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THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

Saturday, Feb. 1, 1884.

ACCORDING to the announcement made last week, we present the PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER to our readers this morning in a new form, which we hope will be found to be an improvement. At the same time, we have introduced some new features into the paper to which we purpose to add considerably in future issues, with the view of rendering it acceptable to readers of all classes and all ages. Having said thus much, the proprietors leave the paper to speak for itself, wishing all their subscribers a hearty ALOHA.

WE re-publish in another column a list of the candidates who are before the public. This has been compiled with care, and although it is probable that election day, which is the 9th instant, will see many votes cast for those whose names are not found in it, we feel satisfied that it includes all persons who have any chance of election besides a great number whose chances in that direction are nil. The list includes the names of many men of ability who are foreigners by birth or by parentage. It is improbable that more than two or three of these at the most will secure election. We are sorry to have to make such a prediction because the affairs of the country require that men of wider experience and greater education than are to be found among our native candidates, should be returned to the legislature in larger numbers than has lately been the case. Our apprehension that the contrary will be the case is founded entirely on the unwise conduct of a considerable and influential section of the white foreign community itself. If the object in view had been to raise up strong feelings of jealousy and antagonism to foreigners among the native Hawaiians, no surer course could have been adopted than that which has been pursued. Men who have come here and made money, instead of recognizing how largely their good fortune is due to the favor that has been shown to foreigners by the native race and native rulers are full of contempt for the Hawaiian and treat him and openly speak of him as an inferior being whose country they have made prosperous and who ought to submit to be ruled by them. The old and time-worn, but ever new and active combat between the men of means who hold amongst them all the lucrative businesses and industries of the country, and the working classes is here complicated by race prejudice. Such a state of things need never have arisen had any spirit of fairness and forbearance been displayed by the leaders of the foreign population. The native Aliis have almost disappeared from the land and their places, and to a large extent, their property, have fallen to a number of men who who represent, in a small way, the "upper classes" of other countries. Why should not the political influence of the Aliis over the population have gone over to them also? It is their own fault that it has not done so. The subject is too long to be further pursued in a newspaper article. Suffice it to say that if a number of the men are not returned to the legislature at the forthcoming election—indeed, as some confidently predict, not a single one of the white didates secures a seat—this is the

one sole reason of it; they have made the Hawaiians, who hold the power of the ballot boxes in their hands, afraid to trust them.

For Honolulu there is but one white candidate in the field. If he should lose his election it will be because he has permitted his name to be put upon a ticket which is recognized as that of a faction of disappointed men. This gentleman, Mr. J. O. Carter, is eminently fitted to represent this city, and he has authorized us to say that he has no sympathy with the party—a noisy but not a large one—whose sole bond of union is the desire to overturn the present administration. If he goes to the Legislature he will do so as a thoroughly independent man untrammelled by any consideration of party, or any association with the intrigues of the sorehead party. A great many people do not believe this, and he himself, except in what he has permitted us to say for him, has done and said nothing to help them to believe. Nevertheless, we have so much confidence in the integrity of this man, so complete a reliance upon the statements that he has made to us, that we now earnestly reiterate the advice we have before proffered to the electors of this city to give a unanimous vote. At the same time we call upon Mr. Carter to justify our appeal by addressing himself to the electors and letting them know what he is, and what he means, and in what mood he will be found if returned to the Legislature. He is well-known and respected all round, but greater and more popular men than he have found that it is not possible to sit still in an office and try to run an election on the credit of a high reputation, or the memory of much more extensive work for the people than he has yet had the opportunity of doing.

