Health was 270, and this cannot vary far from the exact truth. Deducting this number from the figures previously given, 548 would be the number of deaths from other causes according to the Board of Health, 990 according to the Board of Education, an excess of eighty per cent. Who can explain this strange discrepancy, the Board of Health reporting only fifty-five per cent of the deaths reported by the Board of Education?

Of the 548 deaths from other causes than small-pox, 166, or 19½ per cent are reported, "cause unknown." If the same percentage be applied to the number of deaths reported by the Board of Education, we should have 191 deaths in this community in one year, and from "causes unknown." Is it creditable to our authorities that one-fifth of the people who die and are buried, have passed out of life in ways which the guardians of the public health say they cannot find out?

Of the deaths for which causes are assigned (other than small-pox), 442, no less than 73, or 16 per cent, are put down under "old age." But a high death rate, such as is reported in this community, means a low average longevity. How is it that such high percentage of deaths from "old age" should be recorded in a community where the annual death rate is twice, and even three times, as great as in the large cities of Europe and America? In addition to the 73 deaths charged to old age, 33, of about eight per cent, are classed under the vague term "debility." In other words, 106 deaths, or nearly one-fourth of the whole number (aside from small-pox) are attributed to "old age" and "debility."

Fifty-four deaths, or twelve per cent, are said to have occurred from "dropsy." Strictly speaking, dropsy is a symptom of some organic lesion. To be of any value scientifically, not the prominent symptom, but the organic disease should be stated. Twelve persons are reported to have died of "hemorrhage"—from the lungs or bowels, or elsewhere—but where? Who can tell what is meant by such items as one death from "congestion" and two from "inflammation"? Inflammation of what?

Seventy-three persons died of "consumption" and 3 of "bronchitis," that is, if we consider the Board of Health statistics to be reliable, consumption was the cause of 16½ per cent of the deaths. Compare this showing with New York city. In 1880 the total deaths were 31,937; from consumption, 4,708, or 14¾ per cent. Compared to the whole population, the deaths from consumption in New York were 39 per cent; in Honolulu, 46 per cent. Notice also that while only three deaths are reported from bronchitis, not even one is reported from pneumonia. Is this credible?

Eleven deaths only are reported as due to "syphilis." Any one who knows how prevalent this disease is here, how little relief is sought in medical treatment, will ask at once is not this number reported from this cause suspiciously small? If, again, 40 lepers can be apprehended at one swoop by the police, in a population of 16,000, is it not probable that there are at least five times as many cases that escape the knowledge of the police officials; and is it not strange that only one should be reported as having died of leprosy in a whole year?

Why is it that the Board of Health should perpetuate, year after year, such absurdities in classification, and such reports that show only how meagre, unsatisfactory and incorrect they are?

One fact they show, however, which ought to be impressed upon the hearts and minds of our community, and that is the high death rate that prevails in Honolulu. From 20 to 25 in every 1,000 of population is the usual average in large cities. In New York, in 1880, it was 26.47 per thousand, and of the total number of deaths 45.37 were children under five years of age. Of the 818 deaths reported in Honolulu, only 263, or 32.15 per cent, were under five years of age. While the deaths of young children were one-third less in proportion than in New York city, taking the returns of our Board of Health, 818, and estimating our population at 16,000, our death rate was 34.25 per thousand; or, taking the figures of the Board of Education, minus the deaths from small-pox, 990, we have a death rate of 61.97 per thousand, two and one-third times as great as in New York city. Yet 11½ per cent of the total number of deaths in that city were from measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, croup, and whooping-cough, diseases not known to any extent here. During 1880, as reported by the Board of Education, the deaths in Honolulu were 1,162, representing an annual death rate of 72.62 per thousand, two and three-fourths as many times proportionally as in New York city for the same year. The death rate in San Francisco was reported as 18.27 per thousand. For the whole State of Massachusetts the death rate was 18.8; for the city of Boston, 23.7.

