

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE 15, 1884.

The nomination of Mr. Blaine by the Republican national convention at Chicago is an event in which the people and Government of Hawaii have a distinct and deep interest. Mr. Blaine is an active Protectionist, nominated by a political party to which Free Trade seems to partake of the character of original sin somewhat softened by total depravity. But it must be remembered that the doctrine of Protection is not held by those who believe in it to be inconsistent with Reciprocity. Reciprocity is the form of Free Trade that is acceptable to the Protectionist. A Protectionist favoring Reciprocity is in much the same position as the teetotaler who was caught taking in a pretty stiff horn of brandy. "Why," exclaimed his neighbor, with natural surprise at the revelation, "I thought you were a total abstainer?" "So I am, sir—so I am," the man explained, with dignity; "but not a bigoted one." The Republican party and Mr. Blaine have an enthusiastic love of "protection to home industries," but are not averse to the practical benefits of the opposite system—provided they can be obtained under the name of Reciprocity. Mr. Blaine has always been a supporter of the treaty with Hawaii, and in event of his election the influence of his administration will, without a doubt, be given in favor of its continuance.

The credit securing his nomination is claimed for and by the California delegation. These gentlemen appear to have been very active at Chicago. They took with them a carload of native wine which, like the Dreimannerwein of Grunberger, required three men to drink a glass of it—one to swallow the wine and two to keep his courage up. After an Eastern delegate had partaken of Californian hospitality, he would promise to vote any way that would save him from another invitation. The delegation received, also, at their "head-quarters" a daily invoice of fresh Californian fruits. Under menaces of cholera morbus, many anti-Blaine men "fell down." From W. W. Morrow, the chairman, down to Frank Pixley, a voteless and voiceless "alternate," the delegation wore white stove-pipe hats and white neck-ties, and these articles, it is believed, had some potent but mysterious influence in determining the result.

The few days that have elapsed since the convention have sufficed to show that the ticket is not a very strong one. Both Blaine and Logan are popular on the Pacific Coast, and the latter is very strong in the upper Mississippi Valley; but in the Atlantic States, both have met with a stubborn opposition from the intelligent element of their party, or rather with that element that commonly works with the party when the party behaves itself, and against it when it does not. The opposition is represented in New York by the *Times*, the *Evening Post*, *Harper's Weekly* and the *Nation*—the four strongest enemies that a candidate relying on the vote of the State of New York as indispensable to success could have. In fact, they are the leading weekly papers of the United States. Their opposition is of the most formidable character, for not only are they the ablest journals in the country, but the personal characters of their editors are absolutely above suspicion of selfish or interested motives.

In San Francisco, and in California generally, the nominations elicited the customary "unparalleled enthusiasm," manifested in the old Homeric way, by confident boasts and predictions of success. Divest him of his mantle of prophecy and the politician would feel himself liable to arrest for indecent exposure. The Republican whose infallibility manifests itself in predictions of success in the present contest has something more than the ordinary hardihood. The Chances, so far as they can be intelligently apprehended, are distinctly against him. His party has very little indeed to placate those of its members whose defection resulted in so overwhelming a defeat throughout the country only a few months ago. Certainly the nomination of Blaine and Logan is not an olive-branch of peace and reconciliation. In this State the recent "record" of the Republicans is a bad one. They have in no public manner seconded the Governor and his party in the fight against the railroad power; in every public way short of formal resolution by their State convention they have approved the action of their seven State Senators, by whose affronting obstinacy the special session of the Legislature was made resultless. One of these—McClure—they sent to represent the part in Chicago; another delegate was the son of Charles Crocker; one of the "alternates" was a notorious editorial apologist of the monopoly.

The action of the Democratic convention at Stockton has been of a very different character indeed. It pledged its delegates to the national convention to vote against Judge Field, a permanent aspirant to the Presidency, backed by the Railroad and all the Railroads' interminable tail of newspapers, and himself part proprietor of the *Alta*, which exists only to further his nomination. This action by a State convention is without precedent and illustrates in a signal way how strongly popular feeling (in the opinion of the Democratic leaders in this State) sets against this eminent, but corrupt jurist whose every decision has favored wealthy corporations whenever their interests were concerned in the cases before him. The convention adopted, also, resolutions bitterly denouncing Railroad Commissioners Humphreys and Carpenter, Lieutenant-Governor Daggett and Attorney-General Marshall—all elected by Democratic votes, and all traitors to people and party, in the interest of the Railroad. By such action as this, in such striking contrast to that of the Republicans, the Democracy of California seems to have done all that is possible to punish the recreants and pledge-breakers that itself put in office, and to call into its own camp the class of voters that is really earnest in its professions of hostility to the great monopoly corporations that menace the very existence of organized society in this State. How large and powerful that class is in both parties may be judged by the fact that at the late gubernatorial election the "platforms" of both consisted mainly of resolutions earnestly denouncing the exactions and corruptions practiced by the railways; and if anti-monopoly was not a distinct issue in the canvass it was because each convention had done what it could to monopolize it—the Democrats, who held their first, endeavoring to forestall and anticipate the Republicans, the Republicans trying to outdo the Democrats. The latter were successful in securing all the offices, and with their success, their opponents' interest in the matter seems so far to have cooled that their action is altogether directed to defeating the very reforms that they professed their anxiety to establish. To such a level have politics sunk here that although each party professes to desire power in order to govern better than the other, yet neither will permit the other to govern well lest its power to do so should be strengthened by public approval.