THERE is one subject which the Legislature will have to face during the coming session which we would like to hear the candidates for seats in the House catechized about, now while they are on their good behaviour, and may be expected to be ready with promises. The police of the Kingdom. We have already expressed the opinion that there has been too much disposition manifested by the public to put the blame for the faults and deficiencies of this department upon the wrong people. Searching backwards for causes, we come to the conclusion that our legislators in the past are the men who must take the blame for the fact that the police force has not kept pace with the progress of the country. This blame must be chiefly put upon the native members, for it is quite palpable that on some occasions there has been a dead set made to prevent the employment of white men on the force. To take an instance that happened not very long ago, the salaries of deputy sheriffs were so cut down as to deprive the force of two out of the four white men who were in the service on the island of Hawaii. It is such things as these that have given rise to the remark frequently made that the police force is an institution designed to provide incomes for natives who are not good for anything else. But if the native members of the Legislature are to be blamed for this sort of thing, the white men who have seats in the House cannot be exempted from the charge of indifference to the subject. This latter charge lies also with double force against the men who have occupied ministerial positions during past years, and who, if they had given the matter more thought and attention, could have led the House instead of letting it do what it chose. The fact seems to be, that the organization of the police force, so that it might keep pace with the times, has been a puzzle to successive ministries which it would have taken more time and labor to unravel than they have been disposed to give to it. So they have just "let things slide."

But the time has come when the thing will have to be properly faced, both by the Ministers and by the Legislature. We must have our native members, as well as the foreigners, brought to understand that whilst the native as a policeman, may successfully fulfill his duties among his own countrymen, or among a lot of half-drunken sailors, they are not, in the present circumstances of the country, the right men in the right place, when they have to cope with the varied foreign population we have among us. Wherever plantations are to be found there we need men of a different stamp. In some places, in

this town, for instance, it would be a good measure to engage a certain number of Portuguese as policemen. Now the men who are needed cannot be had for the salaries which natives are ready to accept for this work. The native is undoubtedly a cheap man, but it is better to pay more money, and get more for it. Cheap things are not always the most economical. Nor is there any economy in cutting down a public service below the standard of efficiency as the Legislature did last session with the Honolulu Police force, and also with the town lighting, a mistake which we sincerely hope will not be repeated during the coming session. But after all, we do not think motives of economy have had much to do with the matter. Ignorance is at the bottom of such mistakes and it especially behoves the natives who may be returned to the Legislature, to make themselves acquainted with the requirements of the country in this matter of police organization.

SINCE the day when the Bankruptcy Law of this country was framed, a very large amount of attention has been given to this class of legislation in most of the leading commercial countries of the world. It speaks well for the general soundness of business in these Islands that no desire for alteration or amendment of these laws has been displayed during more than a quarter of a century. If failures had been numerous there would undoubtedly have been some outcry, and from time to time we should have had propositions for amending the law pressed upon the attention of the administration and the legislature. It also speaks well for the law itself, which, taken as a whole, is a well considered and useful Chapter of our Civil Code. It is not perfect, and it does not cover the whole of the ground, but it appears to have proved practically successful, and sufficient for most of the requirements of our small community.

As the foreign population of the Islands increases and the internal commerce of the country increases with it, this law which has served us so fairly in the past, will be found inadequate to meet the growing needs. The definitions of acts of bankruptcy which it contains are clearly stated and concise but they hardly include all that modern legislation elsewhere has approved as necessary. The restriction that the indebtedness of the bankrupt must at least amount to two thousand dollars is more stringent than is desirable in a community the average of whose transactions is small, and the amount fixed upon is higher than that commonly to be found in the Bankruptcy Laws of the countries which have been submitted to recent amendments. The same remark applies to the restriction that creditors who present petitions for an adjudication of bankruptcy against any person or firm, must have claims amounting to certain fixed sums. The circumstances of insolvent persons vary so extremely that though the law, as it stands, may suit a majority of cases, it cannot suit all, and may lead to failures of justice. Ample provision against frivolous petitions is made when a bond of "at least \$2,000" is exacted from the petitioner and when he may be mulcted in costs if the adjudication be not made. The seizure of the debtor's effects by the Marshal follows a creditor's petition at once, instead of the debtor being allowed to show cause why he should not be declared a bankrupt. Then again, when the Marshal does take possession the law says he shall put the debtor's "store-houses, counting-houses, effects, books and papers, under lock and seal." The clause that provides for this antiquated mode of procedure is one of the most objectionable features of the law. We should fancy that it must have been borrowed from Germany, where formerly, not only were a bankrupt's effects thus treated, but he himself was also locked up in a debtor's prison—whether the barbarous custom still prevails in that country we do not know. If the possession of the Marshal were intended to last no more than a day or two this putting things under seal would be less likely to prove mischievous to the interests of both creditors and debtor. But such is not the case after adjudication, the bankruptcy must be advertised for three consecutive weeks during which period proofs of debt may be made. Not less than twenty days after the appearance of this advertisement the clerk of the Supreme Court has to call a meeting of creditors to appoint assignees and of this meeting he

