COMMERCIAL.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1868.

One of the most praiseworthy institutions of San Francisco is its Labor Exchange, established in April last. Its design is to furnish situations for laborers of every kind, and by sending to the Secretary an order for servants or laborers, any description of help required, male or female, will be furnished on the shortest possible notice. The only conditions for such service being, that parties sending orders must furnish references, to prevent poor persons being imposed upon by hogus orders.

The quarterly report of the Exchange, presented in July, shows that, during the first three months of its establishment, it found employment for 4,408 persons, and it had orders for 5,006. Of those furnished, 1,498 were laborers; 845 farm hands; 355 carpenters; 85 blacksmiths; 146 teamsters; 87 lumbermen; 49 woodchoppers; 31 men and their wives; 89 boys; 73 miners; 139 cooks; 29 clerks; and the remainder embraced upwards of 100 different occupations, leaving 548 orders unfulfilled on the 1st of July. The statistics relating to the female department are interesting. Of 454 females provided with employment during July, 236 were Irish, 73 English, 18 Germans, 28 Scotch, 1 Canadian, 1 Nova Scotian, 1 Spaniard and 32 Americans. Of the total number of Irish who were provided for as stated, only 17 could read and write.

"The demand for farm hands, wood-choppers and railroad laborers far exceeds the supply. There are orders for a number of coal miners for Vancouver's Island, and other places. There are many applications at the Exhange for information concerning lands for sale and open to pre-emption. County Surveyors would render important service to their respective counties by furnishing the Secretary of the Exchange with maps and such other information as they consider desirable to have made public about their counties."

The expenses of the Exchange are defrayed by voluntary subscribers, of which there are nearly 300, who pay one dollar a month. So far it has proved a great public convenience to both employers and laborers.

HAWAIIAN LEATHER.—Wise legislation will always show itself by the effects which it produces. We have an instance in point. The last Legislature passed an act to allow all materials used in tanning leather to be imported duty free. It was a premium on this industry to the extent of whatever materials may be used in it, and we believe they are nearly all imported. The first effect has been to inspire confidence in this business, and to lead those who have capital to engage in it, with some certainty of success.

The Hilo Tannery has been in operation for many years, producing coarse and sole leathers of various qualities, and meeting with rather indifferent success. Since the new law went into force it has increased its facilities, and is now turning out some very fine samples of leather, such as heavy and light calf skins, kip skins, black and russet goat skins, specimens of which can be seen in our office. They appear in every particular equal to the best imported. Besides those, the finest of sole and rigging leathers are tanned at various establishments on the Islands.

Here then we have an industry which promises to become of considerable importance, and all through apparently trifling legislative help. The leather, boots and shoes imported into this Kingdom last year are supposed to have exceeded $75,000 in value. A considerable portion of this amount, which is sent abroad to support foreign laborers and foreign tanneries, might be retained here to support and improve our own people. We exported last year 304,000 pounds of hides and 52,000 goat skins, to be tanned and returned to us. If, on trial, our domestic tanned calf skins are found equal to the average of imported, this item alone will create a large demand for the home article, give employment to laborers, and effect a reduction of at least one-third in the cost of boots and shoes of the best quality.

The bark *D. C. Murray* sailed on Wednesday, taking a full cargo and, as usual, a large list of passengers, 33 in number, which is about as many as arrived in her.

The schooner *Kinau*, Capt. English, sailed yesterday for Fanning's Island, with supplies. She will be absent about 40 days, returning with a cargo of oil.

Our only foreign arrival has been the whaling schooner *Wm. H. Allen*, which brings a cargo of about 300 barrels of sperm oil, taken near the Bonin Islands. The oil has been landed, and will probably be shipped to a foreign market for sale. At latest dates, however, oil was very low in England (£95 per ton of 300 gallons) and in New York $1 90 in currency, equal to $1 31 in gold. Being foreign oil, it is subject to a duty of 20 per cent. if sent to the United States. To make our Hawaiian whaling more profitable, the quantity should be sufficient to authorize the chartering of a vessel expressly for it to ship to the English market, where the price is always higher than anywhere else.

The calm weather causes stagnation in the commerce of the port, and brings excessive dullness in trade. We notice no activity except in the lumber business, which seems unusually lively. The amount of building and repairing going on in and around the city, and the quantities shipped to the other Islands by coasters, indicate prosperity in this particular branch of trade.

