THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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BY HENRY M. WHITNEY,

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THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO HAWAIIAN PROGRESS.

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Nature's Own Book.

[The following magnificent poem comes to us under very singular circumstances. Two gentlemen whom we know, but who do not wish their names or residence given, assure us that it was written last Sunday evening by the hand of a spiritual medium, so called. It was written with the left hand—the "medium" having lost his right—and took only the time required in the mutual effort, which was performed very rapidly. The writing alternated from left to right and from right to left, every alternate line being commenced at the last end and terminated at the beginning. The "medium" is a man said to be well known in the place where we receive the M.S. as a person wholly without literary culture. Appended to the poem, in the same writing, were the words—"Composed on Nature's Own Book, by Henry C. Burns."—*Mr. Republican, Feb. 1, 1874.*]

Where he that thirs for nothing right
Studies o'er the lettered page
To fix the bounds of wrong and right—
To gather every ray of light
Dispersed by seers and sages bright,
To each admiring age!

Who's he, that, clothed in greatly dress
And lifted o'er the crowd,
Expounds the Eternal's terms of grace—
Declares the doom of all his race,
And fills the sacred temple's space
With declamations loud?

Go, bring these grave professors forth—
Bid them their Book lay by—
Show them their labored system's dearth,
Teach them the for superior worth
Of lessons spread abroad on earth
And scattered through the sky.

I love the altars of the Lord—
My soul would worship there;
The comforts of His Written Word
I feel that they may deem absurd
And only they who are have erred,
And such on earth are—where?

But there's another book to me
More ample, clear and bright;
'Tis always open, always free—
Who e'er has eyes its light may see—
All, rich alike and all equal—
It needs not faith, but sight.

In nature's bible not a line
By mystery is veiled;
No theologian's gracious fine
Can lenitify the grand design—
No other than the page divine,
Or man the teachings vast.

Do thy creation's works who view,
And while they view adore—
Hold differing creeds? Does each pursue
His own final whim, or false or true?
No! nature's sentence is—live,
And never will be more.

But what does nature teach? you cry—
What doctrine does she prove?
That God's all power, I reply—
All-wise, unseen, and cannot die—
An omnipresent Deity
Whose character is love.

His power throughout unmeasured space
Outstrips the speed of thought;
His wisdom's plain in every place—
His presence felt, though seen no trace
Material of his earthly face,
With heavenly glories fraught.

What skill appears in every flower—
In form, in hue, in smell?
In storm winds what tremendous power?
What beauty in the summer shower?
What influence in devotion's hour?
Speak, ye who best can tell.

Can he who lifts his ardent gaze
Up to the stars above,
Pass heedless in, without amaze?
Can he his soul's meridian blaze
Behind removed, then go his ways
And doubt there's a God?

The insect's wing—the unfinished mite,
The smallest plate that grows—
The whirlwind resting o'er the plain—
The humble sparrow's lowly strain—
All, grand, or mean, or low, or vain,
His clear existence shows.

Nor less has nature's volume taught
Of principles within:
Whence comes the wondrous power of thought?
Was it by chance from nothing wrought?
And will it sink again to naught,
As though it ne'er had been?

And do the wise for this contend:
How can a spirit die?
Does soul on body so depend
That they must both together end?
If so, we need not apprehend
The mind's destruction nigh.

Can thought identify drop and fall,
Be like what first must be,
While matter survive destruction's call—
Triumphs throughout the whirling ball—
And changing, rules, unwasting all
Through vast eternity.

Behold how winter o'er the year
With rain seems to spread,
Uncontrolled plants in death appear,
While fallen forms the spring shall rear
Nature's analogies are clear—
She knows no creature dead.

Would I to fix my faith demand
That friends departed rise
From the front spirit's unknown land;
They come, before my face they stand,
I see their not our hear, my hand
To feel them vainly vise.

If reason, instinct, nature fail
The precious truth to find,
No ghost from Death's dominion pale—
No martyr's oath, no Angel's tale,
No voice from heaven would o'er avail
To prove immortal mind.

Oh, nature, let thy books sublime
To me be opened wide;
Thy precepts reach to every clime;
They grasp eternity and time,
The heavy age and youthful prime
May in their truth confide.

Their eye is thro the affections own,
By thee the passions move,
Thou hast at the title of feeling flow,
The heart to warm, the soul to glow,
And taught of thee the joys we know,
Of sympathy and love.

All beauty, order, material skill—
All moral worth is thine;
Lo! Boundless space thy splendors fill,
Bright worlds above obey thy will,
And as they roll demonstrate still
Intelligence divine.

Great nature's bible stands the same
Unchanged from age to age;
Immutable from God it came,
No cobbler's glose—no pontiff's name,
No creeds commit that man might frame,
Pollute its perfect page.

To him who reads with judging eye,
And studies as he should,
Philosophy brings large supplies,
His mind improves, his pleasures rise
He cannot but be good and wise,
He cannot but be good.

Nor will his march of mind be done
When this brief life is o'er;
The immortal race not soon is run,
Nor soon perfection's prize is won;
There are in space more worlds than one,
And souls were formed to soar.

