

The Hawaiian Star,
DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

Published every afternoon (except Sundays) by the Hawaiian Star Newspaper Association, Limited.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Local, per annum.....\$ 8.00
Foreign, ".....12.00
Payable in advance.

FRANK L. HOOGS.....MANAGER
SATURDAY.....MAY 20, 1905

Three Great Battles

While there is a lull in the land operations in Manchuria, the Japanese can not be charged with failing to show activity of a high order. Three big battles have been fought since the commencement of the war, an achievement that will compare very favorably with the operations of the Great Napoleon. These battles were all fought within a space of eight months, an achievement which is equal to those of almost any of the great commanders. The demoralization after a battle which ensues in the ranks of the victorious as well as the vanquished is very great, although of course less among the victors than the vanquished, and time is required to recover from the losses of various kinds entailed by a conflict.

By way of illustration the campaign of Napoleon against the Prussians and Russians in 1806 was attended by the battle of Jena on October 14, 1806. This battle effectively shattered the military power of Prussia and brought that nation prostrate at the feet of Napoleon. But the forces of the Emperor Alexander, the allies of Prussia, were advancing upon Napoleon. The battle of Preuss-Eylau did not occur until February 7 and 8 of the following year. In this battle the carnage was appalling, especially from the fact that it was absolutely fruitless, although the French retained possession of the battlefield. In this respect it was similar to the battle of Liaoyang. The battle of Friedland was not fought until June 14 of 1807, four months later. The battles which were fought in Manchuria between Oyama and Kurapatkin, while conducted on a vaster scale than were those of Napoleon in his campaigns of 1806 and 1807, were fought within practically an equal period of time. Again in Napoleon's campaign of 1809 against the Austrians two months elapsed between the battles of Essling and Wagram, both being pitched battles between the complete armies of the two nations.

A Long And Worthy Career

Frederick Greenwood, who founded the Pall Mall Gazette in 1865, and the St. James Gazette in 1880, when, owing to differences with his associates as to policy, he retired from the earlier publication, has just completed fifty years of journalism.

The services he rendered to journalism and to the public during that time were so distinct and notable that the completion of half a century in the work was taken advantage of as an occasion to give public recognition to those services. The affair took the form of a great dinner at which John Morley presided, and where speeches were made by such men as Mr. Asquith and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman.

Mr. Greenwood was among the first to introduce modern methods in English newspapers. Thus he made a sensation by dressing as a tramp and spending several nights in London workhouses. He signed himself "The Amateur Casual," and his exposure of abuses led to radical reforms in the treatment of vagrants.

Perhaps his most notable single service was in connection with securing British ascendancy in the Suez canal. When the fate of the Suez canal hung in doubt in 1875 it was Greenwood who, learning that the spendthrift Ismail Pasha wished to sell his shares secretly, urged the foreign secretary, Lord Derby, to buy them for the government and secure British control. Derby demurred. There were British statesmen who held that the canal would prove a colossal failure. Besides, there was no money available, and to ask for a grant from parliament would reveal the whole plan. Greenwood convinced the hesitating secretary that the emergency justified taking the national consent for granted, and with the approval of the premier, the far-seeing Disraeli, the purchase was made.

The shares cost England \$20,000,000 and are now worth \$150,000,000. Far more important, their purchase gave the kingdom the control of the water highway between Europe and Asia and that preponderant interest in Egypt that led to its occupation, to the protectorate, to the defeat of the Mahdists—and, through the recent arrangement with France, to the giving of Great Britain a "free hand" in what is perhaps the most successful and most defensible exploit of colonization in modern times.

The Sword Not An Obsolete Weapon

It is one of the anomalies of our modern civilization—there seem to be a great many anomalies in our modern civilization—that no sooner do we think we have advanced beyond some particular species of barbarity, or mediæval custom or usage, than we find we haven't, and that our supposed and boasted advance has led us right around back to where we started from.

Ever since the invention of gunpowder, it has been the dream of those who hated war, that with the improved destructiveness of weapons, war would be made impossible, and universal peace would reign simply because war was impossible. This dream has been shattered quite a while, but in its place there has been a feeling that with the development of weapons of long range, hand to hand fighting and fighting at short, close range with its ferocity, and its beast-like qualities, had become a thing of the past. But lo! the latest war to teach us lessons, the one in which all these long range and modern weapons both of defense and offense are used in their highest development, has shown that hand to hand fighting, is back with us as an essential part of the game, and one in which proficiency is as essential as it used to be when Caesar led his legions against the enemies of Rome.