The cottage and land on the corner of Emma street and Emma Place, lately owned by Mr. F. S. Pratt, were sold at public auction, on Saturday last, for $2,560, Mr. Jas. Love being the purchaser.

Our latest advices from San Francisco are to the 16th of August. We look for the clipper *Galatea* with the first fresh wind, and the steamer *Montana* on the 28th or 29th instant.

COMMERCIAL ITEMS.

The tax of one cent a box on matches last year netted the Government a revenue of $1,500,000.

A news telegram reports the balance in the United States Treasury on the 1st of August at $110,000,000, of which $83,400,000 was coin. This is a much larger amount than was generally supposed to be on hand.

The report of the Chicago dealers' sales for the year ending June 30th, shows that seventy-eight firms return over $1,000,000; nine above $2,000,000; four above $3,000,000; two above $7,000,000, and one above $9,000,000. The heaviest return is made by Field, Leiter & Co., and the next by J. V. Farwell & Co.

Coal mines have been discovered about one hundred and twenty miles from Sitka, on the mainland, with seams over twenty feet wide, and traceable for some distance. The steamer *Sapinson* tried the coal and found it to be of excellent quality, and superior, in fact, to Lehigh.

SEAMEN'S WAGES.—A mass meeting of seamen was held recently in New York, at which the subject of the rate of wages was thoroughly discussed, and the following scale agreed upon: To any port in the Mediterranean, west coast of Africa, east coast of South or Central America, $30 per month and one month's advance; to any port eastward of the Cape of Good Hope and westward of Cape Horn, $25 per month and two month's wages in advance; and to any port coastwise, $30 per month, and half a month's pay in advance. This rate of wages, the meeting agreed, should be insisted upon—a proposition to make the rate $40 per month all round having been voted down.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHING.—The bill introduced into the House of Representatives in Congress, by Mr. Washburne of Illinois, appropriating $75,000 for the purpose of hiring for the Government a telegraph line between Washington and New York, with stations at Baltimore and Philadelphia, provides that no message is to be sent unless stamped with a three-cent stamp. There shall be a uniform rate for the message, without regard to the distance, of one cent per word, exclusive of the address and signature; and press dispatches are to be forwarded at half the regular rates.

AMERICAN SAILORS IN TROUBLE.—At a recent session of the Criminal Court of Havre three Americans were sentenced to imprisonment. Henry Wilson, a native of New York, and a sailor by profession, throw the cook of the ship overboard while walking on the bridge. For this he was sent to prison for five years, as the cook was nearly drowned. Thomas Smith of New York, also a sailor, used his sheath knife too freely upon a messmate, and was sentenced to two years in prison. John Crossley, a native of Oldham, who stole 1,400 francs, was sent to prison for five years.

Ships' Mails.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO—Per stmr Montana, about Oct. 24.
FOR MAUI—Per Kate Lee, Monday next.
FOR KONA—Per Kona Packet, Monday next.
FOR KAUAI—Per Nettie Merrill, on Monday.

PORT OF HONOLULU, H. I.

ARRIVALS.

Sept. 13—Haw wh schr Wm H Allen, Spencer, 300 bbls sperm.
13—Schr Warwick, from Molokai.
13—Schr Lilia, from Molokai.
13—Schr Kamalie, Adams, from Molokai.
13—Schr Mary, Hamlin, from Hawaii.
13—Schr Yettie, White, from Kauai.
14—Schr Kate Lee, Crane, from Maui.
14—Schr Active, Cluney, from Hawaii.
14—Schr Odd Fellows, Davis, from Hawaii.
14—Schr Prince, Harrison, from Hawaii.
14—Schr Nettie Merrill, Lambert, from Kauai.
15—Schr Hattie, Nika, from Maui.
15—Schr Isabella, from Molokai.
15—Schr Mary, from Kauai.
18—Schr Kona Packet, Marchant, from Hawaii.
19—Stmr Kilauea, McGregor, from Windward Ports.

DEPARTURES.

