COMMERCIAL.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 1859.

There is no season of the year when dealers complain more loudly or more bitterly of stagnation in trade, than the present mid-winter season, occurring just after the outgoing of the fall fleet and before the incoming of the spring ship. After enjoying a full season's trade all the way from first rate to indifferent, so the fates will it, what there is of it, be it more or less, meet with a sudden check "about this time," as the almanacks say, and trade drops as if shot. As if to enhance the effect of the depression consequent upon such a catastrophe, we are this year visited by a continuance of the most inclement weather ever known in Honolulu, at least the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" runneth not to the contrary, and every one knows that the weather always exercises a great influence upon trade, either for good or ill. Were it not for the bustle created at market wharf by the unloading of the *Modern Times*, the occasional excitement of pulling and hauling and song as some boiler or huge piece of machinery is landed, or the loud and interminable "rally" kept up over the discharge of those boards, Queen Street would present a scene of Sabbath-day quiet.

One remarkable feature of trade deserves notice, however, and that is, that no stagnation in trade however long drawn or alarming can silence the bell of the auctioneer. We do not know of another market on the face of the globe where such a large proportion of the foreign goods disposed of are sold under the hammer as in Honolulu. The figures, if they could be correctly arrived at, would be rather surprising.

The *Morning Star* still lies dismantled at her wharf, and we believe that her ultimate fate is not yet decided upon. This vessel, which was built by the children of the United States and Hawaii net at a cost of over $20,000, is as miserable a specimen of workmanship and material as we ever knew or heard of; a striking instance of the folly of trusting to *children* so important a matter as the supervision of a ship-building job.

The *Melita* and *Frances Palmer* are both detained, waiting the arrival of the *Likeliko*, which vessel is supposed to have some pulu aboard to be transhipped to California. Two fine packets competing for such a trifle of freight, enables shippers to have things pretty much their own way, as far as rates are concerned.

"Goods to arrive" per *Sachem* are now advertised, although that vessel will not be fully due for five or six weeks. We learn that some sales have been made, but could not learn the particulars.

The ship *Polynesia*, from Boston via San Francisco, will be due here about the same time as the *Sachem*.

We offer no quotations this week, as we have not learned of a single transaction deserving of notice. There is no change in staples.

LATEST DATES, received at this Office.

San Francisco	Jan. 18	Paris	Dec. 4
Panama, N. G.	Dec. 30	Hongkong	Nov. 29
New York	Dec. 20	Melbourne, Vic.	Oct. 28
London	Dec. 5	Tahiti	Jan. 3

Ships' Mails.

For San Francisco—per Melita, soon.
For Lahaina—per Maria, to-day.
For Kauai—per Excel, to-day.

PORT OF HONOLULU, H. I.

ARRIVALS.

Feb 2—Sch Queen, White, from Molokai.
3—Sch Kalama, from Lahaina.
3—Sch Mary Ellen, from Kauai.
4—U. S. surveying sch Fenimore Cooper, Lieut. Brooks, from a cruise.
8—Sch Moi Keike, Hall, from Kahului.
9—Sch Maria, Molteno, from Maui.
9—Sch Kamehameha IV. Barrus, from Kohala.

DEPARTURES.

Feb 2—Sch Warwick, for Lahaina.
3—Sch Maria, Molteno, from Lahaina.
7—Sch Kalama, for Kawaihae and Hilo.
7—Fr ship Espadon, Hoymont, to cruise.

MEMORANDA.

To Captains of Clippers and other Vessels passing the Sandwich Islands.

Ships passing the Islands generally run through the Molokai and Oahu channel, and can pass within a mile of Diamond Head and the anchorage without losing the trade-wind, which prevails in this latitude nearly all the year, and blows along, or off shore, at this port.

Vessels passing near Coco and Diamond Heads, and showing their private colors or Marryatt's signals, will be telegraphed to Honolulu, and reported in the weekly papers. The telegraph is about four miles from the town, and is located on the low ridge connecting Diamond Head with the mountain range. Coco Head (the south-eastern point of Oahu) is about 12 miles from the anchorage, and Diamond Head is three miles.

A flag at the fore is understood at this port as a signal for a pilot; the *American* or national flag at the *main* is the signal to be hoisted when an American mail is on board to be left at Honolulu. Vessels not wanting a pilot, and wishing merely to signalize their name or number, can hoist their signals on the mizen or main.

There are NO TONNAGE DUES at the port of Honolulu. The port charges are: Foreign vessels enter the harbor—in or out—$1 per foot; custom-house entrance, $2; inward manifest, if she has freight, $1; clearance, $1. Vessels lying off-and-on merely to procure provisions or water, or to land freight and passengers, are liable only to the above entrance and clearance fees. Boat-hire to vessels "outside" is one to two dollars for each person, according to the distance. A vessel can touch at the port of Honolulu, lying off and on, land passengers, mails or freight, and procure supplies of fresh meat and vegetables, with a detention of not over four hours, and custom-house charges not exceeding five dollars.

