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THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

Saturday, June 14, 1884.

MR. DANIEL O'CONNELL, a well known San Francisco journalist, arrived by the Mariposa, to take the editorial management of this paper.

OUR POSITION.

A fair day's work for a fair day's wage is a good principle; but when a newspaper's zest exceeds the demands of its employer, it is apt to fall into the wrong rut. The foregoing criticism is suggested by a criticism in the *Hawaiian* of last evening upon some remarks of the ADVERTISER on the commotion intemperate and intemperate newspaper writing may create in a community. The *Hawaiian* charges that we class as incendiary characters these signers of the resolutions adopted at the Lyceum. We have done nothing of the sort. We have objected, and do still object to the tone in which some of the gentlemen present at that meeting discussed the Bank Charter. We have not upheld the Charter. On the contrary, we have strenuously opposed it in the form it appeared; but we have contended, and do contend that a matter of such grave importance to this community should be treated calmly and intelligently, and not with the bluster and outward forms which come under the head of what this part of the world recognizes as Kearneyism.

In the first place, the flaming posters announcing the meeting were not only in bad taste, but had an unmistakable ring of rowdiness. The meeting was intended to be a calm and decorous expression of opinion on an important measure. There was no necessity for such a Gaza gate-felling blast of trumpets.

In the second place, we think that the selection of the chairman was not wise. A mechanic, no matter how worthy and intelligent, is not usually chosen to preside over a meeting of this character, unless, indeed, the measure be used as a bait to draw the workingmen into an agitation which is of no benefit to the community. Mr. A. J. Cartwright, Mr. W. L. Greene, or Mr. J. O. Carter would have more appropriately filled the place to which Mr. Nott was elected.

These gentlemen are well versed in subjects of this character. Their occupations naturally fitted them for the discussion of financial and commercial affairs, and their opinion on those topics carry a weight which the sentiments of others whose vocations have lain in a different channel can never possess. And here we want it distinctly understood that our objection to the method in which this meeting was called, and in which the Charter was discussed is in no way a defense of that document. Our files will show that we have been antagonistic to it from its inception. But we want it kept apart from politics, and this is precisely what the *Hawaiian* and its backers and advisers do not want.

In that meeting speeches of an intemperate character were made. We are passing through a critical period when demagoguery of all kinds is not only distasteful, but dangerous. The mechanic, the working man, and the merchant have no better friend than this journal, and they know that there is safety in calm conservative action, while nothing but evil can result from alarmists and agitators. Again we repeat, let the Bank Charter discussion be kept apart from politics.

Disappointed office-seekers, eager for a following of soreheads of every

description, will endeavor to make a tool of the working men, and do not scruple to subsidize newspapers to serve these ends. But the good sense of this community will not endure those familiar methods of distorting an important public question into a political climbing-pole, and will insist that banners, transparencies, and calls for marching men about the Palace walls be promptly and effectually suppressed.

MAY the ghost of Melampus, the torch-bearer, forever pursue the lunatic who first promulgated the heresy that young girls should worry their banged brains with the things that should belong to man alone. If they live to learn, they as certainly live to forget. Though the voice may not possess a tittle of the harmony of an Australian Jackdaw, they are forced to pipe "When the Flowing Tide Comes In," and other melodies of the day. With no more idea of form and color than an owl of the kaleidoscope, they are compelled to draw and paint. With no taste for literature, they are chased through the musty masters, from Spenser to Tennyson. "Read Me" said a sweet girl the other evening who had graduated at one of the Coast schools. "Read me the Locust-eaters from that dear fellow Tennyson." "Tell me" said the same fair being an hour afterwards, "that sad, sad story about Cleopatra and the wasp that bit her."

ONE who drives along Richards street, in the vicinity of the Palace, may reflect on the divinity that doth hedge a king, while wondering why it should find expression in such a villainously bad thoroughfare. The sidewalks are even worse. In fine, the awful circle of the Church of Rome which the old Cardinal drew with the end of the crozier is not a circumstance to the shocking condition of this street. It should be somebody's business to see that it is repaired before the holes are jotted down in the note-book of the ever observant tourist as craters of extinct volcanoes.

THE exhibition of live stock, horses especially, at the Agricultural Show is most creditable. The owners had groomed their animals until their silks shone like mirrors, and Waterford, Mr. Cornwell's stallion, had his mane in ribbons, and looked just too killing for anything. Garfield was also in his best attire, and all the equines were polished up to the highest degree. There was lots of horse talk in the neighborhood of the paddock—the air was positively murky with pedigrees.

SOME of the recent tourists from the Coast have remarked that they are pleased to term the indisposition of the average Honolulu hackman to make change. This is not owing in the least to any desire on the driver's part to keep more than his own, but arises from an affection of the elbow-joint which, while it allows the sufferer to deposit a coin in his pocket, is almost fatal if he essays the muscular contraction necessary to the withdrawal of change.

THE City of Paris brought over some fine Alderney cows, and South-down sheep yesterday; also, pine and grape cuttings. The vine should prosper on this island, and it is good to see those efforts to acclimate it. We have the advantage of summer rains which is denied to the Coast horticulturist, and are therefore relieved of that expensive irrigatory system which is necessary to successful grape culture in California.