Sept. 14—Schr Marilda, Berrill, for Hawaii.
14—Stmr Kilauea, McGregor, for Kauai.
14—Schr Ka Moi, Powers, for Maui.
14—Schr Warwick, for Lanai.
14—Schr Yettie, White, for Kauai.
15—Schr Lilia, for Molokai.
15—Schr Active, Cluney, for Hawaii.
15—Schr Kamalie, Adams, for Molokai.
15—Schr Kate Lee, Crane, for Maui.
15—Schr Nettie Merrill, Lambert, for Kauai.
16—Am bark D C Murray, Bennett, for San Francisco.
16—Schr Hattie, Nika, for Kauai.
19—Schr Isabella, for Molokai.
18—Schr Mary, for Kauai.
18—Haw sch Kinau, English, for Fanning's Island.

EXPORTS.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO—Per D. C. Murray, Sept. 16th:—

Coffee, lbs	150	Pulu, lbs	21,376
Fungus, lbs	6,160	Paddy, lbs	112,956
Hides, green, lbs	14,214	Sugar, lbs	348,947
Molasses, gals	28,844	Unspecified mdse, pkgs.	2
Oranges, No	7,750		

Value, { Domestic $35,102 64
{ Transhipped 450 00

PASSENGERS.

FOR WINDWARD PORTS—Per Kilauea, Sept. 14th—Miss H Smith, A Mossman, C Brewer, Capt Makee, E P Adams—5 cabin and 73 deck passengers.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO—Per D. C. Murray, Sept. 16th—Mrs Macfarlane, Mrs Deverill, Mrs O C Chamberlain, Mr and Mrs Hahn, Wm Hahn, Johanna Hahn, Dora Hahn, Christina Hahn, Henry Hahn, M Stewart, B Kinchloe, J Shaller, E S Black, A Gouplile, Wm Betts, Chas W White, Mr and Mrs Logan and 2 children, John Stewart, George T Gower, Wm Curtis, W B Johnson, Robt Johnson, Geo F Allen, Thos H Bruce, F Stoddard, J C Smith, W West, Kaupan, Kokipt—23.

FROM WINDWARD PORTS—Per Kilauea, Sept. 19.—His Ex. S. H. Phillips, Maj. F. H. Harris, Messrs. E. F. Adams, C. Lake, Chillingworth, W. Allworth, H. Jackson.

DIED.

MARSHALL.—At his residence, Nawiliwili, Kauai, Sept. 5th, of apoplexy, Thomas Harris Marshall, aged 57 years. He was a native of Charlestown, Mass.

LAWRENCE.—In Honolulu, Sept. 12th, Robert George Lawrence, in his 76th year. The deceased was born in Bermondsey, England, in 1793, and came to these Islands in 1822. For 46 years he has been a resident of Honolulu.

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.

Leprosy and the Board of Health.

No subject that can come up for discussion is of greater importance than that of Chinese leprosy, commonly known among the natives as the "*mai pake.*" Its loathsome character, and its insidious but rapid progress among the natives, especially among females, should call forth every effort that human agency can devise to arrest its progress.

To those who have witnessed its actual existence, as it is to be seen here, this disease is a continued source of alarm lest its rapid spread soon lay aside the distinctions of class and color beside adding its disgusting and deadly presence in greater preponderance to the many other sources that are already so active in depopulating these islands. It is said that there is no effectual remedy or cure for this disease, and that the victim once innoculated with its blighting poison, has before him no hope but a life of misery, terminating in a lingering death.

How great then ought to be the vigilance with which every means in the power of those to whom the care of the public health is committed, should be used in the attempt to exterminate this terrible and contagious malady. Yet how lax and seemingly inconsistent has been their conduct as seen in facts which have become patent to the public. What reasonable excuses can they plead in extenuation of their manifestly discrepant conduct? The ideas that they themselves have promulgated, of the importance of the subject, together with our own observation of the inconsistency of their actions with avowed sentiment, are sufficient reasons for calling public attention to this subject.

In the Report of the Board of Health (page 7,) in reference to the question whether the disease is *contagious*, it says; "although there is high authority in other countries to the contrary, the Board believes that it may pronounce a positive opinion in the affirmative, and it is believed that that opinion will be upheld by every physician on the islands who has had experience of the disease."

Of the terrible and revolting nature of the disease we need no further evidence than what may be witnessed almost any day in our very midst; but by way of supplement to the list of its visible horrors, and as if its importance could never be too fully inculcated, we are further informed, through the *report*, with some of its distinctive peculiarities, such as, its being hereditary, and being positively incurable, and other particulars of a like nature. This minutiæ of course will have the natural effect of increasing public dread of the disease; but by what sort of perversity it should thus have been used, it would be difficult to conjecture, since it renders the community doubly alive to any errors or neglect on the part of the Board.