The *Commercial* & Post office news-boat will be dispatched to all vessels passing during the day-time within three miles of the anchorage, and captains will confer a favor by sending ashore the latest San Francisco and New York or Boston papers, together with the ship's report. The boarding of the news-boat need not cause a detention to the vessel of over thirty minutes.

The legal allowance for carrying the mail from San Francisco to Honolulu, is *two cents* a letter, and for each regular mail varies from $15 to $50. Messrs. Morgan, Stone & Co., of San Francisco, are the agents for forwarding the Sandwich Island mails.

VESSELS IN PORT.—FEBRUARY 9.

H. B. M.'s sloop Calypso, Montreuil.
U. S. surveying schooner Fenimore Cooper, Brooks.
Am clipper ship Syren, Greene
Am ship Gladiator, Luce.
Am. ship Modern Times, Overton.
Am brigantine Angenett, Studley.
Am bark Melita, Polleys.
Am bark Frances Palmer, Paty.
Am brigt Morning Star, Brown.
Am sch Marilda, ——
Am sloop Splendid, jr., St. Clair.

WHALERS.

Am sh South Seaman, Norton	Am bark Vernon, Bumpus
Am ship Arctic, Phillips	Am bark Florence, ——
Fr ship V. de Rennes, Gundolt	Russ bk Graefer Berg, Enberg
Am ship Oroimbo, Pease.	Haw bark Gambia, ——
Am ship Cincinnati Williams	Am bk Harmony, ——
Am bk Sharon, Swift	

Vessels Expected from Foreign Ports.

Am. clipper bark Adelaide would leave San Francisco about Jan. 20.

Am. clipper bark Glimpse, Dayton, would leave San Francisco about Jan. 30.

British clipper ship Sea Nymph, Oppenheim, was to leave London in December for Honolulu and Vancouver's Island.

Am sch Vaquero, Newell, is over due from Melbourne.

Am clipper bark Sachem, Atkins, sailed from Boston Nov. 8, in Pierce & Co.'s line of Packets.

British brig Emma sailed from Liverpool, Aug 23, for Fraser River via Honolulu.

From London, about Jan 15, ship Scotsman, for Fraser River.

Ship Phantom and Queen were advertised to leave London in all Sept., for Fraser River, touching at Honolulu.

Ship Pizarro would probably leave Liverpool, Oct. 1, for Honolulu, to R. C. Janion.

From Bremen, in all January, clipper brig Kohala, Corsen, to fit for whaling, by Hoffschlaeger & Stapenhorst.

From Bremen, early in March, clipper brig Aloha, to fit for whaling, by Hoffschlaeger & Stapenhorst.

PASSENGERS.

COASTWISE.

From Lahaina, for Kona—per Kamoi, Feb 3—G D Gilman Geo Brayton, T W Everett, Dr White, H Wenzel, Umma, C S Harrow, D D Baldwin, Miss Abby Baldwin, 2 Masters Dickinson.

For Kawaihae—per Kalama, Feb. 7—Capt W Stott, R A S Wood, Capt Fish, H C Graham, and 50 on deck.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

Seamen's Bethel—Rev. Samuel C. Damon, Chaplain—King street, near the Sailors' Home. Preaching on Sundays at 11 A. M. and 7½ P. M. Seats free. Sabbath School after the morning services.

Fort Street Church—Corner of Fort and Beretania Streets, Rev. R. Corwin, Pastor. Preaching on Sundays at 11 A. M. and 7½ P. M. Sabbath School meets at 10 A. M.

Methodist Episcopal Church—Nuuanu avenue, corner of Tutui street—Rev. John M'Clay, Pastor. Preaching on Sundays at 11 A.M., and 7½ P.M.

Kaiwahi Chapel—King street, above the Palace—Rev. E. W. Clark Pastor. Services, in Hawaiian every Sunday at 9½ A. M. and 3 P. M.

Smith's Church—Beretania Street, near Nuuanu Street—Rev. Lowell Smith Pastor. Services, in Hawaiian, every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 2½ P. M.

Catholic Church—Fort street, near Beretania street—under the charge of Rt. Rev. Bishop Maigret, assisted by Abbe Modeste. Services every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 2 P. M.

THE OVERLAND ROUTE AHEAD.—The Cleaveland *Plaindealer* heads a column of news extracted from the *Commercial*, with the following prefatory remarks:

"By the new Overland Mail Route to California we have received our full files of the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, published at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, with dates to Oct. 6th, only thirty-six days from this "mid Isle of the Pacific." The news is extremely interesting, and we spread it in extenso before our readers as a treat rarely enjoyed. The *Commercial*, from which we quote, is the leading paper of the Pacific, and is fully posted in all that is stirring in that extensive watery portion of the globe. The news of the laying of the Atlantic Cable had reached them, and a joyful time they had had, hoping, of course, through a similar instrumentality, some day to be put in immediate connection with the continent and other Islands of the Sea."