Aside from the Chicago nominations, the only other political fact of national importance is the final or apparently final refusal of Mr. Tilden to accept the Democratic nomination. Mr. Tilden does not merely say that he is not a candidate—Blaine and all of them repeatedly said that—but that he will not serve. True, he says it in a great many words, and in another man that would provoke a suspicion of insincerity, but Tilden always did require a great deal of room in which to take any attitude whatever. His declination deprives the Democrats at once of their strongest man and of the immense moral prestige with which they would have entered the contest; for with the lapse of eight years it has become as clear to the minds of most men as any point of recent history can possibly be that he was fairly elected over Hayes in 1876 and unjustly deprived of his right. In such a campaign as this, where there are really no questions of first-rate importance, that consideration would have had great weight in determining the votes of thousands who, despite their affected "enthusiasm" feel little actual interest in the "issues" that their party managers have laboriously and ingeniously thought up and invited them to divide on. Satisfactory and intelligible answers to the questions "What is a Democrat?" and "What is a Republican?" have long been lacking, and from the present appearances are not going to be soon supplied.

In the candidacy of Mr. Blaine there is a deeper significance than either his friends or his enemies suspect. It has a meaning which to those who look below the ruffled surface of politics for the still, strong currents of public feeling and hear in the senseless shouts of the populace a grave undertone of destiny, is not altogether reassuring. It is now nearly twenty years since the close of our last war. A new generation has grown up and is now active in political affairs—a generation that has had neither the opportunity to distinguish itself in armies nor the experience to deter it from that ambition. The soldiers of the civil war are now well along in their "anecdote," and are "fighting their battles o'er again" to enthusiastic audiences about the domestic hearth. In the last few years the most popular newspaper and magazine literature has been the fiery and lurid reminiscences of the bivouac and battlefield. We are just far enough removed

in point of time from the exciting events of the great struggle to be no longer keenly afflicted by memories of the death and devastation that attended it; and not too far for it to have a lively personal interest through the survival among us of its heroes. From admiration to emulation the transition is easy and unconscious. In addition to these causes, and those deeper ones inhering in the very nature of the race and best expressed in the trite saying that "man is a fighting animal," is the fact of our unexampled growth in wealth and strictly parallel growth in the sense of power. We are "feeling our oats" and growing restive under the restraints of peace. We are affected by the insolence of prosperity. There are several classes—powerful ones, too—who besides this unconscious infection have definite and distinct interests in deliberately though covertly fanning the flame—the army, the navy, the commercial classes and the politicians, with many others. It would be too much to say that all, or nearly all, if any one of these classes favor war, but many of them indirectly do so by all manner of insidious means. They are a minority, but they are active in disseminating the seeds of war upon the soil of patriotism, which they have carefully prepared to receive them. In short, America is "spoiling for a fight." The vernal sunshine of prosperity has set the blood of our savage ancestors boiling in our veins and we are ready to leave our reservation and go upon the war-path at the slightest provocation. This feeling finds expression in significant ways—in a certain unusual "touchiness" regarding what we conceive to be slight, diplomatically administered by foreign powers; in renewed tenderness for the old soldiers (at a million dollars or so per tenderness); in a growing uneasiness when we contemplate our ridiculously inadequate navy and a clamor for its increase; in a lively interest in foreign affairs that are none of our business, such as the progress of the Panama canal; and in a dozen, nay a hundred other ways.

Mr. Blaine owes his nomination, and if he be elected will owe his election to the feeling that he is strongly and aggressively "American," as indeed he is. His brief tenure of the post of Secretary of State was marked by a vigorous and even impudent policy with regard to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the war between Chili and Peru, and other matters effected by the famous "Monroe doctrine." He evolved also a most capitulating scheme for a gigantic confederation of the American Republics, which he pushed just far enough to attract attention, but not far enough to prove its wild absurdity and show the "entangling alliances" that would be its inevitable result. It is a fact capable of daily demonstration by simple inquiry, that the main reason of his supporters' preference is that he will make the name of the United States not only respected but feared abroad.