The birth rate for Massachusetts was 24.8 per thousand; in Honolulu, 87.3. How is this high birth rate to be accounted for? Unfortunately, the reports of the Board of Education do not give the sex or nationality in their statistics of births. Of 6,082 females in this city, 5,208 were natives and half-castes, 85.6 per cent of the whole number. Are we to look to the small fraction of foreign females, 14.4 per cent of the whole number, for an explanation of this large birth rate?

These statistics have been spread before the public for many months. What member of the Board of Health has taken the pains to study them, and set on foot searching investigations as to the cause to be assigned for an annual death rate so excessively disproportionate to the usual estimate of the health of this community, and to the known average death rate of the large cities of the world? Who is caring properly for the health of the community when no one knows how one in every five of the people who die among us came to their death? Whose are the children, growing up to mould this nation's destiny and character, three times the usual average coming into life here every year, and in what schools are they being trained, in what homes nurtured?

When we shall have had published the mortuary statistics for 1882, what will they show? Has there been, during the past year, any more exact and scientific statistical work, any more careful scrutiny of the causes of disease and death, any more philanthropic and systematic provision for the protection of the people against preventible disease? Will our many-officed Secretary of the Board of Health have the time or ability to devise a scientific classification, or to investigate for the public benefit the causes and the remedy for the present excessive annual death rate?

"FROM THE COURT CIRCULAR."

Since the arrival of His Majesty's *trousseau* the property-man at the palace has been kept busy night and day. The grand Christmas pantomime—if the Coronation may be so termed by way of compliment—is in active rehearsal; it is true that its production will be rather late in the holiday season, but the preparation of so splendid a spectacle, in which the participants are all amateurs, requires uncommon care and deliberation, and, as there will be but a single representation, it is hoped that the entire company will be fully up in their parts before the memorable 12th of February.

Meanwhile private representations are given for the edification of the select few who have, by royal favor the *entre* of the Palace greenroom. Those who have been fortunate as to witness the dress rehearsals pronounce them highly diverting. His Majesty is slowly accustoming himself to the management of the court train; he is endeavoring to acquire the professional *back kick* which the *Prima Donna* employs so successfully in short curves on a narrow gauge stage, and he will no doubt ultimately risk the ermine skillfully; in other words he will "make the fur fly."

It was intended to employ the traditional score of pages to carry the royal robe, but the youthful kanaka having once closed his claws on the line of the coronation shirts seemed to realize that he had struck a "soft thing," and it was found impossible to shake him loose without paying his fingers open; these were of course His Majesty's retainers—retainers with a vengeance, for they hung on like grim death.

We subjoin the programme of Coronation festivities. The festivities to continue from the 12th to the 24th of February.

Feb. 12th.—Coronation, with real crown jewels and genuine ermine robe especially imported for this occasion; distribution of blockin orders, and the unveiling of the statue of the Great King of Hawaii-nei, Kamehameha I. Hulahula in the afternoon and evening.

Feb. 14th.—State dinners and supplementary reception to which those who have not dined will be admitted. Hulahula in the afternoon and evening.

Feb. 15th.—A day of rest, in order that diners may recover from the dinners. Hulahula as usual, only more so.

Feb. 16th.—Military review, if there be enough military in the kingdom at that date to survive the ordeal. More hulahula.

Feb. 17th.—Horse racing at Kapiolani Park; the same old races warmed over. Hulahula as usual.

Feb. 18th.—A day of rest and relapse. Hulahula matinee at evening.

Feb. 19th.—A day of rest and recovery. Hulahula at evening.

Feb. 20th.—Grand State Ball. Dresses furnished expressly for this occasion for all they're worth—of Paris and of Honolulu. Hulahula as above.

Feb. 21st.—*Hookupu* and inspection of Palace. Hulahula thrown in.

Feb. 22nd.—Boat racing at 1 P. M. Comic Opera at 8 P. M. It will be observed that all opera in Honolulu is more or less comic, and that if there be any opera in Honolulu which we feel a delicacy in pronouncing comic, it is "Comic Opera." If the chief wants of the day be seriously compared, it will probably be discerned that the boat racing is the more comic of the two. Hulahula, during the interval for those who prefer it.