THE PACIFIC

Commercial Advertiser.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

WANT of space compelled us to be somewhat more brief than we desired in the commercial article of our issue of January 27, particularly in the consideration of the tables and statistics for the last year, which we then presented as compiled from various sources. We desire to say a few words in support of our position with reference to the custom of procuring an estimate of "domestic produce furnished as supplies" to ships, and suffering it to appear in the list of "outward exports." It is urged, in answer, that our port, being simply a recruiting station, where the "supplies" furnished form an item nearly as great as the actual cargo export, therefore, no rule obtaining in any other country could possibly apply to ours; and that the amalgamation of stores furnished, and cargo exports under one head, and footed up in one column is, under the circumstances, strictly correct. We beg to differ. In former years, it is true, such a position might be maintained with more force and reason than now; but the day has gone by when the preponderance of business, mercantile interest, and capital of the Hawaiian Islands is employed for the advantage of, or by the influence of, the foreign whaling fleet. We are not prepared to deny that to this fleet the islands are indebted for much of the wealth, enterprise and civilization to which they have attained; but the development of our resources, both agricultural and commercial, has of late years been rapid, and the child, which could scarcely creep but a few years ago, can now stand alone and protect itself without the aid of the nurse's arm.

We are aware that the expression of this opinion will be regarded by many in Honolulu as the rankest commercial heresy. Not a few of our neighbors regard the whaling fleet as the very life's blood of the islands, without whose quickening and all-potent influence trade would fly our shores, agriculture stagnate and die out, our population retrograde in civilization, and our national government resolve itself into its original elements. Let us see if such a lamentable state of things would so surely follow the withdrawal of the foreign whaling fleet—even supposing such an event to be possible, which it is not—notwithstanding that the San Francisco journalists play such enticing strains on their harp of a thousand strings.

If figures alone would be deemed sufficient proof of our position, we have them at hand in the annual Custom-House statistics just published by the Collector-General. It will be seen that the total of domestic supplies furnished to whalers and to all merchantmen drawn hither for cargoes of oil, or in any way in the interest of the whaling fleet in 1858, amounts to no more than 22 per cent. of the total exports of domestic products.

It is well for us to scan closely our agricultural and commercial capabilities, in view of the fact that the North Pacific whaling fleet will, in all probability, actually fall off to a great extent in the next two or three years. It is conceded that the business of whaling as now carried on out of New Bedford is a losing operation. Not one ship in three or four comes out even on the voyage. It needs no seer therefore to foretell a rapid diminution of the fleet. The best informed persons in Honolulu estimate that the fleet of 1859 will be 75 ships less than that of 1858.

It is further admitted, that one Honolulu whaler is of more real, solid benefit to Honolulu than three or four foreign whalers. With these facts before us, it is hard to avoid the conclusion [illegible] from the foreign whaling fleet, after all, but that our maintenance springs mostly from our own internal resources. We are becoming an exporting country of some note; our sugars received the highest awards in Paris and California; our hides and wool begin to be quoted in the Eastern market reports; our coffee tickles the palates of connoisseurs at the East, and even in Europe; California stuffs her beds with our pulu, and luxuriates on our sweet potatoes; and Germany burns our oil and makes hooped skirts out of our bone. None of these interests could possibly be affected by the presence of a foreign whaling fleet, while its absence might work to their advantage in a wonderful degree.

We know of some persons of sound sense and judgment who have the temerity to suggest that the Islands might be permanently benefitted by the gradual withdrawal of the foreign whaling fleet from our shores. They ask—"Why is it that agriculture does not receive the attention that it merits—that so many fruitful fields are suffered to lie fallow, and planting enterprises are with difficulty set in motion by the sharpest spurring and the most urgent persuasion? Why is it that a marine railway is not built in our central and admirably located harbor of Honolulu? Why is it that steam does not find its way into our inter-island service? In a word, why is it that in commercial and agricultural enterprise we are so far behind the age? Some would answer, because the government is unstable, and the treasury bankrupt; but the true reason is, that a vast amount of the capital and influence of our metropolis is set apart and devoted exclusively to the foreign whaling fleet. Money enough to keep half a dozen steamers paddling briskly among our Islands is hoarded up month after month for the use and behoof of this same fleet; and, worse than all, so much of our business talent and energy are directed that way, and swallowed up in the vortex of cares attendant upon the annual incoming of the fleet, that no time is found to listen to the most glowing project for developing our island resources, and no money spared to its projectors."

This argument, the reader will observe, is not our own, and we cannot wholly subscribe to it; but it is well to study both sides of the question.

