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HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to issue Policies on Cargoes, Freight and Treasure.

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Examination of Archimed's School, Waianae, April 9.

What E. D. saw at the second examination of Archimedes Kola's School at Waianae.

At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, another meeting was held respecting foreign tongues.

Kola remarked, that in the morning no prayer had been made before the examination.

and therefore he had had a headache. To prevent a second one, a prayer was made by a native kahuna.

I retired, and staid outside until the end of said prayer. Kola's school does not belong to the Government.

Therefore he had a right to have this kind of prayer made. But it is not the same when, in the examination of Government schools, a prayer is made in the Calvinist fashion.

In the presence of children and parents of different religions. This is done against the rules of the Board of Education.

They play the Devil, (literally.) Doctor Kola announced what was to be treated at this meeting, and among other things, the judgment of Satan. Soon after appeared the dreadful foe of mankind.

He advanced proudly, in pompous dress, a royal hat on his head, a cane in hand, and two large leaves of the cocconut tree crossed on his back, figuring his numerous avatars. He looked around with fierce eyes and hissings; blew in his hollowed cane, and darted out several times, his infernal tongue, (a flexible rod.) Here comes, behold, another devil, with a similar dress, mournfully commiserating his dear lord for the judgment he is about to undergo. They both bow and hiss awfully on the same case. Behold, again, two monstrous devils, covered with dry banana leaves, and drawing long tails. They walk like bears on their hind legs, pointing to the people around them. Suddenly an iron chain tangle hold of them. They rear and pinch, crying for help, but are pitilessly driven back to hell, with a roar of laughter from the assembly.

They have a critical biblical discussion. Archimedes Kola then began to speak of the number of books, chapters and verses of the Bible, adding that in the Catholic Bible there are many more. But he called the Catholic Bible apocryphal, without naming, however, the pretended apocryphal books, and without giving any proof of his bold assertion. I remembered the adage--good gratis assessor, gratis nuptiar, and did not think the circumstances fit for engaging in a controversy on the canonical books of the Holy Scriptures. But I asked Kola to avow, in the presence of the assembly, on account of his great fame for knowing foreign tongues, that the Greek Bible has been very badly translated into Hawaiian. I added that, on this avowal from him, I would recognize that he knew something about foreign languages. Kola refused to make this avowal. I then told him that in the first verse of St. Matthew, there are three mistakes in the Hawaiian New Testament, even in the last edition, printed in 1858. [We are obliged to omit the particulars of the verbal criticism.--Ed.]

The examination proceeded by Kola's of his scholars to write two verses expressing two titles of Jesus Christ. He said: "Write Alpha (instead of Alpha), and Omega." In fact, the scholar wrote the Hebrew Aleph and the Greek Omega, the latter of which he made wrongly. Kola bantered him, saying, pleasantly, (as he did frequently at an scholar's ban), that there was confusion in the pupil's head, on account of the abundance of his learning. I said the letter written by the scholar was a true Omega--the capital one. A member of the Committee looked into the Greek Grammar of Kola, and said I was right. Kola had not specified what Omega he wanted, and he denied generally the scholar's letter to be an Omega. Here is another mistake of his about Greek: He said that Katakola means akakia, (father). I told him that the Greek word katakola means universal, from kata, (over), and kola, (all). The renowned Hellenist said, loudly enough, that he was nearly puzzled, because there was present one who knew too much about Greek.

Kola forgot (or did not dare), to examine his scholars in Latin. I asked him if he would be pleased, in order to prove his knowledge of Latin and Greek, to answer some questions on decisions and conjugations. The Committee told me not to ask him such questions, and Kola, not contradicting them, indicated that he was truly unable to answer questions on that subject. But he signed (crossed) himself in Latin, saying, "In nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti." This was his answer to my demand. He is never short of an answer.

The new Archimedes, to be an accomplished linguist, had learned, during one month, some words of the Chinese language, and taught them in his school. He did not omit to examine his scholars in that language. A Chinaman present said some words were right and some wrong.

Here ended the ever memorable examination of Archimedes in his foreign languages, on Friday, April 9th, 1869, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

Another meeting took place after supper, when a female scholar, of Honolulu, delivered a speech in English, taken out of Solomon's Castles. After that, the numerous assembly were again amused by the exhibition of human devils; and Kola gave the long expected solution of his own question about Noah's hammer.

