THE DAILY BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

HONOLULU, H. I,, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1882.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

A SONG FOR THE SEASON.

Christmas is coming, ring out the sweet bells,
That echo his step in their musical chime;
Fill high the bright bumper that sparkles and swells,
And forces the poet's warm thought into rhyme:
Let fond eyes look love till eyes look back again,
With equal devotion to those that are dear;
Forget every burden of sorrow and pain—
Be jocund and gay, for old Christmas is near.

Christmas is coming, make friends with your foe,
Subdue the harsh thought that drives mercy away;
If you would win pardon, then pardon bestow,
That peace and good will may be round you for aye.
In cottage or castle, in hut or hall,
Gather round you the faces and forms that are dear;
Let your greeting be loving, to one and to all
The heartiest welcome—for Christmas is near.

Christmas is coming, fling wide the hall door,
Let the larder be heaped with luxurious fare;
Open house for the friend, open purse for the poor,
Till charity lightens the shadow of care.
Let the song and the feast, be to greatest and least,
As free as the sunshine that brightens the year;
By the liberal hand shall the store be increased,
So give, and give kindly, for Christmas is near.

—*Edward Ellis, Selected.*

A VISIT TO OAHU PRISON.

Last week, in company with a friend, I went on a visit to Mr. Buckle's Hotel on the island. We lifted the brass knocker attached to to the little low portal and rapped thrice. The door moved and we were admitted to the presence of a guard who respectfully saluted us. Mr. Charles Clarke met us at the head of the steps, and after a cordial salutation, proceeded to accompany us on our tour of inspection. Passing through the hall we went into the court-yard, and on the makai side of the building found the hospital. Here the sick patients are treated by the prison physician, Dr. Hoffmann. There were not many patients under treatment at the time of our visit. We saw enough to show us that their wants were being well attended to. The walls of the hospital are brightened with a few pictures and a small library stands in one corner of the room. But more could be done in this direction and I trust the approaching Christmas season will find some good Samaritans who will attend to these matters, not only in the prison, but in all our public institutions where there are inmates who cannot attend to these matters themselves.

Leaving the Hospital, we went into the court-yard again, still keeping on the makai side. We passed the shelter sheds which are divided into compartments—one is kept for Hawaiians only, another is for Chinamen, and another for the foreigners. This is done to prevent quarrelling amongst the varied nationalities.

Next comes the kitchen which is attended to by three cooks, all chinese, and all incarcerated for smuggling opium. The windowof the kitchen, although barred, looks out on an open green to which the public have free access and is so low that anyone from the outside may come up close to it, and look in, and hold communication with the inmates. It was through this window that the vigilance of Mr. Clarke detected opium being smuggled into the gaol. The authorities ought to enclose the aforesaid green with a high wall or fence as there is no means at present of keeping anything out this way, except by a constant watch by a man on the spot.

In front of the kitchen is a cistern and also an enclosure for washing. Beyond this, again. is a small patch of grass and a tiny pond of gold-fish. The court-yard has some very fine, large, and spreading shade-trees.

While we were in the court-yard the bell for locking up sounded, and the guard turned out. The order "Fix bayonets' was given, and the prisoners fell in four deep.

Then we went inside to witness the roll call. Mr. Clarke stood on the steps facing the corridor along both sides of which are the cells with their doors wide open. As he called out each name the prisoner answered and advanced along the corridor till he came to the door of his cell which he entered. As soon as two prisoners had entered the cell one of turnkeys shut the door and another locked it. This was done as fast as the names were called and in a very few minutes the whole were locked up for the night.

Each cell containe two hammocks which are rolled up during the day time and fastened to iron hooks let in to the wall. At night these are unrolled and hung from end to end of the cell. These is just room for these two hammocks side by side and there is no other furniture in the cell. The walls of the cell are white washed and the floor is as clean and white as scrubbing can make it. There is a little barred or grated window without glass in the wall opposite the door and another over the door. In some cells one prisoner only is put. For instance, Wilkerson, the King barber, is in a cell by himself as all the prisoners are afraid to sleep with him.

The men are kept on one side of the building and the women on the other. Down below are the dark cells into which, when the doors are shut not a ray of light enters. Refractory prisoners are placed in these for so many hours at a time as a punishment.

Next to these is the bread-room where the biscuit is stored; and next again is the poi room, of this about 350 to 450lbs. are used daily.