But the question is not altogether such a matter of guess-work or of mere opinion; we have data before us from which to draw our conclusions. The foreign whaling fleet has actually fallen off, year by year, since 1853, at least one-third, in the aggregate—and what have been the frightful results? Our domestic exports are trebled, and our imports diminished by over $200,000. Our domestic whaling fleet has increased from nothing to eighteen well-appointed vessels; and, altogether, our island interests and prospects were never in such good case as now, although, as we have tried to show, there is yet room for improvement.

We close our remarks with the observation that, we would not be considered as placing ourselves in an antagonistic position to the foreign whaling fleet—far from it. We simply desire to discuss both sides of the question, which is already becoming important as affecting our interest, and which future years will solve.

LATEST FROM THE EXCURSIONISTS.—The schooners *Kinoole* and *Mary*, which left this port on Tuesday, passed Lahaina on Wednesday afternoon without stopping there. The *Kamoi*, which left here on Wednesday, had a very quick passage to Lahaina under a strong north wind. She arrived off that port about half past four next morning, making the trip inside of twelve hours; anchored at daylight with the schooner *Warwick*. Eleven passengers went on board at that port and the vessel proceeded about noon on Thursday for Kailua, which, from all reports, appears to be the nearest port to the eruption.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE "MORNING STAR."—This missionary packet, which returned from Micronesia on the 24th ult., was for several days last week an object of no little curiosity. Her copper being defective and much worn, it was decided to strip and recopper her while in port this trip. While caulking the upper works about the stern preparatory to heaving down, it was discovered by the sound that something was unsound inside the planking, and on boring in, the timber was found as rotten as punk. The planking was then stripped off some three or four feet down, nearly to the water's edge, and all around the stern, when a most extraordinary sight presented itself. Not only were the timbers so rotten that they could be easily picked to pieces with the fingers, but the whole stern was a most curious combination of patch-work, made up of the refuse odds and ends of a shipyard. One timber in particular we noticed. The lower part was of oak, evidently unseasoned when put in,—at the middle was a piece of pitch pine some two feet in length, and on top a similar piece of spruce,—these two last not jointed together, but merely held in their places by the iron fastenings of the ceiling or "skin" and of the outside planking. The skin around the stern was also of the same patch-work character, not the slightest regard having been paid to matching, jointing, or the kind of wood used. At a meeting of the Hawaiian Missionary Society, on Tuesday Evening last, after hearing the reports of the differen gentlemen who had been deputized to examine the vessel, it was unanimously resolved to recommend the agent here of the Prudential Committee to have her repaired, the estimated cost being $2500, in addition to the expense of coppering. The copper was brought from the United States.

FOR THE VOLCANO.—To a reader at a distance—say in the Eastern States or Europe—it will sound strange that people should live within two days' travel of one of the most stupendous exhibitions of Nature, and make no effort to go and see it. But so it is here, and day after day we hear the remark made—that if business would allow, so and so would take a trip to the volcano. There may be a vast deal of business going on about town, but if so, it is done very quietly in out-of-the-way corners. But seriously, a visit to the habitation of Pele is an event to be remembered during a life-time. One writer, in speaking of his impressions of a first sight of the immense crater of Kailuea says: "Had Vulcan employed ten thousand giant Cyclops, each with a steam engine of one thousand horse power, blowing anthracite coal for smelting mountain minerals, or heaving up and hammering to pieces rocks and hills, their united efforts would but begin to compare with the work of Pele here." Latest accounts from Maui, received on Tuesday morning, are up to last Thursday, when every indication was apparent that the course of the flow was on the Kona side, and that Kailua is the most preferable point from which to start to view the grand spectacle.

ENTERPRISE.—Mr. C. H. Lewers, the enterprising lumber merchant of Honolulu, has imported per *Modern Times*, a steam engine, which he has placed on his premises on King street, opposite the residence of C. R. Bishop, Esq., where he intends, we learn, to carry on the steam sawing and planing business. It was a novel sight last Monday, when the newly imported patent trucks, drawn by one horse, bore the boiler of the engine to its destination, and much wonderment was expressed among the natives. The engine, we understand is about thirty horse power. Mr. Lewers will be able to receive koa logs from Hawaii and saw them up cheaper than can now be done by hand in the mountains of Kona or Hamakua, and thus we may be able to export furniture wood as a slight offset to importing so much lumber. Improvement is the order of the day.

CHINESE NEW YEAR'S.—Last Friday, February 4, was the Chinese New Year, and the Celestials, in humble imitation of the outside barbarians, made as much noise over it as they dared for fear of the police. They indulged in feastings and merry-makings, and pretty generally displayed their want of skill in horse-riding. The more respectable among these children of the "flowery land"—merchants and shop-keepers—invited their acquaintances to join them at the festive board, and many availed themselves of their hospitality. At Lahaina, where the Chinese are very patriotic, a feast was prepared in the house of every Chinaman of note, and such a display of cakes, fruits, meats, &c, reminded many, who witnessed the festival, of new year's day in New York.

