

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1911.

THE GREATER STAR.

The thirty-six page Star, which we turn out today, is larger than any other Honolulu daily could be with the same number of pages.

Owing to the larger sheet and the longer columns today's Star is equal to a thirty-seven page Bulletin and a forty-three page Advertiser, making it the largest daily, aside from special holiday, review or commemoration numbers, that we remember to have been published hitherto in these islands.

This Saturday paper is no effort at something big and unusual; it is the natural result of an enlarged business in the office of its publication and in Honolulu. Times are good in both; and as business men have realized the extent of the Star's growth, especially in the last three months, they naturally seek the attention of the public through its columns.

Some people tell us that they do not understand why the Star has proven such an exception, as they know it to be, to the rule of slow increase among established papers, especially those which have not made full use of their past opportunities, but the majority of the people recognize the moving facts. The paper that accepts no muzzle, which is "unmuzzed by influence and unbribed by gain," which tells the candid truth about men and things, which is honest in the presentation of all news including that which comes by cable, which rises to occasions—that paper is bound to grow and to win. And that the Star is growing and winning by these tokens, the unexampled paper of today partially attests.

The public is with the Star and the Star is with the public; and the advertiser, knowing what that combination means, naturally brings his trade announcements here.

Some British Comment

The lawyers in the House of Commons, who rule us, spoke of the "impotence" of Preference. Who are the importers now? The vindication of British unity by the unselfish presence of the Canadian nation enables us to handle our own difficulties in Europe with greater assurance than was possible before Canada struck for Unity under the Flag. Germany has no safety valve. It is the interest of the civilized world to provide that safety valve. What stands in the way? The Monroe Doctrine. The assumption of overlordship over the South American Continent can be justified only by the possession of organized force which the United States does not possess, and never can possess so long as the standard of discipline and respect for the conditions of civilization among white men stands as low as it now stands in many parts of the United States.

If the issue of peace or war be left wholly to the Foreign Offices world war is certain. The development of South America by mixed Spanish stock has been excellent as far as it goes, but the welfare of Germany and the peace of the world is more important to mankind than any Monroe Doctrine that cannot be enforced. With Brazil to develop, Germany would be faced with an imperial task worthy of her powers. The country is vast; scarcely scratched. Millions of Germans might find homes in Brazil as prosperous as under the two-headed eagle at home. We kept the ring for the United States in her onslaught on Spain; why should we not make a deal with Germany on the basis of giving her a free hand in South America? No legitimate Yankee interest would be touched, and the presence of Germany in the New World would assist the Americans to discover that bigness and numbers are not everything, and that honesty and manners count also in the scheme of the Earth. The danger of European war is imminent, and if war once breaks out between the great European Powers, no one can tell what the state of the world would be after a few years of fighting. The peaceful expansion of Germany means the settlement of a strike against conditions that are intolerable to a Great Power.—Westminster Gazette.

Does Death End All?

Dr. William Hanna Thomson, former President of the New York Academy of Medicine, is one of the noted medical men of the country. As a medical scientist and an authority on the brain he is as equally well known in Europe as in the United States. He is the author of a number of scientific works, among them "What is Physical Life?", "Brains and Personality," and "Some Wonders of Biology," while "Life, Death and Immortality" and "The Life and Times of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" are soon to appear. Dr. Thomson absolutely rejects the theories of Darwin, Huxley and Tyndall on the brief ground that "they do not explain anything." Speaking as a medical scientist, he holds that the death of the physical body of man does not mean the death also of the person. Unlike the brutes, man, he contends, does not perish when his life on earth ends.

The Darwinian theory is now rejected by the majority of biologists as absurdly inadequate, owing to its principle being wholly negative. Selection of any kind does not produce anything, but only chooses between that which already exists.

Evolution never was a cause, but a result, instead. It is almost pathetic to read how Huxley and Darwin, in their day, fancied that because the primate homo—man—was so well in keeping with the evolution of the other primates, therefore they had scientifically accounted for man.

