

The Hawaiian Star.
(Daily and Weekly.)

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FRIDAY, MAY, 14, 1897.

CABLES.

It is stated in the Naval and Military Record that H. B. M. S. Penguin was to leave Sydney either at the end of April or the beginning of May for the purpose of surveying a cable route between that point and Honolulu. The survey was expected to last six months. If this information is true it is satisfactory, for it may foreshadow the promulgation of the English line. Should this materialize it will most probably have its effect upon the promotion of the American line. Still, it must be remembered that the British line is to stop only at points which are British territory, according to the information previously received here, and the cruise of the Wild Swan to Fanning's Island and other points to the south may be regarded as a confirmation of that information.

The establishment of stations on small islands has always seemed a dangerous policy. In time of war these little spots would be open to great danger, and it would be next to impossible to defend them; while if the stations were established upon neutral territory, their chances of safety would be very much greater. Some such idea may have been taken up and hence the survey of the Penguin from Sydney to Honolulu.

To us it matters not where the cable comes from, so long as we have a cable at all. The desire for a cable from the United States has been built up laboriously and carefully; but if the United States will not assist companies from that direction, why, we will very readily snap at a chance which come from another. That cables will be laid, during the next century, connecting the various islands of the Pacific with their adjacent shores, is assured; but one does not wish to wait so long. What we want is a cable before the century closes. How we shall lose our sense of isolation the moment we are linked with the outer world! The field is open to anyone who will take it; but no one seems desirous of making the first experiment. Of this we may be certain, that once a line is laid across the Pacific, other lines will quickly follow. It is the first cable, as it is the first step, which costs. Once the paying feasibility of cable lines is practically demonstrated, there will be other companies that will follow in the footsteps of the pioneers.

UNAVOIDABLE EMIGRATION.

In yesterday's Star the expansion of Japanese emigration and the increase of the Japanese population was treated at length. The Japanese Press, by papers received per Belgie, is discussing the same problem. The Japanese are realizing that with so large a population there must be an outlet. The problem before the Japanese people is what they will do with an increase of population amounting to about 400,000 per year. Though there is room in the northern part of the group, the climate and conditions are not so inviting as the climate and conditions in more favored climes, and so the Japanese emigrate in large numbers to Hawaii, and in ever-increasing numbers to Australia, to the United States, to Canada, and are now stretching out their feelers into South America.

It is most astonishing to see how rapidly Japan has advanced from the days when Commodore Perry made the first treaty with that Power. From being a nation hedged in from the rest of the world, she has become one of the factors in the world's progress, and though Europe hardly recognizes what powerful force is at work in that corner of the Orient, we in the Pacific readily do.

The force of an increasing population must make Japan a colonizing power, and her colonial effort will be toward the pleasant islands of the Pacific. It may be quite true that Japan contemplates no overt act against anyone of them; but it cannot prevent their peaceful conquest. It is the gradual absorption by a vigorous and pushing race that has to be feared. Natural forces, working on immutable lines accomplish what ag-

gressive forces working on exotic lines will never satisfactorily accomplish.

The Japan Daily Mail says that it is not surprising that our Republic is alarmed about Japanese immigration. It plainly sees that at the rate the Japanese immigrants were pouring in we should soon be swamped. What the Japanese object to is the manner in which the immigration was stopped. But the Japanese Press has only heard one side of the story, and one story is good until another is told. The reasons upon which the Hawaiian Government acted have not yet been set forth. These will be discussed during the next week. The action of the Hawaiian Government was not hasty; it was carefully thought out and the causes were investigated with great care in the presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs himself. When the matter has been fully argued between the diplomats it will be found that the position taken by the Hawaiian Government was strong and that it could have acted in no other way than it did.

CIVIL SERVICE.

A bill recently introduced in the New York Legislature is considered, by all advocates of Civil Service Reform, as a distinct retrograde movement. Under the original theory of Civil Service Reform merit was to be the only test of fitness for public employment. The new law proposes to make a distinction between "merit" and "fitness."

The way to test "merit," either for appointment or promotion, was to be decided by examination of a Civil Service Commissioner or by an examining board under him. But it is proposed to only allow 50 per cent of marks to any one for "merit," and to reserve the other fifty for fitness. The question of "fitness" is to be settled by examination, to be conducted by "the person or persons holding the power of appointment or promotion, or by some person or board holding such power of appointment."

At first sight this seems specious enough; but a moment's thought shews what the intention is. In plain fact it does away with the merit system and gives a loophole for those who have the appointing power to give deciding marks which will overwhelm those obtained for merit. That is to say, that merit alone is not to be decisive. The "fitness" is to be judged of by the appointing officers.

In one branch of Civil Service here an attempt has been made to make "merit" the basis of both appointment and promotion; but it has never been thoroughly carried out, owing to the difficulties in the way, which, until conditions change somewhat, are insuperable. It has been proposed to add the element "fitness" to the merit, upon just such irresponsible lines as in New York, and undoubtedly it would have the same result as predicted for that State and the element of favoritism would at once come in.

The Westfield (Indiana) News prints the following in regard to an old resident of that place: "Frank McAvoy, for many years in the employ of the L. N. A. & C. railway here, says: 'I have used Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy for ten years or longer—am never without it in my family. I consider it the best remedy of the kind manufactured. I take pleasure in recommending it.' It is a specific for all bowel disorders. For sale by all druggists and dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., wholesale agents for the Hawaiian Islands.

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Chicken dinner, Wednesday and Sunday; ice cream every day. Only 25c for a meal. Tickets, \$4.50; good for 21 meals. Charles Matzie, Prop.

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BY AUTHORITY.

David Center, Esq., has this day been appointed a member of the Road Board for the Taxation District of Ewa and Waianae, Island of Oahu, vice Aug. Ahrens, Esq., resigned.

J. A. KING,
Minister of the Interior.
Interior Office, May 10, 1897.

FOR SALE.

KEWALO LOTS.

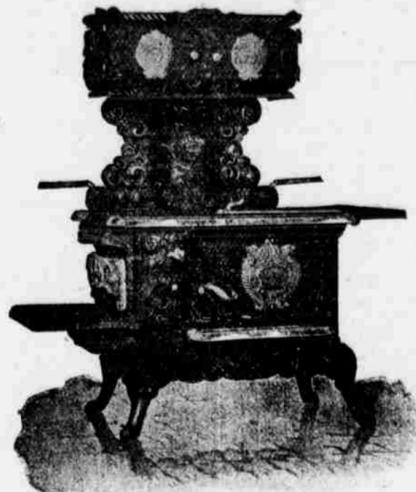
I have for sale 33 choice Kewalo lots, situated on Queen, Kawaiahae, Ward and Cummins streets. These lots have an area of 50x100 feet each and are within half a mile of the post office. Water pipes are laid and streets graded. Prices, from \$250 to \$350, on easy payments.

For further particulars inquire at my office.

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White Muslin Dress Goods, usual price 15c and 20c,	Now .08½
Wool Challies, our usual price 20c, 25c and 30c,	Now .15
All Silk Neckties, our usual price 25c and 35c each,	Now .12½
Men's Ready Made Suits, our usual price \$10.50	Now 7.50
All Wool Blankets, our usual price \$6.50 per pair,	Now 4.25
Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, our usual price \$3.00 per dozen,	Now 2.25

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