ISLAND STEAMERS AT LAST.—By reference to the report of Legislative proceedings in another column, it will be seen that the House of Representatives have passed, without any opposition of moment, the Act to incorporate the Hawaiian Steam Navigation Company. The substance of the Act will be found in the proceedings for Monday last. We congratulate the country, and especially the planting and grazing interests upon the prospect of the acquisition, within a comparatively short period, of so valuable an aid in developing the resources of the islands as inter-island steam communication.

SADDLE STEALING.—We have had frequent cause to mention the frequency of saddle stealing, but never have been able to chronicle the recovery of one. Last Thursday, however, the Chinese New-Year's, the police identified a saddle on which a celestial was riding, as having been stolen off the horse of Professor Haskell, some weeks since, in front of the Fort Street Church. The culprit, who calls himself Kaniku, was fined by Judge Davis, $40 and costs, and sentenced to six months imprisonment. Good.

BREAKWATER AT LAHAINA.—Mr. Austin, Representative from Lahaina, introduced a resolution in the House on Tuesday, requesting the Minister of the Interior to direct the Superintendant of Public Works to inquire into the present state of the breakwater at Lahaina, with a view to ascertain what measures are necessary to prevent the influx of sand at the landings, and the probable amount which will be necessary to make the needful repairs.

DON'T ENCROACH.—We occasionally hear of encroachments on our public roads by selfish and short-sighted land-holders. One moves his fence a few feet into the middle of the road, and by-and-bye his neighbor moves his to make the line straight. Our beautiful Nuuanu avenue, to widen which so much trouble was taken a few years since, has been narrowed in some places four or five feet. Is it not the duty of the Road Supervisor to look after and prevent these encroachments on the public highway? If not, let us know whose duty it is.

A BREED OF NATIVE PONIES.—The wretched, dwarfed native stallions which are permitted to run at large all over the country, are working out their "destiny" in creating a breed of Hawaiian ponies. We have lately seen several mares and geldings a little taller than the celebrated Shetland ponies, which their owners assured us were from five to seven years old. Other than their littleness, they appeared to be as well formed as the generality of native horses.

DULL TIMES.—As an indication of the total stagnation of business just now, it may be mentioned that on Tuesday at "high noon," an impromptu game of "bat and ball" was got up on Queen Street, directly opposite the store of T. Spencer, Esq., which for a short time was prosecuted quite vigorously, much to the amusement of the by-standers. Clerks and Merchants caught the infection, and the sport was only stopped by some strong arm sending the ball overboard.

☞ We commend to the readers of the *Commercial*, especially those about to visit, or to order goods from the coast, the perusal of the San Francisco advertisements on our first page. We feel confident that our patrons will find it to their advantage to call on our San Francisco friends, knowing, as we do, that they are honorable men, and will deal justly with all who may choose to patronise them.

THE FENNIMORE COOPER.—This little surveying vessel arrived on Saturday last from a cruise to the north-west of these Islands, all well. She went over the track of former surveyors and discoverers, and has pretty thoroughly scoured the sea in that direction. She will probably sail again to the westward soon.

A NATIONAL HOLIDAY.—Yesterday, Feb. 9, was the anniversary of the birth-day of His Majesty Kamehameha IV, the honored Head of the Body Politic of these Islands. The day was universally observed—stores and places of business were closed, and everybody "went on a time"—some of one, and some of another sort. At 8 o'clock, A. M., the flags of the shipping and shore were displayed in great profusion. H. B. M.'s S. *Calypso* dressed ship, with the American flag at the fore and the Hawaiian at the main, and a whole string of streamers, fore and aft. The little American schooner, the *Fennimore Cooper*, was also decked out with all the colors of the rainbow. The other shipping in harbor made a good show of bunting, and on shore the flags of every nation were flung to the breeze. At the Palace, at 11 o'clock, the Foreign Consuls paid their respects to His Majesty in a body, and at 12, the young ladies who have prepared the splendid Kahili to which we alluded some time since, marched in procession to the Palace, preceeded by Mr. Sumner, bearing the splendid and costly present. The following is the address on the presentation as delivered by Miss Nancy Sumner, on behalf of her companions:

YOUR MAJESTIES:—I am charged by the ladies who accompany me, with the pleasing duty of presenting to Your Majesties for the young Prince of Hawaii, this Kahili, as a small token of their best wishes for his welfare, and of the high hopes which they, in common with all classes of their fellow subjects, entertain for his future career as a ruler and a statesman. It is a tribute dictated by no mere selfishness; it is suggested only by loyal hearts which can admit no feeling inconsistent with Hawaiian honor, and a just pride in the dynasty by which that honor is so well sustained. We sincerely trust that when our youthful Prince has grown up to man's estate, he may find himself surrounded by those who will know no other sentiment. If he inherits the virtues of his progenitors, he will want no other title to the confidence, the love and the veneration of the Hawaiian nation.