R. D.

Wimbledon Common.

One of the beauties of London, or rather of its neighborhood, consists in the extent of still unbroken commons. The most picturesque of those still remaining is Wimbledon, at the distance of some six miles from the heart of the town.

Emerging from the long rows of suburban villas, one finds one's self on the edge of a broad level plain, with long stretches of turf, bounded by gorse and heather, and to all appearance as wild as a moor in Scotland. Beyond the plain, the common descends pretty steeply to the edge of a little stream on the other side of which are the picturesque slopes of Combe Wood, belonging to the Duke of Cambridge.

Several little ravines break the crest of the hill, and may stand for very fair miniatures of a Highland glen. Standing at the bottom, one has on each side broken banks of gorse, and the vista is closed by the foliage of Combe Wood. For anything that strikes the senses, London might be as distant as it is from Helvellyn or Ben Lomond. Indeed, the extreme seclusion of these glens recommended them in former days as the scenes of duels, at the last of which the notorious Lord Cardigan was a performer, and he has been quoted as saying that it was a scene which he would not have been so much surprised to see in the mountains of the Alps.

How it comes to pass that so much unbroken ground has still been preserved from the universal plague of brick and mortar, would be too long a story to tell; only I may say that a vigorous legal battle is raging between the commons, who maintain their right to keep it open, and Lord Spencer, the lord of the manor, who is anxious to establish his right to inclose it. Threatened by the constant anxiety of annexing so valuable a bit of property, and by the ambition of numerous railways to force a passage through it, it has hitherto held its ground; perhaps, however, its best chance of permanent safety consists in the fact that it has been unanimously chosen as the great meeting-ground of our volunteers. The level plateau does well as a parade-ground, and along the edge of the slope are erected the butts. Missing bullets are supposed occasionally to cross the valley, and slaughter the game in the recesses of Combe Wood; but till the wood is displaced by villas, human life will not be endangered.

Hence it comes to pass that Wimbledon Common is, at the present moment, a place of great resort. The annual volunteering matches are going forward, and volunteers from all parts of the Kingdom are swarming to this centre. There is the prize of £250 given by the Queen for the distinguished volunteer who will, for a year, be the champion shot of England. There are innumerable supplementary prizes, given by all sorts of persons from all sorts of motives, from the Prince of Wales to retail shopkeepers, and from pure patriotism to simple desire of advertisement. There are matches between England, Scotland and Ireland; between the Houses of Lords and Commons; between Oxford and Cambridge; and between Eton and Harrow. There are prizes to be won in all sorts of competitions, and with all sorts of rifles. There are prizes for firing as many shots as possible in a minute, for firing at a moving object shaped like a stag, for firing whilst running fifty yards between each shot, and for excellence in any other imaginable variety of competition. Now, to my mind, there is no sturdier sight in this world than a rifle-match. You see a gentleman lying on his stomach for a long time carefully adjusting a rifle; he fires it, and you are informed that he has done something wonderful, or the reverse; but when all is said, there has been nothing to see but a gentleman on his stomach. Moreover, there are so many competitions going on at once, that the mind of the ordinary civilian becomes hopelessly bewildered, and he strays vaguely from one butt to another, without a guess as to what is going on, till he reads the results in next day's newspaper. In another way, the sight is interesting enough. The rifle-shooting has become the centre of attraction for a gigantic picnic. It has become fashionable to camp out on the Common, and some three thousand men pass the time under canvas, by way, as I suppose they intended originally, of initiating themselves in the hardships of campaigning. If this was their design, it was laudable, but has been rather a failure. The tents have become as luxurious as tents can be. They are supplied by skillful caterers from London; there is abundance to eat and drink, and plenty of conviviality for those who do not fear the effect upon the firmness of their nerves. The volunteers seem to be having a very jolly time of it, and they consequently swarm in every variety of uniform. The most popular color, owing to some tradition about rifle-men, was a dark green, which, at a small distance, appeared to be positively black. A lighter gray has now become common, and some of the volunteers stick to the good old British scarlet. The consequence is, that a brigade of volunteers presents the most singular mixture of colors conceivable, and I fear that the variety of their dress represents only too faithfully the heterogeneous composition of the force in other respects. Indeed, a walk across Wimbledon Common would suggest to the "intelligent foreigner" of newspapers, some very obvious reflections as to our volunteer army. In one respect it has certainly succeeded beyond expectation. Rifle-shooting has become a popular amusement, and there are few towns of even moderate size which do not reckon a certain number of enthusiastic shots among their inhabitants. Although it is regarded with some contempt by the devotees of cricket, rowing, and other sports favored by the genuine athlete, it seems to have taken root as a kind of subsidiary amusement. In towns it has supplied a very useful recreation for the tradesmen, who have been very much in want of some open-air exercise; and the number of really good performers steadily increases. Considered as an army, the volunteers are much more open to criticism. Some thirty thousand of them went down the other day to a grand review at Wimbledon, and provoked by some railway mismanagement, they became dissolved, on their return, into a confused and chaotic mass. Some of their leaders have described them, in consequence, as an utter sham; and they have received some harsher language than they have hitherto been accustomed to. To say the truth, they have the faults which are incident to men merely "playing at soldiers." Their officers, with few exceptions, have not been trained in any way, and know next to nothing about their