The Report also proposed to abolish the hospital at Kalihi, and, from the foregoing, it is probable that this intention also sprung from the painful consciousness of its communicability. It is certain that they have greatly increased an alarm at the disease by facts published officially similar to the above. But as if inconsiderate of the public health, to the last degree, instead of fulfilling the promise, with which its *report* was pregnant, of increased vigilance in this department, the Board have pursued a course, so far, exactly the opposite of what we had been led to expect.

They inform us that the disease is contagious, yet, through motives known only to themselves, give us the further evidence that means have been, and are being taken, of a nature rather *to aid in its propagation* than to prevent it. This may be seen not only in the maintenance of that *farce at Kalihi*, where without sentinels and night watches (those indispensable requisites of such institutions) the inmates are expected to submit to involuntary confinement, but also in the liberty allowed to certain known lepers. If the disease is so contagious, the strictest guard should be preserved over these lepers, whatever may be the expense.

Numerous are the instances of these unfortunate beings having absconded from the *hospitals*, causing the authorities no small difficulty in re-apprehending them; and two, as we are informed in the report, have succeeded in evading altogether the most vigilant search. In addition to the above, if not a fact, the impression has pretty generally obtained that through want of more secure confinement, the lepers conscious of their advantage, not unfrequently spend the greater part of the night among their *makamakas* or friends. What the utility of such an institution thus kept can be, if not positively hazardous to the public health, it is difficult to say; and yet it is maintained at the public expense, and *in direct opposition* to the opinion, recently expressed in the *report*, that it ought to be abolished. But this is not the worst.

Of late it has been thought advisible, in order to secure the more refractory lepers during fits of insubordination, in which they resist being confined at Kalihi, to build (or procure) a proper place of confinement. The place selected for this desirable object is none other than the yard known as the powder magazine adjoining the prison. Have the authors of this singular proceeding, while contemplating it, already forgotten that they have expressed it as their opinion, that the disease is *contagious*? It is positive injustice to harbor such people in the proximity of a prison where the inmates are confined within an allotted space and necessitated to endure the anxiety attendant on the fear of contagion, even if the effects they so much dread are not realized, as we have every reason to expect they will be, under the present dispensation.

In addition to what has been before quoted from the report, the following is suggestive:—"Inasmuch however, as the only justification for taking possession of these people, and depriving them of their personal liberty, is the attempt to exterminate the disease, *complete and absolute isolation* should be recognized as necessary." The remarkable consistency of their practice with their preaching may be seen by comparing the clause quoted above and the one following, extracted from the *Gazette* of August 5th: "It is the *design* of the Board of Health, to give each patient the opportunity to cultivate and sell any article for which there is a market demand." We are not informed what the articles to be "cultivated for market" are, but are left to infer, they are articles of food. It will be observed that this is an entirely novel mode of effecting an "isolation;" but while we are at a loss to comprehend it, should not offer comment, but willingly accord to its originators whatever credit may come from it.

When speaking in reference to things that have transpired, and which are comprehensible, however, it is no exaggeration to say that the health supervisors have shown themselves, to say the least, culpably negligent, now they have ample funds at their disposal. It is no secret that, at the present time, there *are several lepers at large among us*. How long they are to enjoy their liberty is known only to the health officers, but it is nevertheless a matter of considerable importance to everybody. Yet while such abuses as these are allowed to exist, we are warranted, by the testimony of the Board itself, in condemning them as outrageous and demanding that they be rectified.

But more especially in regard to the cell for lepers at the prison, their conduct is particularly noticeable and reprehensible. What an effectual means this, of aiding that *complete* and *absolute* isolation which is deemed necessary to *exterminate* the disease! A door opens into the prison yard, through which access is had to the *lepers' cell;* prisoners are required to take them their food, and clean the cell, for it is not to be supposed that rotting extremities, as many lepers are known to have, will be capable of rendering necessary assistance to the miserable being of which they form a part. What double injustice this to the one whose lot it is to do this truly appaling work, leaving aside the danger of contagion to all with whom this prisoner is again brought into continual contact. Is this the "isolation" that the Board intend to practice?