His Majesty replied in most fitting terms, and appeared peculiarly pleased with the very appropriate manner in which the native children of foreigners had manifested their regard for his family. . . But the great feature of the day was the parade of the Honolulu Fire Department. The companies met on the square opposite Dr. Hillebrand's at 11 o'clock, and, forming a procession, marched through the principal streets. When opposite the Palace, a halt was made, and three times three cheers were given for the King, the band (which under the able direction of Messrs. Pickering and Hamilton, discoursed better music than is usually heard on parade occasions in Honolulu) having played "God save the King." After the parade, the entire Department, with the Chief Enginer, Alexander J. Cartwright, Esq., at the head, marched to the pic-nic ground, makai of the Stone Church, where, after a few appetizing games of ball, they sat down to a sumptuous repast, prepared in Monsieur Victor's unequalled style. The best of feeling prevailed, and after the substantials were disposed of, the healths of their Majesties the King and Queen, the Prince of Hawaii, and Prince Kamehameha, were drunk with enthusiasm. A number of volunteer toasts followed, among which we were gratified to notice that "the Press," was one of the foremost. At 4 P. M., the companies returned to their rooms in procession, as they had proceeded to the picnic ground, not the slightest disorder or breach of decorum being apparent, and everything passed off pleasantly.

LATEST FROM THE VOLCANO.—From Capt. Burrus, of the *Kamehameha IV.*, arrived from Kawaihae yesterday morning, we have late and reliable intelligence from Hawaii in regard to the eruption. The outbreak is on the side of Mauna Loa facing Kawaihae, and somewhat to the westward of the crater of 1855. The lava ran down the mountain and filled up a large valley or hollow between Mauna Loa and Mauna Hualalai. This it was five days in doing, at the end of which time the stream made its appearance near the course of the eruption of 1804, and running down, reached the sea at a little hamlet called Palaoa, about 10 or 12 miles from Kawaihae, destroying a few native houses and a fine grove of cocoanut trees, and completely filling up the harbor or landing place. Capt. Barrus was informed at Kawaihae on Monday that the lava was still running, and had made a natural breakwater or dyke into the sea, estimated at two miles in length. The sight from sea of the burning mountain is described as being magnificent in the extreme, and at night inexpressibly grand. The course of the lava, now having the point where it was detained in filling up the valley, was like that of a snake, winding and tortuous, but even towards the place where it reached the sea. The wind at Hawaii had been constantly at due north ever since the commencement of the eruption, and the consequence was that a heavy surf, the equal of which was scarcely ever known before, prevailed all along the coast of Hawaii, and a landing could only be effected with difficulty and danger.

THEATER.—Miss Rowena Granice, who is a "host within herself," since she assumed the management of the theater, it appears has met with but indifferent success. True, the season is very much against her; but then it is really astonishing that when such pieces as the "Dumb Girl of Oran," "Old Folks at Home;" and other very interesting novelties are put forth for the amusement of the theater-going public of Honolulu, they should appear to be so poorly appreciated. Miss G. deserves well of the theater-going public of Honolulu—her exertions to please are untiring. She not only plays her own parts remarkably well, but frequently acts as prompter to those who, through negligence or other causes require her watchfulness and aid. As May Westfield in "Old Folks at Home," on last Saturday night, Miss G. really took the audience by storm, and plaudid followed plaudid until the fair actress must have felt some compensation in the enthusiam manifested by those present, for the paltry meagerness of the house. Messrs. Townsend and Bennett both played well and added in a great measure to the *eclat* of the piece; so too, Miss Horton (Mr. Rowe) as Martha Westfield. Mr. Hamilton's bango solo was justly applauded, as was also the singing in "Old Folks at Home." We learn that Miss G. proposes giving another entertainment on Saturday night next, if she can procure the theater on terms sufficiently fair to justify the probable receipt of expenses.

PROJECTED GAS WORKS.—Last Monday, an Act to grant a fifteen year's monopoly to the Honolulu Gas Company, was brought before the House of Representatives. As near as we can learn, no serious opposition will be offered to the bill. It was on Tuesday referred to a Select Committee to ascertain as to the location of the proposed works, it being of course important that they should not be in close proximity to the thickly settled part of the town. The question was also referred to the committee as to what should be the maximum price of the gas. We learn that the company are willing to engage that they will furnish their gas at a price not to exceed 1¼ cents per cubic foot. Both these questions raised by the House, we think would be appropriately left to the decision of the Minister of the Interior.

OFFICIAL.—The following statistics from the official tax reports, showing the taxes collected as well as the number of tax payers, horses and dogs on Maui, Molokai and Lanai, for the year 1858, will be of interest to our readers.