It is absurd to rank man among the animals. His so-called fellow-animals, the primates—gorilla, orang and chimpanzee—can do nothing truly human. For the vast majority of human beings their days are spent in getting enough to eat and to drink and to provide clothing. What would such a being not be able to know, to discover, and to do if his life on earth were eternal instead of the brief three score years and ten which he painfully passes in this world?

The death of the physical body, I hold, does not mean the death, also of the person. On that account men have always and everywhere, turned toward the Unseen, and people that invisible world with the gods whom they worshipped.

Helping Nature to Fight Disease

The earliest clue to one aspect at least of the problem of immunity was given by the classical researches of Elie Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute in Paris. His studies had to do with the white blood corpuscles. Every one who has ever viewed a drop of blood through a microscope will recall that there were to be seen in the midst of the flood of red blood corpuscles a certain number of larger bodies of somewhat irregular shape, practically colorless, that seemed to be endowed with the power of movement. These are the white corpuscles, or leucocytes. They have been familiar to physiologists since the first microscopic lenses were made, but their function had been an utter mystery. It was early learned that the red corpuscles are the carriers of oxygen. But what useful purpose the white corpuscles subserved no one had been able to surmise.

Metchnikoff turned his microscope on this interesting but mysterious corpuscle, and watched its activities under varying circumstances and conditions. And he was presently able to report that he had detected the leucocytes in the act of devouring all manner of foreign particles that chanced to come into their neighborhood as they floated about in the blood stream. These foreign particles included, among other things, the organisms called bacteria. These tiny but highly important particles were seen to be taken into the bodies of the leucocytes and presently dissolved or digested. Moreover, even though the bacteria were disease-engendering species, they seemed to produce no ill effect upon the leucocytes.

Thus it appeared that at least one function of the white blood corpuscle is to act as a scavenger in the blood—a sort of department-of-health officer keeping guard over the hygienic conditions of the blood, and promptly using

Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

A stately squash grew on a vine that hung upon a fence, and it was large and smooth and fine, and sold for seven cents. The buyer put it in a crate and shipped it off to town; the railway charged ten cents for freight, and got the money down. Then divers kinds of middlemen passed that old squash along, and each one got a rake-off then, in which they saw no wrong. The jobber to the grocer sold that squash one autumn day, and it was scarred and bruised and old, and tending to decay. The farmer man who raised that squash to town came on his wheel; at dinner time he said: "B'gosh, I'll have a good square meal!" So to a restaurant he sped, and ate some squash on ice, and then he stood upon his head when he was told the price. "Your price on squashes makes me hot!" he cried; "your game is bunk! I'd sell a wagonload for what you charged me for that chunk!" Our eyes with rear-drops are awash, we're viewing with alarm; for when we go to buy a squash, we have to buy a farm.

Copyright, 1911, by Geo. Matthew Adams WALT MASON.

its efforts to remove any noxious foreign substances that obtrude themselves into that all-important highway.

Just why the leucocytes gathered at a wound in such numbers had never been understood. But now it seemed clear that their presence is exactly comparable to the presence of an army at a port subject to foreign invasion by a hostile host. The object of antiseptic dressings, with which every one is now familiar, is to shut out this host of noxious bacteria. In proportion as the dressings effect this purpose, there remains no need to aggregate leucocytes at the seat of war; and in point of fact, the absence of pus shows that they are not called upon when the modern method of surgical treatment has rendered them superfluous.

The external dressing applied by the modern surgeon has in effect warded off the enemy, just as a line of submarine torpedoes or coast batteries off New York Harbor might keep an invading naval force at a distance, making it unnecessary to call on our land forces.—H. S. Williams, M. D., in Harper's Magazine, for December.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

CHARLES STANTON—The real estate business is looking up. Several big sales have been made this week.

DR. McDONALD—This Board of Health is the most amazing proposition I ever saw. It deserves all the criticism it is getting.

GENERAL MACOMB—There are no "brigade posts" under our present organization, but there will be when we get a division of troops.

ROBERT BOND—Two men out of my office have the "yellow dengue." I suppose my turn comes next. We haven't been quarantined yet.

KIRK PORTER—The different cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever all appear to be well in hand, and it shows that prompt action can achieve a lot.