That this is rank injustice to the prisoners, no one can doubt; and we are constrained to believe that such an action is illegal. Whether or not, according to law, in case of contagion under these circumstances, whoever may be the authors of this evil, would not be responsible to the afflicted party for damages, is a question. But, that in such a case he, or they, (whoever have charge,) would be morally responsible as the cause of their "*inevitable course to the grave,*" every one will agree. From facts that are current, it would seem that the whole system employed to prevent the spread of this king of terrors (for it is worse than death) is little better than useless even at Molokai, for there the husbands of diseased women and the wives of diseased husbands are allowed unrestricted intercourse with the lepers.

Although there is a law by which this communication might be prevented, there is none by which, after having so communicated, they can be prevented from returning whensoever they list, to spread the infection which may hang about them. However hard it may seem to separate husband and wife, parent and child, the *public good* is a sufficient excuse, and it is only false humanity or perverted philanthropy which would sacrifice the public safety, to the comfort and indulgence of a few unfortunate individuals who themselves even, can gain no real benefit by it.

Too much importance cannot be given to this subject; and, until the Board and its executive agents have shown by their conduct that they appreciate the importance of the momentous interests committed to their care, the public ought to be unremitting in their efforts to impress it upon them; and if they are unequal to the task, they will appear to much greater advantage in the public estimation, by resigning the posts which their actions have proved them so incompetent to fill.

One thing is certain, that the life of the nation is wasting away with frightful rapidity. No schemes to introduce foreign population will be of any use while we neglect to care for what we have. The employment of persons to make pleasure tours of the Islands, under the name of traveling agents of the Board of Health—to ride around Oahu and report four or five cases of leprosy where forty or fifty are known to exist—is not the way to stay the plague or save this dying people.

From all quarters—from Kauai, from Maui, and from Hawaii—we hear the repeated echo that the leprosy is spreading at a fearful rate, and the groans of the poor creatures, hid away in huts and caves, are heard night and day praying for relief. Something must be done, or five years hence will see a thousand lepers where now there are a hundred, and ten years later the Island of Molokai will become the grave yard of the Hawaiian people.

The above article has been in type two weeks, and since it was set up, we learn some facts pertaining to what has lately been accomplished. The same reasons that led to the preparation of this article have spurred the Board to increased activity in searching out cases of leprosy, at least on this island. During the last four weeks, 49 cases of confirmed leprosy have been sent to Molokai, 36 confirmed cases are now in the hospital, 31 suspected cases are in charge, required to report to the physician from time to time, and the names of thirty others are on the roll as tainted but not yet examined, making a total of 146 confirmed, doubtful and suspected cases collected from this island alone.

Active search, we are informed, will soon be made on Maui, Hawaii and Kauai, and it is probable that quite as many lepers will be found on the first two named islands as on Oahu, all of whom will be taken charge of as speedily as possible, and all confirmed cases sent to Molokoi.

The Coolie Trade.

The Government organ of this week quietly withdraws from the further discussion of the coolie question by conceding that there may, after all, be two sides to the question, and "as the continued importation of them [coolies] is not as yet necessary, it will be time enough" when it is necessary, to determine whether the "results that arise from the introduction of the Chinese in large numbers," "should not awaken our thoughtful consideration." This is one point gained by the discussion, and our readers will please make a note of it.

It next assures us that "there can not be the least objection to any planter or private gentleman introducing Europeans under contracts to serve three or five years, and at the end of that time to locate on or near plantations and raise cane on shares." If there is not the "least objection," then why does not the Board of Immigration revoke its arbitrary order forbidding all parties from introducing any laborers, whether they be voluntary or involuntary immigrants? Parties here and abroad have offered and are willing again to offer to introduce emigrants from Europe, the Azores, or Polynesian Islands, if the way is cleared; but they are not willing to embark in an enterprise involving considerable capital, and find before its completion that their honest and praiseworthy efforts can be blocked and thwarted by an arbitrary Board of Immigration simply issuing a notice forbidding any immigrants to land without its permission, the obtainal of which may depend altogether on the personal feeling of the Board towards the applicant, and not on the merits of the scheme.

It is useless for the official organ to endeavor to hoodwink the public by saying that "such a result [the introduction of Europeans,] is exceedingly desirable, and though beyond the power of the Government to accomplish, can perhaps be brought about by private enterprise." If you want immigrants from Europe or elsewhere to come here, open the doors wide, *and invite them to come.* There is a *tabu* now imposed on all immigrants or laborers imported from any quarter, except such as the Board may send for.