must give two weeks notice. Thus at the very least five weeks must elapse before anything can be done with the estate. There is certainly a provision that the Marshal may realize on perishable goods. There are however other things that deteriorate by delay of this sort just as certainly as the frailer class of merchandise. Such as the good will of a business, and, only too often, its book-debts. The expenses incurred are also a waste of the assets; there must be an allowance to the debtor and the "sealed" premises are watched day and night at the cost of the estate.

There are other unsatisfactory points in the Bankruptcy Law to which we must advert in a future article. We will conclude what we have to say to-day by referring to an omission which we think to be a defect. After proceedings are once initiated there remains no possibility of compromise between creditors and debtor, which is in many cases by far the best thing for both parties.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

At the eleventh hour, fourteen more candidates came forward aspiring to seats in the Legislature. This makes twenty-two contestants to represent Honolulu out of a possible four, consequently there will be eighteen left in the cold. The names of the additional candidates are as follows: Honorable Frank Pahia, D. W. Pua, J. Kuanoo, S. Kula, J. Akina, S. H. Kahukula, R. Makahalapua, J. H. Barenaba, S. Paniani, S. Nowlien, T. N. Puuhau, H. Kaaha, C. Kahalehili, Kalaauhina.

Yesterday Mr. Henry W. Cornwell celebrated the 29th anniversary of his arrival in the Hawaiian Islands. During this long period he has visited the Coast several times, but he has not re-visited his home in the East. He is now in excellent health, and his only wish is that he was 29 years younger to enjoy the exhilarating effects of a Hawaiian climate. Our wish is that he may have 29 more years of equal pleasure and prosperity.

The band will play this Saturday afternoon in Emma Square, commencing at half-past 4 o'clock. The following is the programme: March—"Kameke," Soderman. Overture—"Bandit Tricks," Suppe. Polonaise—"Torchlight," Schneider. Selection—"Nabucco," Verdi. Waltz—"Mon Ami," Coote. Galop—"From House to House," Andrews. D. K. NAONE, Assistant Bandmaster.

We take pleasure in calling attention to the law card of Colonel M. Thompson in another column. His numerous testimonials show him to be a gentleman of integrity and considerable ability and experience in the profession. He is also the author of several legal works which have received the highest commendations of lawyers, judges and the public press in the United States, from where he hails.

Owea Holt, Jr., was unanimously acquitted of the charge preferred against him of assault and battery on a female child. It was rather fortunate for him that he appealed from the sentence passed upon him at the Police Court, which was 30 days imprisonment at hard labor.

According to the statement of one Paahana, a guard of two years' standing at Oahu Prison, discipline is apparently rather lax in that institution. He deliberately stated that there is a code of regulations, but they—the guards—do not obey them, but do as they think proper.

Notwithstanding the light of the young moon, the comet was very plainly visible during the early part of last Wednesday evening. Its tail is increasing in length and in brightness, and its change of place from day to day is now more marked than when it was first described.

The first number of a native paper was published yesterday under the name of Ka Baotua Lehu. As it has been started for electorizing purposes, its career is only intended to be short. Among other matter, it contains a translation of the certificate given by the officers of the San Francisco Mint as to the weight and fineness of Hawaiian coin.

The partition betwixt the stores of Mr. Eckart and Messrs. Benson & Smith was demolished yesterday, the latter named, in consequence of their increasing business, having found it necessary to increase their business quarters. Mr. Eckart has removed to the premises formerly occupied by the Hon. E. Preston.

It is reported that several convicts have escaped from the prison during the past ten days. Amongst the number, it is said there are some foreigners who were recognized on the streets yesterday. Laxity of prison regulations is evident from this as well as from the testimony of Paahana in the recent inquest.