THE Portuguese immigrants on the City of Paris are a stalwart and intelligent class. The men are in the main stout, clear-eyed, hearty looking fellows, and the women and children make a most favorable appearance, considering the hardships and discomforts of a long voyage in an emigrant ship. This morning they will come ashore, and in a day or so will be appportioned to the different plantations.

THE TENDER PASSION.

In a late Australian exchange, we too read of a duel to the death between natives for the hand of a fickle coquette. It is a curious thing this form of insanity which takes possession of

the lover's heart, and urges him—no matter how meek his character may have been previous to the attack—to grievously assault the rival who fools around the object of his affections. We remember a beautiful little idyl, written by some gray-haired philosopher in whom the heats and passions of youth were dead and cold, which dwelt upon this great power that attracts the sexes towards each other. It spoke of the king and the peer, and the monkeys and the wrens, and the "cold earth worms who crept in swarms," and underneath the trees exchange their vows of love. It begins in the cradle, and we have seen ancient men with, metaphorically speaking, one foot in the grave, who still had a sharp eye for a slim waist and a neat ankle. And we have met old ladies far down the other side of life's mountain—sans teeth, sans hair, but plus wrinkles, rheum, and neuralgia—who, bless their fresh hearts, could buss with a lass in her teens, and tremble on the very verge of paralysis in their efforts to conjure up a blush. They never forgot the days when the current of the blood ran fresh and free, and, like Ailie in the meadows, they dreamt of a gallant lover riding on a steed of steeds, who would gather the honey from their red lips, and teach them the joys of possession. Those merry old girls who have drunk at the fountain of everlasting youth, and who, in spite of all physical defects, defy time and satiety, are a most interesting study. The old man, for "lady's love unfit," is not always agreeable; but the ancient priestess, who has ever fed the sacred flame, claims our admiration and respect. Giddy youth and inexperience will worship the callow maid, and think the green fruit the sweetest in the garden; but the philosopher turns with relief from their unripeness to the mellow antique who loved and kissed before they were born, and in whom the ashes of the old fires are warmer than the sickly, untrained spark in the juvenile's bosom.

THOSE parts of the report of the President of the Board of Health, and its lengthy appendix which have been most anxiously scanned by the select few who have had the opportunity of perusing this scarce book; are the various utterances on the subject of leprosy. It is to be regretted that a large edition of this important report was not printed for general circulation. The violent discussions of the past eighteen months, the widespread distrust of the opinions and practical ability of the medical man who is in charge of the Government leper establishment, the extreme importance of the subject itself to every member of the community, have made hundreds desirous to possess themselves of a copy of this report. We have endeavored to remedy for our readers the difficulty of obtaining a sight of it by reprinting in our columns large portions of what we believe to be the most interesting matter, and we propose to continue to do so. To-day we desire to say a few words as to what we deem to be the general outcome of the report and its appendances on the subject of leprosy.

Mr. Gibson's remarks on this subject we propose to reproduce pretty fully. They are a dispassionate statement of the case of the unfortunate lepers, of what it has been deemed possible to do towards carrying out the law in regard to them both by himself and his predecessors in office and of what seems practicable and desirable in the future. He demonstrates a marked amelioration of the condition of the lepers themselves, and claims increased longevity among them as a direct result. He is, however, silent on that chief blot of the existing system, the permission granted to persons supposed to be healthy to visit their leper relatives, who are supposed to be segregated from the world, and remain with them for weeks and months, and then return to their homes and mingle with healthy people. If a wife will give up everything and go and live permanently at Kalawao for the sake of being with her husband, it is perhaps well that she should be allowed to do so, especially if she have no children. So with a husband who is thus devoted to his wife, or a mother desiring to take care for her child, but to let them come and go, as has been the custom

hitherto, seems to us to destroy most of the uses of segregation, and likely to make a very costly method of dealing with the leper, void of results. It is indeed hardly possible from his report to make out how far Mr. Gibson has been led to accept or to lean towards Dr. Fitch's theories and to doubt the necessity of segregation in the proper sense of that word. We hope that when the opportunity occurs in the House that he will speak out clearly on this subject. The only other man whose official statements on the subject were looked for with special interest, Dr. Arning, has pronounced unmistakably in favor of strict segregation, whilst tempering what he has to say with an indication of those ameliorations in the condition of the segregated which he deems to be due to the suffering people from the sound portions of the community.

The general lessons to be learnt from the various utterances which this volume contains are: First, forbearance in the manner of segregation, a just consideration of the seriousness of the step and the misery it entails; second, the necessity for a much larger present expenditure than has ever yet been made to provide fully for all who ought to be segregated; third, the confining of the use of the Kakaako hospital strictly to suspects or to persons who are demonstrably improving under treatment, and who display no advanced symptoms of the disease; fourth, the division of that hospital into wards absolutely distinct from one another, for the various classes of patients; fifth, the addition of an entirely new ward (there or elsewhere) for children who show signs of leprosy; sixth, the total exclusion of healthy persons from possibility of contact with those who are segregated, either at Kalawao or Kakaako; seventh, adequate medical supervision, so that every case may have the actual care of a skilled physician; and eighth, the extreme importance of continuing and extending the researches into the intimate nature and symptoms of the disease which have been so energetically begun by Dr. Arning. On several of these points but one we find the future policy of the Board of Health, as foreshadowed in the President's report, to be fairly in accord with that which we advocate. Those as to which we are left in doubt are, however, the most important, viz: absoluteness of segregation, and strict division of patients and discipline at Kakaako.