This talk of the Government organ that—"We should be glad to see starving Swedes and Polish-Prussians, in large numbers, locating on these Islands"—is all balderdash. If you wish them, let the fact be known, revoke the offensive order referred to, or at all events modify it, abolish the fossilized Board of Immigration, or at least make it a body that can *sympathise with the wants of the country*, and endeavor to assist its necessities, and not stand, like the dog in the manger, seeking to thwart every effort to promote the industrial condition of Hawaii *nei*.

There are hundreds of thousands of acres of land lying idle on Maui and Hawaii, to obtain simply the timber from which would furnish work for a thousand able-bodied men for ten years to come, who would gladly emigrate from Europe, if the way could be made clear, and whose labor would provide a vast amount of lumber, and open up new farming and sugar lands.

Of one thing the Government may as well be assured, first as last, that no private parties will make any efforts to introduce foreign laborers, while its policy remains so exclusive as at present, and while an arbitrary Board of Immigration stands ready to checkmate any efforts in this direction, or to bestow its favors niggardly on any pets for whom it may take a fancy.

And of another thing Government should be assured, that if the present policy is pursued for the next twenty years, there will be neither chiefs nor common people left, and, there being no laborers, poverty and bankruptcy will be stamped on everything. Without a population—a vigorous, thriving and industrious population—there can be no permanent Government. Let the former be destroyed, as is now in process, and no efforts made to infuse new life, and the Government must, from necessity, crumble and disappear. A crisis is coming, and we must be prepared to meet it.

DEATH OF ROBERT G. LAWRENCE.—This gentleman, one of the oldest residents of Honolulu, died on Saturday afternoon last, in his 76th year. He had lived here for 46 years, and during nearly all that period been one of the firm of James Robinson & Co., ship-builders. Mr. R Holt, the third partner, died a few years since. Mr. Robinson survives his partners, and is still active and healthy. The *Gazette* publishes a full biographical sketch of the late Mr. Lawrence, which we transfer to our columns. The funeral will take place at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, from the late residence of the deceased:

The oldest firm in Honolulu, that of James Robinson & Co., was last Saturday dissolved by the death of Robert G. Lawrence, one of its two original members. It was commenced in 1822, and the ship-yard located on the point (Pakaka) in 1827, where by patient industry, close application to business, and prudent management of their affairs, the firm has accumulated wealth and grown aged with the flight of years. Mr. R. W. Holt was for many years a partner. He died in 1861, leaving a large estate to his family.

The commencement of the firm was through a common friendship and a common misfortune—the result of one of those accidents which give a turn to human life, and wholly divert it from its former course. In 1821, Mr. Robinson and Mr Lawrence, both young men, left England to seek their fortunes in the distant and then imperfectly known Pacific Ocean. They sailed in the *Hermes*, reaching Honolulu in the spring of 1822. The Japan whaling-ground having been just brought into notice, the *Hermes*, together with the British ship *Pearl*, started the same day from this port to cruise there. Twenty days out, on the same night, both vessels ran upon an unknown reef and were totally lost. More than sixty persons were thus thrown upon a desolate, barren lagoon island, in an unfrequented part of the ocean, with no prospect of succor except through their own management and skill.

Mr. Robinson commenced to build a schooner from the wreck of the ships, in which, with eleven others, he subsequently reached these Islands in October, 1822. Before the completion of the schooner, an English whaler made the reef, and took away all the men except Mr. Robinson's party of six, and six sailors, who would neither go away nor work for their own deliverance.

Four months were spent upon the reef—now known as the Pearl and Hermes Reef—and the schooner, short of water and provisions, started for Honolulu. A long passage of ten weeks, with no other nautical instruments than an old quadrant and a pinchbeck watch to determine their position, brought them in sight of Hawaii with scarcely any provisions left, and only three gallons of fresh water on board.

Mr. Robinson and Mr. Lawrence, thus thrown upon this Island as waifs from the sea—their original plans entirely broken up, had really, by their indomitable energy and thrift, made the wreck on the Pearl and Hermes Reef the foundation of their subsequent business and financial success. Their schooner was sold here for two thousand dollars, and Mr. Robinson found immediate engagement to put up others, imported about that time from the East. They found that a ship-yard was already a necessity of the port, and they entered upon the business. In 1827 they obtained from Kalaimoku, Pakaka—the Point—then nothing more than a coral reef, on which they established their ship-yard and built the first wharves able to take alongside coasters and ships.