The perils of the situation require no pointing out. Thoughtful men have not caught the military contagion, but it is not easy to see what they can do, for it has attacked all the rest without regard to party lines. The Democrats will be actuated by it, without a doubt, in their "declaration of principles," and, if they are as wise (and harmless) as serpents, in the selection of their standard bearer. The worst of it is that hardly any one discerns this powerful unspoken influence, and no one so far has uttered a note of warning. It is "in the air."

B.

Legislative Assembly,  
SESSION—1884.

THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

The House met at 10 A. M.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Brown moved a reconsideration of the bill to remove the Second Judicial Court from Lahaina to Waikuku.

Mr. W. O. Smith supported the motion, and he regretted the absence of the Governor of Maui, as he was in favor of the change.

Mr. Kalua opposed the motion. He stated that Lahaina was the seat of the Government on Maui; the Governor resides there; it is a port of entry and a renowned city. He was informed by his constituents to oppose the change.

The motion to reconsider was lost by a vote of 18 to 20.

Mr. Godfrey Brown rose to give an explanation of his remarks of the previous day, referring to the item of \$500, salary overdrawn by the Minister of the Interior. As the matter took place several months before Mr. Gulick took office it did not apply

to the present Minister, but to his predecessor. If he had made use of any unparliamentary language he wished to apologize for having done so.

Mr. Dole, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, reported on the bill to amend Section 782, Civil Code, relating to time and places for holding elections. A new bill had been drawn out, and was read a first time. The report of the Committee was adopted.

Mr. Kalua moved it be read a second time by title and be engrossed. Carried. To be read a third time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Bishop gave notice of his intention to introduce a joint resolution ordering the Minister of Finance to pay over to Queen's Hospital the taxes collected and known as Hospital taxes.

Mr. Palohou moved that Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays be devoted to the consideration of the Appropriation bill, commencing Monday next.

Mr. Smith thought it unfitting for the Assembly to consider the Appropriation Bill until the disposal of the Finance Committee's report.

The previous question was moved and carried. A motion to lay on table was lost. Original motion carried.

Mr. Nakaleka moved that \$5,000 be appropriated for building a bridge over the stream at Waikola. Laid on table.

Mr. Keau moved that \$5,000 be appropriated for translating, printing and binding of new Civil Code in the Hawaiian language, and that when finished a copy be furnished each member of the Assembly. Carried.

Mr. Kaunamano moved that copies of Hawaiian reports, Vol. IV., be furnished to each member of the Assembly.

Mr. W. O. Smith opposed the motion.

Mr. Ahole suggested that members should practice what they preach. If post-ages, stamps, penknives and carriage hire were objectionable to them, they need not accept of them. He moved previous question. Motion carried and books supplied.

Mr. W. O. Smith moved

## ORDER OF THE DAY.

House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole.

Dr. J. Mott Smith took the Chair.

Mr. Kanealii, said the matter of \$384.32 in the Foreign Office attracted his particular attention. He had since learned that this sum had been paid into the Treasury, but no interest had been paid by the person who held it. He next referred to items specially mentioned on pages 24 and 26 of the report, and also to the \$500 paid to the ADVERTISER office for work not done. He was of opinion the money should be refunded at once. There was \$2264 in the possession of somebody, and it was unaccounted for. It was public money. The appointment of the Secretary of the Minister of Foreign Affairs was entirely illegal, as he had never taken the oath of allegiance until he was required.

He pointed out that the English version of the laws was now in the hands of the binder but not a single line of the Hawaiian copy was yet in the hands of the printer although a sum of \$200 had been drawn by Mr. Kapena on this account, he being employed on the preparation of the native version. A great deal of money paid under the loan act, which should have gone into the Treasury was illegally expended. The Ministers have expended nearly \$600,000 for immigration purposes contrary to law. The Committee on Finance had charged that the Ministers and Auditor-General were acting in collusion for the expenditure of public moneys in violation of the Constitution and laws of the Kingdom.

He reviewed the report at great length quoting from it freely and calling attention to the shortcomings in the acts of the Ministry, in the Board of Health, the Board of Education and other departments. He was in favor of the report being adopted.

Mr. Godfrey Brown informed the House that the \$50 said to be in the hands of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs was refunded.

At 12.10 p.m. the House took a recess until one o'clock. His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs having the floor.