Districts.	Tax payers over 20 y'rs.	Tax payers under 20 y'rs.	Horses.	Mules or donkeys.	Dogs.	Poll tax.		School tax.	Road tax.
Lahaina,	1,282	101	1,270	65	530	$2,513	75	$2,608	$2,794
Wailuku,	784	142	1,523	101	382	1,982	75	1,668	1,580
Makawao,	705	200	1,465	189	382	1,966	75	1,738	1,784
Hana,	854	103	1,255	124	325	1,889		1,878	1,858
Total, Maui,	3,625	546	5,513	479	1,619	$8,350	25	$7,892	$8,016
Lanai,	153	27	229	26	94	361	50	306	296
Molokai,	720	81	897	41	349	1,598	25	1,510	1,494

A NEW FLAG-STAFF.—Hook and Ladder Company "Protection," No. 1, appears to be in a prosperous condition, notwithstanding the sneers which some have directed against it. Last week ten new members were received, a splendid banner was presented to them by the ladies of Honolulu, and a flag-staff erected in front of their rooms, the gift of their foreman, whose liberality and public spiritedness are well-known. In fact, T. Spencer, Esq., is the life of the Company. Long may he wave.

WANTED.—No. 2, "Mechanic," appeared yesterday with no decorations on their machine. We could not help thinking that it was very appropriate, considering that a new engine is so much *wanted*. They deserve one.

(Correspondence of the Pacific Commercial Advertiser.)

A Hospital!

MR. EDITOR:—A hospital for the poor dying natives! This looks well in print, and may be of use; and, were it not to come in close proximity with several other things, bearing a different aspect, I would pronounce it benevolent.

But a hospital at Honolulu for the few natives who can reach it, and a law forbiding all intelligent foreigners, under a heavy penalty, to administer medicines to the sick, even in remote parts of the kingdom, unless they can afford to pay for their medicines and work for nothing, do not look exactly the same way. Add to this the fact, that one kanaka, by the name of Kapu, with the professed sanction of the King, should be selling licenses all over the kingdom to ignorant kanakas to practice medicine wherever they go, and among all classes, and take large pay for the same, and not a word prohibiting it in the stringent law against foreigners, and I am surprised at the incongruity.

Among natives, practicing medicine applies equally to setting bones, extracting teeth, blood letting, dressing wounds, and healing up the multitude of diseases of the flesh and skin, stomach and bowels to which the natives are subject. To forbid an intelligent foreigner, who may have attended medical lectures in the United States or elsewhere, visited and seen hospital practice, and procured a tolerable medical library in order to make himself useful in practicing the healing art when needed, from making any use of his knowledge and skill, unless he can afford to do it gratuitously, in places, too, where no foreign or competent doctor can be found, looks like legislation ill-applied.

The writer of this article, living remote from the city, was called on a few months since at midnight to go and see a native female die. She had been sick some days under native treatment, and was now supposed to be dying—had taken leave of the family and was speechless. A dose of sulphuric ether was administered; she rose and spoke to me. Another dose of the same was administered, and she felt relieved. I then gave her a cathartic; she was soon well, and is now in her usual health.

Four or five years since, a foreigner came to me, pale and fainting with the loss of blood. An artery, as he supposed, had been accidentally severed in his arm. Blood was passing off freely through several handkerchiefs tied around his arm. In most imploring terms he asked if I could help him, and soon fainted. Undoing the bandages it was soon apparent that a vein, and not an artery, was severed, and the bandages, as put on, only increased the bleeding they were intended to prevent. After his wound was suitably attended to he soon rallied, and went home with better feelings than before.

I mention these incidents, not to show my skill in medicine or surgery, but as facts, hundreds of which are occurring at the remote parts of the islands every year. If the missionary or some other one is not prepared with his instruments for cupping, extracting teeth, dressing wounds, and his phials of medicine and barrel of salts, &c., there will be suffering and death from this source, if I mistake not, far beyond all the relief a hospital can give. Shall the missionary forbear to heal the sick because he cannot afford to keep himself supplied in medicines and instruments for nothing, and has not the arrogance to request to be admitted into the college of physicians? Let humanity reply.

I have before me one of the commissions above alluded to, given out by Kapu, which I will translate as a specimen of many:

DOCTOR'S COMMISSION.

This is to make known that from personal knowledge of the great skill of —— in medicine, he is hereby authorized to be a doctor during life, under my control.

I give him liberty to practice his art in all parts of this kingdom, so long as he obeys me and does not break the law of the King, the one do right and just.

Here are the prices I allow the doctor to charge, if his patient recovers under his hand:

1. For diseases of high order,	$50
2. For diseases less dangerous,	40
3. For diseases of lighter character,	30
4. For diseases of very trifling character,	20
5. For diseases of still lower grade,	10
6. For attendance on particular friends,	5
7. For manipulating to ascertain the disease,	3
8. In cases where one takes another's patient,	10

Under my hand this 25th of May, 1857.

(Signed,) KAPU,
Head Doctor.