Through the long period of forty-six years this firm has identified itself with the business interests of the Islands, and its name and financial resources have become familiarized to all our residents. The partnership that existed was not one founded on legal forms or written conditions. It was commenced and has been carried on these long years through the simple force of individual character and confidence in personal integrity. That either member of the firm insisted upon a transaction or an investment contrary to the opinion of the others, was an unknown fact. The firm has always been an model in its plans and transactions, keeping their affairs to themselves and continuing steadily prosperous

Mr. Lawrence was born at Bermondsey, England, January 9th, 1793, and was consequently, at the time of his death, in his 76th year. Three sisters and a brother are yet living in England, all in advanced years. He leaves no children.

For some years past, on account of his growing infirmities, he seldom left the premises on the Point, and latterly was confined to his house. Since his arrival in 1822 he has left the Island but once—on a business trip to Maui—and has never been off the group. Such another instance of adherence to one locality, we think, can hardly be pointed out.

His large estate has been devised by will, the items of which are not yet made public.

THIRTEEN YEARS AGO.—Putnam's monthly says, in 1854 Mr. Buchanan was Minister to England. Captain George B. McClellan was detailed on secret service in the harbor of Cuba, under instructions from the Secretary of War. General Quitman, Lieutenant Beauregard and others were plotting fillibustering raids against the island, for which the government soon after made an offer of $1,000,000. Parson Brownlow had written a savage work in the defence of slavery, and was challenging northern clergymen to dispute its divine authority. Gerrit Smith, Dr. Howe, Henry Ward Beecher and a few hundred others were doing a quiet and limited business over the underground railway. John Brown had not left his farm in the northern wild. An obscure individual, remembered by a few as having once represented Sangamon District, Ill., in the House, and opposed the Mexican war in an awkward, ingenious and extremely unpopular argument, received a few complimentary votes for the Vice Presidency, in competition with Mr. Dayton, the nominee. Captain U. S. Grant, hardly suspected of being an ex-army officer by those who bought molasses or cord-wood of him, was generally taken as a steamboat captain, temporarily stranded by a stress of ill luck, or who had hardly the energy and pluck to succeed in a business calling, and had therefore collapsed into a spectator in sundries. W. T. Sherman was teaching school in Louisiana. Generals Sickles, Butler and Logan were rough-and-tumble democratic lawyers of some notoriety. Two of the most prominent and promising officers of our little army were Colonel Albert Sydney Johnston and Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Lee. Brief as is the period since then, we have but two men in official life—Mr. Seward and Mr. Chase—whose prominence has not either been created or overthrown during this eventful epoch.

SAMANA.—It is again announced that the United States has purchased Samana, and this time with a probability of truth. Next to Havana, it is the most important harbor in the West Indies. It is located on the northeast of San Domingo, one of the greater Antilles, and, next to Cuba, the largest. Samana is the name given to both the peninsula and bay. The peninsula is about thirty-two miles by eleven, and was formerly an island, but the shallow waters separating it from San Domingo have been filled by the drifting sands. The bay is on the south side of the peninsula, or between the peninsula and the main land, and is forty-three miles long by eight miles wide. The harbor is acknowledged to be one of the best in the world; and it occupies an important military and commercial position. As early as 1853 the United States tried to purchase it from the Dominican Republic, and now, after a negotiation extending over fifteen years, Uncle Samuel has "made the riffle."

Samana is very central in the West India group, and from it we can command the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. In case of foreign war it will be invaluable. And all powerful nations must expect war; and wise ones will be prepared for it. That was a necessary purchase.—*Sac. Bee.*

Letter from Mr. Kamakau.

To all Literary Gentlemen and Friends in Hawaii and elsewhere:

A certain person, styling himself in the *Gazette*, "A Hawaiian," and whom I judge to be the same who signs himself in the *Au Okoa* "R. Kapihe," and who, moreover, I doubt not, is one aspiring to a very high rank in the Kingdom, seems very jealous of my statements in the Hawaiian History which I am now writing. The line of descent of some of the present high chiefs, and their relationship to Kamehameha I., as I have stated it, appears to find especial disfavor in his eyes, perhaps and very probably, for the reason that another name very near at home to the above-mentioned writer is not included among those whom I have written down as descendants and near of kin to Kamehameha I.