A fashionable wedding in Paris was that of the Marquis of Albufera with Mademoiselle de Canbacorres. Among those present were Prince Charles Bonaparte, Prince Joachim Murat, the Duke of Padua, Baron Rothschild, the Duke and Duchess of Galliera.

Personal Items.

J. Smith, United States, is registered in London.

Queen Victoria has nine children and twenty-one grandchildren.

Captain Lott, of the Scotia, has sailed across the Atlantic 450 times.

Gough indorses the "women's movement" in a subdued and modified way.

The Czar of Russia will visit England, and go thence to Wurtemberg.

Jay Cooke says he intends to pay every dollar of his indebtedness, if he lives long enough.

One John McCarthy, a leper from his birth, twenty-one years ago, is in a Detroit hospital.

The Earl of Derby has lately been called the "personification and genius of common sense."

There are still three men living who have seen Washington; two in Galveston, and one in Maysville, Ky.

"Carl Schurz has a voice like the wind sighing through sugar-cane," says a Washington correspondent.

Brownlow is down on Revels, and he calls him a "high-nosed nigger, without an honest kink in his wool."

Miss Zoe Swisshelm, daughter of Mrs. Jane G. Swisshelm, is said to be a musical student of great promise.

General Sherman still thinks the only good Indian is the dead Indian. He goes back on old Tecumseh.—*Boston Post.*

Train has a lucid interval. He writes: "My speech-making days are over. Those who have never heard me never will."

Mrs. Langdon, widow of Walter Langdon, and daughter of the late John Jacob Astor, died on the 15th ultimo, at Nice, France.

Professor Proctor has got to Chicago. This is the farthest he can get from the abodes of the heavenly planets.—*Boston Post.*

M. Guizot, now in his eighty-sixth year, is still in good health, and this year intends to commence his "Universal History."

The Infanta Maria Theresa, Countess of Molina, who died lately at Trieste, in her eightieth year, was the mother of Don Carlos of Spain.

Adelaide Chasmel, the widow of the great tenor Rubini, has died at Bergamo, in her eighty-sixth year. She was a native of Bordeaux, France.

The death of John Pye, one of the most famous of English landscape engravers, is announced, at the age of 82. His greatest works were from Turner's paintings.

The youthful Emperor of China disregards all precedents in his office: he walks the streets of Pekin at night incognito. Evidently he means to know what is going on in his dominions.

It is whispered that there has been some trouble with the poet laureate about an ode of welcome to the Princess Marie, and that, in consequence, it is doubtful whether the ode can appear in time.

Dr. Lee, of All Saints Church, London, a ritualist of the brightest tint, celebrated All Saints Day in a white satin cape, lined with pink, and gorgeous in embroidery. His tournure was much admired.

A short time before his death, in a letter to General Ewell, Robert E. Lee wrote: "I find my present life exceedingly congenial and pleasant to me, and I have discovered, when too late, that I have wasted the best years of my existence."

Robert Buchanan says of his great countryman, Thomas Carlyle, that his influence has been thoroughly noxious, and that he has supported every kind of tyranny and three great lies—"the lie of the South, the lie of Jamaica, and the lie of the German war."

Ex-United States Senator James Shields, who had a leg broken last year, is able to walk about. General Shields was in the Mexican War and in the late rebellion, and it used to be said of him that he never went into a battle without getting shot.

Mme. Catacuzy is in Paris, where the continued beauty and taste of her toilets is amply appreciated, but a chronicler delicately suggests the waning of her natural charms by saying that "unadorned she would be adorned as little as one can imagine."

Marshal Bazaine, in his "seclusion" at Sainte-Marguerite, only goes out for two hours in the day, walking in the court belonging to his prison, under the surveillance of two keepers. His meals are furnished by the boatman of the island, who is, at the same time, sutler of the troops.

PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE.—"Refined homes," says the New York *Nation*, "are the end of civilization. All the work of the world, the railroading and navigating, digging, manufacturing, inventing, teaching, writing, fighting, are done, first of all, to secure each family in the possession of its own hearth; secondly, to surround as many hearths as possible with grace and culture and beauty. The work of all races for five thousand years is represented in the difference between a wigwam and a lady's parlor. It has no better result to show."

HANDSOME IS THAT HANDSOME DOES."—Unfortunately, beautiful women are not always good and gentle, and a pretty face does not, as a general thing, inspire love and trust. But there are exceptions to all rules. I was once walking a short distance behind a very handsomely dressed young girl, and thinking, as I looked at her beautiful clothes, "I wonder whether she takes half as much pains with her heart as she does with her body?" A poor old man was coming up the walk with a loaded wheelbarrow, and just before he had reached us he made two attempts to go in the yard of the house; but the gate was too heavy, and would swing back before he could get in. "Wait," said the girl, springing forward, "I'll hold the gate open," and she held the gate until he had passed in, and received his thanks with a pleasant smile as she passed on. "She deserves to have beautiful clothes," I thought, "for a beautiful spirit dwells in her breast."

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