There has been a general belief that the sword had become obsolete, a mere badge, not a weapon, an ornament to ceremony, but useless, and an encumbrance in real service.

But now comes an army board and not only says that the sword is not obsolete, but that it is an important and an essential weapon in modern warfare, and recommends instruction in its use throughout the four years course of the cadets, both at the naval and at the military academies.

This is what the Board says on this point: "The widespread opinion against the sword and in favor of the revolver only is found upon service under abnormal conditions, in a country largely underbrush, and against a foe who rarely stood against a determined advance, and with a sword which itself was an inferior weapon."

"A careful consideration of the fighting in the Russo-Japanese war, under modern conditions as regards firearms, and under greatly improved conditions as regards artillery fire, has shown conclusively that the sword is not a weapon of the past."

"The increased killing power of the magazine rifle and rapid-fire field gun has operated to force both the Japanese and Russian armies, in order to minimize their losses, to make many night attacks. These night attacks are not surprises by small bodies of troops, but movements of divisions and armies in battle formation. The result of this development has been to force the frequent employment of the bayonet by the

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enlisted men and of the sword by the officer, and to increase their importance as fighting weapons. The losses due to "cold steel" in this war will probably never be accurately known, but enough has already been reported officially on both sides to show that the sword has been effectively used, particularly in these night attacks. These being facts, it follows as a corollary that the sword adopted for officers of the army should be a fighting weapon, and not merely a badge of office."

THE CONVENTION.

Notwithstanding the Republican County convention is to be held tonight, there does not seem to be very much settled yet as to who are likely to be the nominees. There is a good strong fight on for sheriff, and there are at least two candidates for Treasurer, Gerrit P. Wilder having been brought out today and developing a good deal of strength within a short time after his candidacy was announced. There have been names mentioned for most of the other offices, but some of the best men who have been mentioned in connection with these, have announced that they are not candidates, and will not accept nominations.

Undoubtedly the feeling that the county act may not stand the test of the courts has something to do with this backwardness of men in coming forward for these offices. And yet, that ought not to be allowed to sway or dissuade good men from accepting nominations. The act may prove valid. If it should, the men who are elected on June 29, will be the men who will put the act in operation, and they ought to be the best men that we have in the county.

There is a heavy responsibility resting upon the delegates to the convention tonight, and not upon them alone, but upon every Republican who has the best interests of the Territory and of the county at heart.

It is to be hoped that there will be nominated this evening a ticket which will command the approval and the confidence of the responsible voters and tax-payers of the county, and which will be worthy of victory a month hence.

Secretary Morton of the Navy is about to resign. What's the matter with Charlie Wilson for the job?

Admiral Birlhoff, who has been appointed to supreme command of the Russian fleets in the far east, does not intend to go to sea. He will direct the maneuvers from on land. All of which goes to show that Birlhoff not only has a head of his shoulders, but also that he wants to keep it there.

"Well," remarked Governor Maximovitch, of Warsaw, yesterday as they gathered up the fragments of the bomb artist who had blown himself up "there is certainly a good deal of truth in Hamlet's remark 'Tis sport to see the engineer hoist with his own petard.'"

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Building lot corner King and Kamehameha road. Palama terminus of Rapid Transit road. Apply at Star office.

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That's a maximum worth remembering! concluded the governor, with one of his grim chuckles.

"Turks and Greeks have been fighting here since Wednesday" says a cable from Salonica. Pshaw! Turks and Greeks have been fighting in Salonica for a couple of hundred years. Give us something new.

The Democrats of the second congressional district of West Virginia, have nominated Col. Thomas B. Davis, a brother of the late Democratic Vice-Presidential candidate, for congress. Col. Davis doesn't want the nomination and told the convention so, but accepted it out of gratitude to the party for the honors it had heaped on himself and his brother. The democrats are said to have forced the nomination on him because they think he will open his purse-strings and make a lively campaign. That's what was thought when his brother was nominated for vice-president last summer. There are some people whom apparently you can fool all the time.

New cables in connection with the Commercial Pacific system, have been laid from the Island of Guam a station of the Commercial Company, in the Pacific to Yap in the Caroline group, about 350 miles and then 1075 miles to Menado in the Celebes islands. This connection gives Honolulu a direct service to Sumatra, Java, and other points in the Dutch East Indies. The cable rates from San Francisco to Yap are \$1.95 a word; to Java \$1.08 per word; to Sumatra and other points in the Dutch East Indies \$1.15 per word.

Star Want Ads pay 25 cent.

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