

Let Us Suppose.

Mr. Theophilus H. Davies of Honolulu said to a Call reporter on Saturday that the Provisional Government of the Hawaiian Islands cannot go on forever. The fundamental error of the Provisional Government is, in Mr. Davies opinion, in going outside of the bounds of the nation without the sanction of the nation. Mr. Davies does not appear to be intimately acquainted with the general character of revolutions. It is not the habit of revolutionists to intrust their plans to the government they propose to overthrow. The Hawaiian revolutionists realized that they were acting in the name of less than 100,000 people. They knew that the Hawaiian Government had for many years leaned on foreign powers, and would be, from its feebleness, compelled to do so in the future. Knowing this, the Provisional Government naturally sought the protection of the nearest nation of the first rank and the one with which it was the most closely connected in industrial interest. But the Provisional Government knew that its action was not binding upon the people. Without such support it would have gone the way of all flesh some months ago. The people have supported the action of the Provisional Government in going outside the nation by supporting the Government in so doing.

Mr. Davies wants to know what the world of nations would have said had the Provisional Government made to Russia the offer they made to the United States. The answer to this question is really immaterial. The location of the Islands in relation to the United States is such that the United States has openly declared that no foreign power would be allowed to take peaceable possession of them. Russia has no use for them, and is not believed to be seeking cause for war with the United States. Let us suppose now that the Provisional Government had made the same offer to England that was made to the United States. In such case would Mr. Davies' fine sense of the proprieties have been shocked? Would he not have reasoned that an island in the Pacific Ocean containing a smaller population than several second-class counties in California could not be expected to maintain an independent government? Apparently the blunder of the Provisional Government was not, in Mr. Davies' opinion, in going outside the nation, but in going outside in the direction they took.—Call.

They Met in Congress.

Hon. Joseph C. Hendrix, Representative in Congress from New York, and Hon. Richard Bartholdt, Representative from Missouri, used to be fellow-reporters in Brooklyn years ago. Hendrix represented the New York Sun and Bartholdt the Brooklyn Free Press. The latter, in the course of time, drifted West and rose to be a prominent figure in politics in St. Louis, where he now edits an influential German paper. Hendrix staid in New York, but in a general way experienced the same disposition of a benevolent Providence as his former colleague of the press. They turned up in Washington about the same time, and there was a cordial greeting as they shook hands.

"What are you doing in Washington?" asked Hendrix.

"That's a fair question," said Bartholdt, "but suppose you tell me what you are doing here?"

"Why, I'm a member of Congress," said Hendrix.

"So am I," said Bartholdt. "How did you get into politics?"

"Oh," said Hendrix, "I was elected a member of the School Board."

"So was I," said Bartholdt.

"Then I was elected President of the School Board," said Hendrix.

"So was I," said Bartholdt.

"Then I was elected to Congress," continued Hendrix.

"And so was I," exclaimed Bartholdt.

"Well," said Hendrix, "you and I must have been born under the same conjunction of planets."

Both had reached Congress by precisely parallel lines, after separating in the reporter's room in the Brooklyn City Hall building, and met after a term of years in which they had completely lost trace of each other.—Washington Post.

A main-trunk telephone line is at present under construction between London and Glasgow, passing through Nottingham, Sheffield and Leeds. As there is already telephone communication between Glasgow and Belfast, and between Belfast and Dublin, when the new line is completed, communication between Dublin and London will be possible.

VICTORIA, B. C., October 23.—A court-martial is to be held on Wednesday to try Lieutenant Masters of H. M. S. Garnet, who is president of the canteen, and in whose funds there is said to be a deficiency. H. M. S. Melpomene goes to England to be recommissioned, and will be replaced by a more powerful vessel.

The Naval Inspection Board, which conducts the trials of ships built for the navy, will come to the coast for a few weeks, and in addition to those appointed from here will inspect the Olympia and watch her performance during her trial trip.—Call.

The Chicago has arrived at Barcelona, Spain, from Malaga. The San Francisco was at Key West, Florida, when last heard from. The Baltimore is at Alexandria and the Monongahela at Funchal. The Lancaster has been ordered home.

ADMIRAL JEAN BART.

The Bluff Old Mariner After Whom the French Warship is Named.

One of the French warships which took part in the Columbian naval review at New York was named the Jean Bart. As the ship was one of the first class, and attracted consequently a great deal of attention, no little curiosity was aroused by its name, which to most people seemed a strange one. In books of reference people were told that Jean Bart was a French admiral who flourished at the close of the seventeenth century, and who, beginning life as a fisherman, rose to high rank and became a popular hero. But none of the current biographies contains any of the curious and amusing anecdotes about him which have come down from the time when he lived.

One of these stories will serve to show what sort of man Jean Bart was. When he had made a brilliant record as a kind of buccaneer and shown that he was a much abler sea warrior than any of the officers of noble birth who commanded the navy, King Louis XIV made him first a lieutenant and then the captain of a frigate, in which position he greatly distinguished himself.