REV. W. H. OLESON—Postage stamps were not authorized by Congress until eleven years after the Hilo Boarding School received its first class.—Hawaii Herald.

ROBERT MCGREER—I expect that some good turns will come from Australia in the near future, and that the Honolulu theater-going public will be treated to some fine acts.

FRED WALDRON—The only way to get rid of mosquitoes in Honolulu is to get rid of wet agriculture. Cutting down the bananas is all foolshness as long as we leave the swamps and taro patches.

P. H. BURNETTE—I am beginning to think that the sanitation committee wouldn't know a mosquito if it saw one. The members don't seem to know whether a mosquito has feathers or horns.

MRS. W. J. STONE—Hilo ladies are just as particular about their headgear as are the ladies of Honolulu, and they are just as particular in Honolulu as they are in San Francisco. So there!—Hawaii Herald.

L. L. McCANDLESS—I received a paper from Syracuse, N. Y., in which a writer said that when a man carried through a great project in England or Canada he was knighted, but when

"Under The Coconut Tree"

By H. M. Ayres.

The press agent stated the other day that the non-appearance of a certain fair artist was due to an overdose of bromo seltzer. Isn't that a new name for the stuff?

Have you met within our township That individual queer Who asks the latest eating place, "The cafe-teezer?"

Poor old "Tiser!" It doesn't relish the prospect of a crow diet any more today than it ever did. And yet one would suppose that it had got used to the flavor by this time.

Could the curios of Fiji be called Sava-nirs?

It is understood that there will be a special prize for the first member of the theatrical profession to finish in the coming walking race. Some of them must have had lots of practice.

The individual who broke into Cushman's store and looted \$1400 worth of property may have been a Socialist

VOICE OF PEOPLE

LEAVING MAIL BEHIND.

Honolulu Correspondence, Wailuku Times: "The action of the captain of the Siberia in leaving behind the entire mail has been severely criticized and was the cause of a great deal of indignant comment, but the blame for this unfortunate occurrence should rightly be laid at the door of the post-office functionaries. To the casual observer, it seems the simplest thing in the world to send at least the bulk of the mail down to the steamer as fast as the pouches are made up, and let the late comers take their chances of having their mail sent off. As a matter of fact, the greater portion of the mail, particularly from the other islands of the group, arrived in the city last Wednesday, in plenty of time to have it sorted and put in the proper pouches, and residents of those islands will no doubt learn with dismay and indignation that the letters and Christmas greetings which they had planned to send by this opportunity were left behind and will not reach their distant destinations until the end of the year. It is to be hoped that the postmaster and his assistants will take a lesson from this and be less tardy in the discharge of their duty."

MALIHINI CHRISTMAS TREE.

Editor Star: A proposition was made in the Advertiser which I think the community will cordially endorse. This was to turn over the Malihini Christmas Tree to the poor and needy malihini who recently arrived by the Willesden. Certainly nothing could be done which would more thoroughly impress them with the existence of a strong sympathy and the cordiality of the people of this Territory.

But I am informed that, aside from food such as fruit of all sorts, biscuits, candy and other fancy eatables (they are well supplied with substantial), and anything for immediate use, there is danger in sending things which the children particularly will wish to carry away when they leave the quarantine station. There exists among them several highly infectious diseases, and I am informed that, in the case of smallpox and scarlet fever—perhaps some others—the infection is long-lived and hard to destroy, especially in small articles like toys and little things that the children would love to have. Of course these things would be disinfected when these people leave quarantine, but disinfection very likely would practically ruin a good many little things.

I therefore suggest whether it would not be kinder, after all, to supply them bountifully with what I have suggested above, leaving out those things of some permanency in character which might carry away the seeds of disease.

I speak not only for myself, but for others, when I say that for such an object many of us will be very glad to contribute.

W. R. CASTLE.
Honolulu, December 9, 1911.

Do you know about the Home Banks given out by the Savings Department of the Bank of Hawaii, Ltd.? Call at the bank and find out about these banks and how interest is paid on your deposits.

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Agents, Oceanic Steamship Co.

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