THE BANK CHARTER QUESTION.

The public awaits with curiosity, and also with anxiety, the further discussion of the Bank Charter question in the Assembly. The Minister of Finance has given notice of a Government Bill on the subject. This is understood to be of a general character, leaving it open to any persons who choose to associate together for the purpose, to take advantage of its provisions. The preparation of such a measure is evidence that the bill to grant a Charter to the Hawaiian National Bank will not receive the support of Ministers; also, that they do not consider it advisable to attempt to amend that bill so as to render it more acceptable to themselves and to the public. In this they have taken a wise stand. No measure so gravely affecting the public interest should receive consideration from the Legislature unless it be introduced as a Government Bill. The true theory of responsible Government as understood in other countries where Cabinet Ministers are also members of the Legislature demands this.

We think it fortunate that whilst engaged in the preparation of their bill, Ministers have had the advantage of listening to a very earnest public discussion of the subject with which they were occupied. Criticism and comment on the Bank Charter Bill have in some quarters been carried beyond all bounds of reason and good manners, but it has nevertheless been made abundantly evident that the more striking features of the bill are condemned by all classes of the community on rational grounds. To a very great extent this universal expression of opinion, hostile to important provisions of the one bill should be accepted by Ministers as a guide in framing the other. We feel no doubt that it has received such attention at

their hands, and sincerely hope that a sound and rational measure is the outcome.

The points upon which public opinion is clearly unanimous are the following: First, That no bank should have any privileges which are not also available for any other similar institution. The Bank Charter Bill does not contain any phrase by which the privileges it would convey would be made exclusive. But if it had passed, and all other associations that desired similar privileges had been left to seek them by means of a separate Act of the Legislature, there can be no doubt that these would have formidable and active opposition to contend with. A general measure, such as the Government promises, will settle this point in a satisfactory manner. Second, No divergence from its own proper business of banking will be tolerated by public opinion on the part of any institution on which the right of issuing its notes is conferred, whatever be the basis on which the latter are secured. Third, There should be periodic and frequent publication of statements showing the bank's position, as is the way in other countries. Fourth, The security on which the notes of a bank are issued should be of the most undoubted character. The Chamber of Commerce and the public meeting which was held last Saturday evening have objected to any bank being allowed to issue notes. We are not prepared to go so far. If it suited the purposes of Messrs. Bishop & Co., or Messrs. Claus Spreckels & Co., or even of some of our mercantile firms, to issue notes payable on demand, they would be taken, and would circulate freely, and people (even those who have supported these resolutions against the issue of bank notes) would feel as much confidence in them as they now do in the Treasury certificates. The issue of demand notes is one of the legitimate functions of a bank. The important point is the soundness of the security. No part of the Government bill will be more anxiously scrutinized than that which will provide for the security of notes. Fifth, The notes a bank is allowed to issue should not be made a legal tender. No notes should have the status of legal tender, except such as the State itself is responsible for. There is no utility to be urged in favor of such a system as there is for the mere permission to issue demand notes. People will always carry and use notes rather than coin if they are satisfied that the notes are issued on a sound basis. It is quite an exceptional thing when a legal tender of cash is needed—only when a dispute about some bargain occurs is such course resorted to. The coin of the realm, or such other as the law makes legal, is always available for such occasions. Sixth—the liability of stockholders to creditors of the bank should be strictly defined and made sufficiently ample to afford reasonable security of payment in full, and the transferee of shares should take over with them all liability under which the previous holder stood.

There are other minor points which might be referred to, but these are the more important of those as to which public opinion appears to be most strongly pronounced. We hope to find that the new Bank Bill satisfies them all.

The Agricultural Show.

The Annual Show of our Agricultural Society will open to-day at 10 o'clock a.m.

We have also been requested to say that free passes for those in attendance upon the exhibits can be had of the Treasurer, Mr. Jaeger, at his office, and of Captain John Brown, who has charge of the placing of exhibits in position, and Mr. F. L. Clarke, who acts as clerk at the Exhibition Buildings.

Drop Letters.

He gazed upon my First in silent thought,  
His favor each of them had tried to gain:  
His judgment, in the end, by one was bought,  
And for the price were many warriors slain.

Take from my First a letter, there remains  
My Second, on which much was lost and won,  
Because the Judges, spite of all their pains,  
Found 'twas impossible to satisfy each one.

From my Second take a letter, you will find  
A "hand" that tempts you on to venture more,  
Which being "called" you wish you'd gone in  
"billed."

Until you see the other fellow's "four."  
[A valuable prize will be given for the solution of this conundrum.]