Such is the commission of a man who occasionally sends to me for a dose of *lu-pepa*, which means any powdered substance shaken from a phial into a paper, and would as appropriately apply to arsenic as to calomel.

One thing that makes native practice the more hazardous is, they now attempt to use foreign medicines to some extent. A few months since, a native took from a package of old medicines what he supposed was Epsoms salts, dissolved and drank a part of it, being a little unwell; but, as it did not taste as he expected, he left a part, and after a few hours sent for me in great agony. He died in a little time after. From the appearance of the envelope in which the salts had been kept I concluded it was sulphate of zinc.

In view of all this—and the one-hundredth part is not said—I would respectfully inquire: Is there not some cheaper and some more effectual way to meet the necessities of the people than those now before the Legislature in part, and kept back in part? Would it not be better to encourage missionaries to deal out medicines, &c., in remote parts of the islands, and encourage natives to pay at least the cost of the articles? Is it well to allow Mr. Kapu to go on with his imposition on the ignorant and credulous natives? If in a hospital thousands are cured of contagious diseases, and sent back to their polluted houses, polluted kapas, pillows, mats and companions, will they stay cured? Let the houses be doctored, the mats, kapas, and all, by *law*, and there will be hope.

OUT-OF-TOWN.

HONOLULU, Feb. 8, 1859.

MR. EDITOR:—Whilst the Legislature is still in session, it may not be improper to draw its attention and that of the public generally to a singular deficiency in the laws as they have hitherto existed, and as, for aught the uninitiated know to the contrary, they will remain after codification, unless the exposure herein made should lead to a proper enactment to remedy the evil complained of.

The 14th article of the Constitution reads as follows: "The King conducts his government for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of his people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men among his subjects: Therefore, in making laws for the nation, regard shall be had to the protection, interest and welfare, not only of the King, chiefs and rulers, but of all the people alike." The 15th article commences as follows: "Each member of society has a right to be protected by it in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and property, according to standing laws." The 35th article, among its other provisions, proclaims "the responsibility of the King's ministers."

So far, well. But it would seem that the King's ministers are perfectly irresponsible in any breach of the laws except those relating alone to the ministerial functions.

A minister, here, in his private dealings, may be guilty of the most corrupt and dishonest practices; he may violate every enactment in the Penal Code with impunity, provided there be no mal-administration or mal-conduct in the duties assigned by law to his department, in which case alone, according to the third section of an act to organize the Executive Ministry, vol. 1, p. 10 of the Statute Laws, is impeachment permitted. The twenty-fourth section of the same act, page 16, expressly provides that the ministers shall not be liable to be tried and punished criminally, until after impeachment, or until removed from office by the King without impeachment.

To what purpose is the declaration of rights in the Constitution in the face of this fact? Where is the safety guaranteed to every man in this constitutional country, should there happen to be in office a man determined to wreak his vengeance on any unfortunate wight who may have incurred his displeasure, or to appropriate property not belonging to him by improper and illegal means?

Will it be said, no man of that stamp is likely to obtain office here? Look at the report of the Minister of Foreign Relations, now before the Legislature, and see what description of men, according to his account, some of the foreign agents have been who have resided near this Court. True, those stigmatized are either dead or absent, but were not they considered to be good men by the Governments which accredited them? Are not ministers moulded from the same clay as foreign agents and ambassadors?

Whilst the ministry are privileged with this immunity from the action of the law, and consequently are enabled to wield an enormous irresponsible power for evil, see how the naturalized subject is to be restrained. In the Upper House it is proposed to insert after the 422d section of the codified laws, a section providing that "no naturalized foreigner shall be entitled to resort to his native country for protection or intervention, and for every such resort a naturalized foreigner shall be amendable to the pains and penalties annexed to rebellion by the Penal Code."

This enactment would be very proper, provided the naturalized subject were protected in his constitutional rights; but he is not, he is entirely at the mercy of any of the King's ministers with whom he may have dealings, simply because the minister himself is subject to no criminal law, except for dereliction in his official duties.

This is no visionary view of the matter. The writer lately sought to obtain from the highest tribunal in the country, redress for wrongs of a grievous nature sustained by him at the hands of one of the ministers. His application was unsuccessful, and, being precluded from the privilege of applying to the representative of his native country for protection, he has the comfort of waiting in pleasant anticipation of the next step that will be taken to complete his ruin, which he must counteract in the best way he can.

His case to-day may be that of some other naturalized subject to morrow.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, this is no trivial matter to be lightly passed over; it is a state of affairs that ought not to be suffered to remain in permanence. Yourselves, and your constituents throughout the length and breadth of the land, are equally interested in putting an end to it.

As you hope to live in peace, security and honor; as you value your very lives and liberties, interpose some shield between the possible oppression of an unduly privileged ministry and the defencelessness of the rest of His Majesty's subjects, and you will have achieved an object which will entitle you to the lasting gratitude of that portion of the community owing perman