On reassembling at 1 o'clock Mr. Gibson rose and said he regretted to observe in this discussion that there are many of the minor reports of the Committee of Finance harped upon as though they had not been touched upon by the Ministers. He therefore moved it proper to touch upon them again. With regard to the item of \$384 which was paid twice to the ADVERTISER, an explanation was given to the Finance Committee by the Secretary and it ought to have been laid before the House. It was under these circumstances: It was owing to a change of Secretaries in the Foreign Office and change of managers in the office of the ADVERTISER. When Iaukea was Secretary the bill was brought to him. After a time, the Secretary goes away and a new man takes his place. The manager of the newspaper had not fully posted up his books before leaving, and in consequence a new bill was made out and presented to the new Secretary. He knew nothing of the matter whatever. He could not have known that it was an error. It is true that bills are laid before him and he had to scrutinize them, but how could he know that this mistake had been made. Why should the honorable members dwell on this matter as though the Minister had made an intentional mistake; as though

pains had been taken to conceal the matter? As soon as an error is discovered, it must be corrected. What further can be said or done?

He next referred to the sum of \$50 in the hands of the Secretary of the Foreign Office. There were certain purchases made on account of the Museum. The Librarian bid for these articles. There was a dispute about \$50; all articles were paid for except those in dispute. He told the Secretary he must pay back the amount the same as other balances. He regretted to say his instructions were not at once carried out. The acting Secretary explained that there were goods to arrive, and have since arrived per Kalua. He had taken pains not to hold \$1 in his hands and regretted this \$50 was not paid into the treasury instead of leaving it in the Foreign Office.

The Hon. members of the Opposition laid stress on the fact of an additional 1 per cent. paid to tax assessors and tax collectors. It being optional with the Minister of Finance he considered there should be extra remuneration awarded to those gentlemen, as according to the new law there was left out in Honolulu alone an assessable value to the amount of \$7,000,000. He will mention one or two instances in order to show what he particularly referred to. In 1882 one firm alone returned \$900,000 personal property, whereas in 1883 they returned less than \$50,000. Formerly they paid taxes on the amount; they had advanced on mortgages, whereas in 1883 they were not required to do so by law; \$7,000,000 represented nearly \$38,000 taxation. Seeing there was going to be large decrease in taxable property, it was competent for the Minister of Finance to increase the compensation. It so happened that the Assessor by his diligence in assessing newly discovered properties nearly made up the estimated loss. It might be asked that why should he have an extra 1 per cent. paid to him? Of the \$28,000 provided by the Legislature for the pay of tax assessors and tax collectors, a little less than \$27,000 was expended. There was no occasion to say that the country has suffered a loss on account of this pay to the tax assessor. The Hon. Chairman of the Committee of Finance made strictures on the Minister of Foreign Affairs for having paid out public funds for the Coronation, not provided by the Legislature in the previous appropriation. Reference had been made to several small matters not under the appropriation act. Mr. Chairman you will remember that the Coronation Act passed in 1880, and in the Session of 1882 it was resolved to act upon it. The matter was discussed and \$10,000 inserted in the Appropriation Bill, but on further consideration that sum was found to be not sufficient. The question arose, how should they provide expenses to be incurred and which cannot be covered by \$10,000. According to the advice of Mr. Preston it was agreed that a certain additional sum for incidentals of \$3000 on \$4000 should be inserted in the Department of Foreign Affairs, also in providing for the expenses for reception of foreign guests it was well understood the object was to provide for carrying out the Coronation Act. So it was tantamount to a vote of this Assembly of \$26,000 or \$27,000—for Coronation—\$10,000 according to law, and \$17,000 supplemented. There were men-of-war here at the time, the officers of which vessels were as much official guests as that special Japanese embassy. They were not diplomat envoys, but they had to provide for the reception and entertainment of these distinguished visitors. All the bills were in connection with the Coronation and this money was spent in that way to do honor to the occasion.

He was sorry to recognise in the remarks of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance an exceedingly strong and bitter expression, as though he had a strong antipathy and animus to himself (Mr. G.). He was surprised and regretted its manifestation. The Hon. gentleman commenting on certain remarks referring to Mr. Keau, spoke of it as though he had cast an opprobrium on the Hon. member for Honolulu. Now he simply repeated what he had said before with regard to Mr. Keau's not thoroughly understanding accounts in the English language. He spoke courteously of him, he was a personal friend of his, and the Hon. gentleman knew there was not the slightest foundation for this misrepresentation of his words. The word "ignoramus" is his own invention—nothing of the kind was said and the use of such a word was evidence of his own partizan spirit. He had a few remarks to make in reply to the Hon. President of the Assembly. He made them in all kindness and with much diffidence to a once most deserving and honorable friend. He felt he must have been misled, that affairs had been misrepresented to his mind. One remark struck him painfully. He referred to having obtained information from one of his (Mr. G.'s) lieutenants. (Mr. Rhodes said that he made no remarks whatever about lieutenants.)

Mr. Gibson proceeded. He said he was no captain. He claimed to be the simple friend of his colleagues—he was a friend of every man and no captain over any man. He was far from assuming any such state of authority.

Mr. Rhodes said he had reference to the