One day, while several elegant courtiers were waiting in the great monarch's ante-chamber for an interview with the king, a rather rough looking sailor came in. The courtiers and attendants were greatly shocked, but the sailor announced that he was Jean Bart, and that he had come to see the king. One of his men, Keyser, had been condemned to death for killing a man in a duel, and he was going to ask the king to pardon him.

"But, M. le Capitaine," said the attendant, "have you a royal invitation entitling you to an audience?"

"A royal invitation?" exclaimed the captain. "What do I want of that? The king and I are good friends. No need of all that nonsense between us! You just tell him that Jean Bart wants to talk to him, and that'll be enough!"

"But I can't announce any one who hasn't an invitation," said the attendant. "All right," said Jean Bart. "I'll announce myself!"

He bounded toward the door of the king's apartment, very much as if he were starting to run up a staircase. The attendant, with pale face, placed himself before him, exclaiming:

"But the king's orders! Don't you obey the king's orders?"

"Oh, well," said the sailor, "if it comes to that, I'll wait. I won't go against the king's orders."

He sat down among the astonished courtiers, took out a pipe and some tobacco, struck a light with his flint and began to smoke. The attendant protested that no one smoked in the king's ante-chamber, but Jean Bart insisted that when he was waiting he always smoked.

"Put him out," someone whispered, but no one ventured to do more than whisper it. Soon the king learned what was going on and ordered Jean Bart ushered in as soon as he should have finished his pipe.

The interview, in which Jean Bart conducted himself with all due respect to the king, ended in the granting of Keyser's pardon, and Jean Bart came back into the courtiers' presence triumphant.

They all crowded about the bluff captain, very obedient to him now, and completely blocking his exit. He was in great haste to carry the pardon to Keyser.

"Oh, tell us, M. Jean Bart," the courtiers began to exclaim, "tell us how you got out of the harbor of Dunkirk when you were blockaded there by the English fleet?"

"You want to know, eh?" asked the captain, pausing.

"Certainly!" they exclaimed, crowding still more closely about him.

"All right, I'll show you just how 'twas done. Look here, I'm Jean Bart, ain't I?"

Well, this room is the harbor of Dunkirk, and you fellows are the English fleet blockading me. And now—"

Whack! bang! whack! Jean Bart laid about him, now administering a cuff, now a kick, and very forcibly clearing a way toward the door. As he reached it he exclaimed:

"And that's the way, gentlemen, that I got out of Dunkirk harbor when I was blockaded there by the English fleet! Good by!"

The warship that bears the name of this redoubtable sailor should be a formidable antagonist.—Youth's Companion.

The Shah's Cat.

The shah of Persia has a great affection for cats and is so fond of them that he has some 90 feline favorites which are generally to be found in his apartments, and to which he has assigned officials and attendants of their own. They also have their own special rooms where they assemble at certain hours to have their meals. On his summer excursions they all accompany him, being carried by special men on horseback in cages lined with velvet. The favorite of the shah is a large grey cat called Babr Khan, which may be translated as Prince Tiger.

When the shah lunched or dined, Babr Khan was always allowed to enter the room, and sometimes his majesty fed the cat with his own exalted hands. Once, while in camp, Babr Khan disappeared and was searched for in vain. A servant who had made fun of the cat and been heard to remark that it was better out of the way was arrested on suspicion of having caused the animal's disappearance. He was carried to Teheran in chains, hung into a dungeon and was never heard of again. Nor was the cat.—New York Tribune.

How Paris Utilizes Rats.

Almost everywhere in the world, except in Paris, rats are considered as a troublesome nuisance to be gotten rid of by any means possible. The Parisians, on the contrary, convert this nuisance into a useful member of society and a source of revenue. In Paris rats are collected from every possible source and placed in a great pound, where the carcasses of all animals dying in the city are thrown. These remains are speedily disposed of by the rats, which leave behind nothing but the cleanly picked bones. There are no such scavengers as rats. Four times a year these rats are rounded up and killed, and their skins are utilized in the everywhere admitted form of gant de Paris, to decorate the hands of loveliness the world over.—Philadelphia Press.

The First Piano.

No one can tell exactly who made the first piano for the reason that it has gradually "evolved" from an instrument as much unlike itself as one could well imagine. In the twelfth century it appears to have been a gigantic dulcimer, which was merely an oblong box holding a series of strings arranged in triangles for a frame across its center. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the "clavichord," another musical monstrosity, had developed from it and was used well up in the eighteenth century. About 1711 Christofori of Padua invented a real piano, but it is said to resemble one of a coal box when compared with the elegant and perfect toned instrument of today.—St. Louis Republic.

To Prepare Ivory.

Ivory may be prepared as a ground for miniature painting by cleansing the leaves or plates and rubbing them over with the juice of garlic. This will remove its greasy quality, which prevents the color from fixing on the ground, and it is said to be more useful than either soap or ox gall.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

An Ignorant Captain.

Old Lady—What's the matter now? Steamboat Captain—We've run on a sand bar.

Old Lady—Well, why don't you go over it? What's your wall? Steam fur, Pd like to know!—New York Weekly.

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