Feb. 23rd.—After the Opera—Hulahula all the time.

Feb. 24th.—Luau in a *lanai* specially erected for the occasion, in the Palace grounds at a cost of $1500. Everything connected with this beautiful and real diversion, the Coronation, will be presented on the same magnificent scale. No expense has been spared to make it the crowning event of the season.

It will probably be the only coronation during the quarter and coming as it does in the middle of the quarter, there will still be a whole month of comparative ease before the bills begin to come in. The public is therefore cordially invited to have a real nice time.

Meanwhile the crown jewels are watched night and day by a strong detachment of trusted veterans. The royal robes are spread under the sleepless eyes of a troop of trained moth hunters who, on the slightest provocation give chase to those tiny but terribly destructive—not to say sacrilegious—lepidopterous insects and they are, on the instant of discovery, forthwith banished from the property room into outer darkness. The mounted police have one foot ever in the stirrup, as it were, even though the other be in bed; and as for the hulahula, they are under the immediate supervision of the flexible minister, who will undoubtedly see them properly executed, though it be that wags last waggle! What more can be asked?

LE ROI S'AMUSE!

HONOR WHERE IT IS DUE.

The *P. C. Advertiser* would have us remember that the marks of industrial and commercial progress now so apparent on these Islands, is not so much a result of the pluck and enterprise of the foreign portion of our community, and the consequent "investment of foreign capital in Hawaiian agriculture and commerce," as it is of "the fertility of the soil" and the greatness and goodness of the government, by which such enterprise has been so carefully fostered. We are told that "neither the tyranny of ruler nor popular lawlessness exist here to interfere with the peacefull pursuit of industry" and that "the richness of the soil and the perfect freedom and security in which its fruits can be reaped, are the true foundations of the country's wealth." It is remarkable how these "true foundations," so independent of all other considerations, have so utterly failed in stimulating industrial enterprise in any direction excepting where foreigners and foreign capital are concerned, and how utterly unprogressive, the purely *native* element of society has become. We should interpret the situation more in this way—that, in spite of numerous and besetting obstacles, and a badly conducted government, foreign pluck, enterprise, and capital, have managed to raise these Islands from nothing to a state of great prosperity, and that this same pluck, enterprise and capital have been the sole means by which a weak government has been kept in bounds not altogether inconsistent with their own continued existence and progress. We believe also that the grip of foreign enterprise is too firm now to be ever shaken off, and that it will be able to compel good government in the future, if necessary.

THINGS WISE AND OTHERWISE.

The result of the liquor law on public holidays, recently, does not encourage us to look forward to the twelve days' period of coronation festivities with any hopefulness. It will certainly prove disastrous to many industries in which the main dependence is upon native labor.

* * *

A report of the Sociable at Fort Street church, as given by our contemporary the *Gazette*, reminds us of a story told of Tom Corwin. Spending the evening socially with a friend, he was asked by the hostess as she presided at the table, "Do you take *condiments* with your tea, Mr. Corwin?" "Pepper and salt, Madam," he replied, "but not mustard."

* * *

When Mr. Gibson spoke to the plantation hands at Waimanalo he said, we are told, that he and Mr. Kaai were the first ministers who had gone about among the people, whereas their predecessors had only gathered in lepers and sent them to Molokai. The good Premier, since his return, has shown a disposition to follow, in a measure, in the wake of these same predecessors, and therein shows symptoms of returning reason.

* * *

In reply to the *Friend's* query as to whether or no it is within the "legal and constitutional province" of the suggested convening of the Legislature at the forthcoming coronation "to either repeal the free-liquor law or enact another which shall arrest the tide of intemperance among Hawaiians," etc., we say no! decidedly no! There is no emergency before the country, as contemptated by the constitution, requiring a special session in the first place, and if there was, the assembly could not, lawfully, transact any other business than that for which it was called.