At Fort St. Church to-morrow Mr. Cruzan will preach at the usual hours, giving in the evening the sermon for young people on the "Pleasures of Sin," postponed from last Sunday evening in order to give the people an opportunity to hear Rev. Dr. Lane.

The sitting of the January term of the Supreme Court closes to-day.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees last Wednesday evening, at the residence of the Lord Bishop of Oahu, His Excellency presided in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting be held at His Lordship's residence, for the assurance of its success, and for the collection of a fund for the purchase of a beautiful mission given by the Rev. Father Bouchard.

Resolved, That the grateful thanks of Hawaiian Catholics be tendered to the Rev. Father Bouchard for his series of beautiful discourses, which in his politeness, and animated by his love, he has bestowed on all who chose to hear him.

On Wednesday evening at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Linn, on the Plains, was held one of the most pleasant social gatherings the city could be expected. The event was the celebration of their "wooden wedding." Several very nice couples were invited among our own society, and the pleasant occasion was enjoyed by all who were present, not a single fault occurring and all did their part in a most agreeable and danced to the last instrument music in the city, the bandmaster of the band. The residence was decorated with "evergreens and palms" and the interior of the house was brilliantly decorated with lanterns, as also along the main street for some distance. The spacious verandas all around, and when the last dance devoted the hour for departure, it was indeed a most desirable to have such joy and gaiety. The host and hostess well deserved the unanimous good wishes of their friends, who hoped they would enjoy a long life of happiness. Much notice was accorded to the several decorations in the decorations and the arrangement in both of which the Rev. Father Bouchard's auspicious occasion.

A lively discourse was given at Fort Street Church last evening by the Rev. Dr. Lane. His discourse was a rhetorical exposition of the doctrine of justification by faith. A truly rather than eloquent and fervent gentleman though always in a most severely impressive as a preacher. A few words he addressed to the unconverted at the close of the service were most telling and the rapid declamation of the Rev. Mr. Cruzan followed with a very impressive address on "penitence." The attendance was good, the services from the church being very quiet. It was announced that the day was to be devoted to special services for the students. There was a quiet meeting at Punahou at 10 A.M. and a social religious meeting at 7:30 in the evening. All college men and especially those who have graduated from Punahou were specially requested to attend.

Some of our citizens, who had the forethought to contribute to the Boston Exhibition, cast the lead upon the waters in more than one way, as they were the recipients of medals of an elaborate description, which could have been accompanied by diplomas. The latter were probably on their way (Australia) to the Zealandia left here without delivering them. The awards are to His Majesty King Kalakaua and Queen Kaahumanu, the Government, Messrs. J. W. Robinson & Co., and Messrs. Bolles & Co., for the exhibits, and also to His Excellency W. M. Gibson, Hawaiian Commissioner.

A sentence of imprisonment for a year was given last Wednesday to three men who were charged upon the death of W. M. Gibson, to the connection Judge Davidson said that the evidence of a convicted felon was not sufficient in Courts of Law, and that the law it was desirable at this time to establish a title of evidence for the same.

The lower term of the Supreme Court closed yesterday, and has been an exceedingly busy day for the jury, or counsel. On the 1st instant the Chief Clerk Mr. Foster's certificate was extended to our report.

The new premises at the corner of King and Lehu streets, have been leased for the 1st of February, by the wealthy musical party who are opposed to the Government. They have expended \$10 in the building.

On Tuesday last the Hon. E. Preston removed his office from his old stand on Fort Street to the more commodious and business-like offices on Lehu street, formerly occupied by Mr. Carl Brown.

The police were put off on Thursday in several half-dollars. They looked upon their usual with a somewhat countenance of surprise.

The British vessel "Captain Tierney" sailed a 30 weeks on Thursday morning for the South Islands with time-expired letters.

Messrs. Miles Brothers, the owners of the celebrated City Hall stallion "Donald Dundee," announce that that will stand the test of the 1884 season.

During the absence of Mr. S. Magnin from the office, Mr. W. M. Lewis is authorized to act for him in all matters relating to the office.

Last evening the young Hilbrandt and his party, including the Pasboyne were entertained at a party by W. M. Gibson.

The Hawaiian Journal was published on Wednesday last. It was a most interesting and at our hands.