The corridor under the women's cells is used for keeping those awaiting trial and, at one end of it, is the cell in which those condemned to be hung are kept the night previous to their execution. The door is one large grate through which the whole interior may be seen, and in front of it is a large tub of earth on which is placed a lamp and, when anyone is in that cell a warden sits beside it through the night to see that the man does not make away with himself. About 20 have been hung since the gaol was built.

The governor Mr. Buckle, occupies the upper rooms of the building as his private apartments. On the main floor as you go in are the office and the guard-room. In the hall is hung the bell by whose sound the vigilance of the guards is made known and the life of the inmates regulated.

Outside the prison are the grounds and the garden which bear witness to the care and taste of Mr Buckle's family. On holidays the prisoners are allowed the free use of these to amuse themselves under strict supervision. Beyond these again, and close to the water's edge is a coral-rock quarry on which the Norwegians from Papaikou were employed.

At the time of our visit there were 150 prisoners within its walls of whom 9 were women. The remainder comprised 66 natives, 52 Chinamen, 30 foreigners, and 1 Japanese. After signing our names in the visitor's book we took our leave, complimenting Mr. Buckle on the thorough cleanliness and order in the whole building. The place is, in fact so clean that, to use a common phrase, you could eat your dinner off any part of it.

To sum up, the whole is excellent even as compared with model prisons in other countries, the only defects in the present system being that some in door employment should be devised for the inmates, who could thus spend that time profitably which now on very wet days and at some other times they spend in idleness; and that no prisoners should on any account be allowed to work for private individuals.

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OFFICE RULES.

The following rules have been posted up in the office of a firm here, doing a large business. Although not original, we insert them for our readers' amusement.

1—Gentlemen, on entering, will leave the door wide open or apologize.

2—Those having no business should remain as long as possible, take a chair and lean against the wall. It will preserve the wall and may prevent its falling on us.

3—Gentlemen are requested to smoke, especially during office hours; tobacco and cigars of the finest brands will be supplied.

4—Spit on the floor, as the spittoons are only for ornament.

5—TALK LOUD OR WHISTLE especially when we are engaged. If this has not the desired effect, SING.

6—If we are in business conversation with anyone gentlemen are requested not to wait till we are through, but join in, as we are particularly fond of speaking to half-a-dozen or more at a time.

7—Profane language is expected at all times especially if ladies are present.

8—Put your feet on the table, or lean against the desk; it will be of great assistance to those who are writing.

9—Persons having no business to transact, will call often or excuse themselves.

10—Should the loan of money be desired, do not fail to ask for it as we do not require it for business purposes, but merely for the sake of lending.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(BY FLANEUR.)

Special for the Daily Bulletin.)

Among the traditional usages of the house of Hohenzollern, not the least remarkable is the practice of requiring the heir to the Crown, when he arrives at man's estate, to pass a year or two in the civil service of the country. Prince William of Prussia, the Crown Prince's eldest son, has, in accordance with this custom, just been introduced by his grandfather, the Emperor William, to the President of the province of Brandenburg, to whom His Majesty has confided the task of introducing the junior Crown Prince to a practical insight into the working of the administrative and executive organisation of the kingdom.

A "find" has been made in the Escurial, the famous summer palace of King Philip II, which will doubtless have great interest for future historians —a secret mint, in which the husband of Mary Tudor was in the habit of making bad money wherewith to defray the expenses of his numerous wars. It is startling to think that the cost of fitting out the famous Armada may have been provided from this source. Spain manages better in these days. Philip II cheated people by paying his debts in false coin; his successors don't pay the debts at all, neither in good money nor in bad. And yet people say the world improves!

A new and somewhat original journal will shortly be published at Paris, and will be entitled *Entre Nous*. This new venture will be published by subscription and delivered to subscribers only, and in this case it will not be on sale at the Kiosques, nor at the newsvendors.

The Countess of L., a great lady moving in the Court circles of Vienna, is passionately fond of pearls. In fact, she is the female counterpart of Lord Topaz in "Lothair." A few days ago the Countess received a visit from her jeweller, who very strongly recommended her to become the purchaser of a most magnificent "rope of pearls." "They are quite unique, Madame, I assure you" said the jeweller, "and the price to *you* is only a hundred thousand florins." "*Only* a hundred thousand florins," repeated the Countess, with a smile; "but, *n'importe*, let me have a look at your gems. I feel strong enough to resist the temptation to buy." Thereupon the jeweller opened the casket which contained his treasure, and displayed a string of pearls of such faultless