* * *

It is really amusing to see the discomfiture of the "powers that be," as, realizing the uneasiness of their positions, their organ strikes wildly around and endeavors to affix to a "mercantile office on the beach" the honor of "solving the questions" before them, while two resident opponents are acknowledged to have the "brains," and our representatives at Washington "the experience" necessary "to solve all the delicacies of the situation." Unfortunately, we are not informed whether the article referred to is one of those "occasional expressed views" of the Premier-proprietor, or from "the fully equipped editorial and reportorial staff."

* * *

"There has been in the community a somewhat prevalent opinion that this event (the coronation) would incur an enormous expenditure of $100,000 or more. This is entirely without foundation." We are not satisfied fully in our mind as to what "crawfishing" is intended by the '*Tiger* in the use of the words *this event*. Does it mean *the* event of the day? or the preparation "of a grand-semi-circular pavilion," with a "smaller octagonal one in which the ceremony will take place," to include the flooring over of the space "between the edifices for the purpose of a grand state ball?" or does it mean the Crown, including the Chamberlain's expenses to Europe and back is to be covered by the $10,000 voted? Really the public desires more light on the *event*, especially if "the private purses of officials and citizens who desire to honor the occasion" are expected to help in the deficit. Is this the idea in providing a *hookupu* day during the eventful period? Sensible, no doubt, but these disagreeable uncertainties need further explanations. The Premier-President-of-the Board-of-Health Promoter of this most absurd folly of the nineteenth century may chip in the amount of the Lanai mortgage, for doubtless, he knows the whys and wherefores, but for the loyal public to do likewise they first want to know what for.

TARIFF COMMISSION REPORT.

The following is taken from the report of the Tariff Commission and is copied from Willet and Hamlin's Circular, New York, dated Dec. 8th:

The importance of the sugar schedule is shown by the very large return of revenue obtained from the duty on sugar, exceeding in amount the revenue collected from any other article on the dutiable list, and yielding a national income of forty-five to fifty million dollars.

The schedule has received the earnest consideration of the Commission, and has elicited much valuable testimony from the refiners, importers and dealers, as well as the producers and consumers of sugar: in fact, from all those classes usually supposed to be specially interested in legislation affecting the product.

The Commission has considered the sugar schedule from different standpoints. Firstly, with a view to simplification. Secondly, with a view to the reduction of the rate of duties. Thirdly, with the view of recommending to Congress a system of assessing the duties and determining the commercial value of the different grades of sugar which can be less easily evaded in its application than the present system, particularly when applied to the lower grades of sugar.

All the witnesses who appeared before the Commission, with singular unanimity, testified to the fact that in all wholesale commercial transactions (meaning the buying or selling of raw or low grade sugar) the polariscope is used by both buyer and seller to ascertain the saccharine richness and true value of the sugar; hat the custom prevails among all the nations of Europe as well as in the United States; and when asked if they knew of any reason why the polariscope, so satisfactory in commercial transactions as to be uniformly relied on by both buyer and seller, could not also be equally relied on by the government to determine the saccharine richness and true value of sugar with the view of affording a basis on which to assess customs duties in proportion to tha value, without an exception, these witnesses—well versed in the methods of buying, selling, refining and producing sugars—testified unhesitatingly that they knew of no reason why the polariscope test should not be used by the government as a basis for applying customs duties.

It was also proven by some of those witnesses who had informed themselves on the subject, that in France the polariscope had superceded the use of the Dutch standard in determining the classification of sugars in order to determine the rates of duties, and that in Germany, and even in Holland, where the use of the Dutch standard originated, custom-house officers are instructed that when they have reason to believe sugars have been artificially colored, or their color degraded, to assess the duties according to their saccharine richness or true value, to be determined by the polariscopic test, regardless of their color.

One of the witnesses testified that it was proven beyond a doubt or cavil, that it is a common practice to degrade the natural color of German beet root sugars by artifical means, when intended for the Dutch or American markets, the business of coloring sugar being regularly carried on as a distinct pursuit at a fixed price per one hundred pounds.

It is an acknow