I have simply written the genealogy as it has been taught me from my ancestors, and find in that name no relation to Kamehameha I. How can I falsify the truth before God?

He moreover says that Hawaiian History is something very sacred, and forsooth must not be published! What grounds has he for this assertion? True, there are few that know it, but it is free to all. Ancestral genealogy was indeed tabu on the island of Hawaii, but from Maui to Kauai, they had persons whose business it was to recite ancestral names.

So his first attempt to give a false genealogy is a most unchristian one. And, secondly, as to its being contrary to the wish of the King and the chiefs to have it published, it is only the writer himself that is opposed to it, and wishes to cover things up in darkness. Kamehameha III. was very anxious to have Hawaiian History written, and Messrs. Richards, Dibble, Haalilio, Andrews and others, formed a Historical Society in 1839-41. May be that was before "Hawaiian's" day?

Others are mentioned as being much more learned than myself in Hawaiian History. This matter has been tried before competent witnesses, some of them chiefs now living, and my claims as an authentic historian, and a better one than the persons mentioned, have been fully confirmed. His late Majesty, Kamehameha IV., but for his premature death, would have employed your humble servant to write history. There is a copy of Hawaiian History in the royal records, but it is, like the one published by the Rev. Mr. Pogue in 1858, very meagre and needs very many important additions.

What civilized country would think of laying a tabu on its history? How is it with England, with France, and all of Europe? How was it with Greece and Rome in ancient times? And with the Chaldees and Jews?

We profess to be a christian kingdom. So let us come out into the light, and forsake any superstitious pagan tabus or false sacredness of anything of this kind. And is it right for a member of the House of Nobles to be a blind leader back into darkness?

It was after more than six years of sickness, and after repeated solicitation from the editor of the *Kuokoa*, that I was induced to lay before the public this Hawaiian History, beginning with the year 1736—the year in which Kamehameha I. was born, and going on down to the times of his successors. It is for you to judge of the nature and the motives of this ill-natured opposition.

I place before you gentlemen, and countrymen, my treasures of warmest affection.

S. M. KAMAKAU.

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NOTICE.
THE REGULAR QUARTERLY MEETING of the Trustees of the Queen's Hospital will be held at the Court House, on TUESDAY NEXT, the 22d inst., at 11 A. M. [643 1t] F. A. SCHAEFER, Sec'y.

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A Superior Article of Japan Tea, in bulk.
Fine Orange Pekoe Tea, in 8 lb boxes.
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The latter makes a very neat ornament for a Lady's Portfolio.
For sale only by (635) H. M. WHITNEY.

THE FRENCH LINE ON THE SOUTH PACIFIC.—The London *Times* thoroughly understands the system of subsidies. The British early availed themselves of this method of maintaining the supremacy of their flag, and the effect of such bounties is nowhere better seen than in connection with the operation of ocean steamers running from the sea-girt isle. The following, drawn out by a little French competition in that way, is very much to the point:

The French Government, by the creation of huge monopolies for favored speculators, seem certain to prevent the possibility of any vigorous growth of their commercial marine. Hitherto the French mail service in the South Pacific has been performed with unbroken efficiency by the British mail line of steamers without the cost of a single franc to the Imperial exchequer, but a contract is now about to be submited for the approval of the Chamber of Deputies for the establishment of a French line, with the subsidy of three times the mileage rate paid by our government, in addition to which they are to have a loan from the government of $160,000, and a guarantee of 5 per cent. to their shareholders.

In return for all this profusion the only consideration to the French Government is to be a participation to the extent of one-fourth in any net earnings beyond 8 per cent. By these means the new company may be enabled to drive off all competition, but, as they can do so only by putting their fares below a remunerative rate, the result will simply be that the French Government will voluntarily sustain the burden of carrying on the passenger and postal traffic in the Pacific for the whole world on terms considerably below the actual cost, so that instead of subsidizing French citizens, they will actually subsidize all foreign countries. But this is not the whole of the evil to be brought on the French taxpayer. The inevitable result of the system will be indifferent management and inattention to all economical contrivances, until a time will arrive when rival steamers will be able without a subsidy to drive them in turn from the field, and the nation will then find that after having for a series of years carried on a service at their own cost for the benefit of foreigners, they have extinguished the possibility of their holding even a share in the enterprise of that region.

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