The Inaugural Reception.

I have discovered the utmost test of the powers of human endurance--it is an "Inauguration Ball." I can understand how one might go to such a place from a "sense of duty," from the purpose to please another; but from personal pleasure, never. I went on the high ground of philanthropy. It is true I expect you to pay me for it, independent, and to pay me well--a fact which casts a doubt upon my entire disinterestedness. Nevertheless, my highest compensation comes from the knowledge that Molly, and Polly, and Susy, and Sally, and their sisters all over the land, may read everything about it, while they are toasting their toes and leaning back in their rocking-chairs, without being as nearly squeezed to death as I was, or without nursing their bruises for a week afterward. I suffered for your sakes, my dears. When the committee wrote to President Grant concerning this reception, he replied: "Gentlemen, you will please me best, if you dispense with it altogether." And our committee would owe it to the people of the land never to attempt to hold such a national reception again until Washington owns a fit assembly hall in which to hold it. It is the very best to cry out against this reception in itself. It is the most innocent and natural impulse possible that the thousands of people here, from Maine to Florida, should desire such an opportunity to see the chiefs of the nation and their families. They came to the Capital at great cost and pains, and wish to carry back to their remote homes as many pleasant memories as possible. Then somebody was terribly to blame for selling thousands of tickets at ten dollars each, to guests for whom there was no possible accommodation. The rooms in the new Treasury extension are spacious and beautiful; and, if no more persons had been admitted than could be accommodated, the reception would have been most delightful. But with ten thousand persons making their ingress and egress through the same doors, there could be but one result--the most cruel jamming that ever mortals endured. Yet there were four floors used, and the halls in each were ninety feet long by twenty feet in width. The marble room, the principal reception room, is perfect in itself. Its walls and trimmings are composed of six varieties of marble--the Pennsylvania black, the Vermont dove, the Tennessee chocolate, Italian white, Burdiglio mottled dove, and the Sienna yellow. The pillars of the room blossom out at the top into Corinthian leaves. Around the upper portion of the room extend a bronzed balcony, resting on white marble slabs. The room was decorated with flags and evergreens, blazing with chandeliers. Here at half past ten P. M., the committee received the President, Vice-President, and their families. Before that time the main hall leading to it had become hopelessly jammed with tortured mortals. As they were vainly trying to move in both directions at the same time, imagine the conflict. The heat was stifling. If everybody had smelled sweet, the "close communion" would have been quite as dreadful. But, O dear! I perceived positively more than the seven distinct odors of the city of Cologne. One poor little woman was compelled to keep her chignon shut against my mouth. I assure you it didn't send up a pleasant savor. It must have been her own. Though you never come to an inauguration reception again, let me recommend to you, my dear, a purifying wash of camphor and borax. The only chance we had for movement, was when some lady fainted, and a half-frantic policeman beat a passage for her distressed gentleman to carry her through. When the pushers from behind crashed upon us, it was not only the utmost test of endurance, but of temper.--Extract from a woman's letter.--Independent.