THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE
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THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO HAWAIIAN PROGRESS.

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The Closing Scene.

[illegible]

Variety.

Sweetness and light: a love match.

Whisky is also an artificial human and an infernal turn on.

The alligator that swallowed a corset is dead. It stayed on his stomach.

Why are children like jellies? Because as they are molded, so they will turn out.

A Mount Holyoke township farmer put upon an old horse's back just to amuse the inside arrangement. He says he thinks he will be able to see his barn in about two weeks.

Mary questioning her little brother on the gender of nouns: "Now, Tommy, what is the feminine of boy?" Tommy: "Why, girls, of course." [Mary finds "all of a quiver."

When they build a railroad the first thing they do is to break ground. This differs from all great ceremony. Then they break the stockholders. This is done without ceremony.

"Mr." says Victor Hugo, "was the concubine of the eighteenth century; woman is the concubine of the nineteenth century." We can't guess her; but we'll never give her up—no, never!

One of our writers, in making his report of burials, is explicit to a most commendable degree. For instance, such entries as this occur: "Died, John Smith; male; aged three days; unmarried."

The reason why a woman requires a large wallet for the transportation of twenty-five-cent note is as deeply wrapped in mystery as the reason why a dog always turns around three times when he gets up after a nap.

Uncle Lem: "Now, Sammy, tell me, have you read the beautiful story of Joseph?" Sam: "Oh! yes, Uncle." "Uncle: "Well, then, what wrong did they do when they sold their brother?" Sam: "They sold him too cheap, I think."

Bertie, who has a difference with his sister about a story: "You are wrong, Katie. But I won't argue with you, because papa says it's wrong to argue with a woman; and I won't call you a fool, because that would be below the dignity of a gentleman."

The mother of one boy of the Vicksburg *Herald* must be a fair candidate for the Free Religionists. "My son, go away that ball. Do you know where the wicked boys go who play base-ball on Sunday?" "Yes'm. They go down to the Fair Grounds."

A pious but uneducated judge closed a sentence with the following touching exposure: "Prisoner at the bar, Nature has endowed you with a good education and respectable family connections; instead of which you go prowling around the country stealing chickens."

The inexplicable forms of childhood are at times extraordinary. The boy who left school sick yet ran a block in the morning will go to the circus at 2 p. m. the same day, fall off a seat sixteen or eighteen feet high, and never hurt himself more than to miss four or five minutes of the performance.

A Boston school girl of twelve years thus writes to her absent friend: "Dear Susie: I shan't attend school again until I get some new suits, collars, and jewelry—Sister Nanie agrees with me that it is my duty to take the shine of that Upstart Mamy Jones, and I'll do it if I never learn anything."

Roger M. Sherman was arguing a case and made a point which the judge did not at once see. "Mr. Sherman," said he, "I would thank you to state the point so that I can understand you." Bowing politely, Sherman replied, in his blandest manner: "Your honor is not probably aware of the task you are imposing on me."

In a moment of restless enthusiasm, a young lady in ordering chicken, stated that she would refile herself of it if a chance, five hundred chances to be taken, when a gentleman whipped out his wallet and announced that he would take the entire number. The fair one, surprised at such promptness, stated that the price would be withdrawn for private offers.

A gentleman in Chicago tethered a pigeon attached in some string on a tree so that it could not entirely fault. A number of boys were throwing stones at it, but the wind was retarded them for their cruelty and drove them away. Then began a soldier and tenderly took the frightened, fluttering little creature in his hand, and the next day he observed that it made use of the bird for his last letter.

Japan and the Japanese.

In the time that has elapsed since the remarkable year 1853, Japan has done away with a great many of her old notions, say, in the open ports, Nagasaki and Niigata, perhaps excepted, scarcely any trace of old Japan can be found. Yet thinking continues, and perhaps increases. In my opinion, for the following reasons:—The treaties between Japan and the nations of the West, provide that any subject of one of the treaty powers shall be under the laws of his national ity. So, for instance, if a Japanese have a complaint against an Englishman, he has to bring the same before the Japanese Judicial Court, (Saibanho) the president of which forwards it to the English Consul. The latter notifies the defendant, and, after receiving his answer, sends it up to the Saibanho, and if the plaintiff is not contented, a day is appointed by the Consul for the hearing of the case. By a misplaced courtesy of the English government, which has been followed by the Consuls of several other treaty powers, a Japanese is free from paying costs at Court; so that many a complaint is brought forward without any foundation, greatly to the annoyance of the subjects of those fourteen treaty powers.

The Japanese, not understanding the nature of it, cannot be put on oath, and as lying is part of their creed, it is difficult to find out the exact truth. Then the Saibanho, if a complaint is brought forward by a foreigner against a native, seems to be rather a counsel for the defendant, than judge; and, most probably being liars themselves, they mistrust the statement of a foreigner of the best repute, nay, of the Consul himself, to believe, or appear to believe the falsehoods of a lying coolie. If a foreigner brings a complaint against his Kodai'kai (servant) for stealing, it is a hundred to one that the servant will be discharged, even if he is caught en flagrante delicto.

The only way to stop this practice, is that no foreigner should engage a boy without his having a character from his former master, and asking him for his pass, a square piece of wood of about 2½ inches by ¾ an inch thick, upon which the boy's name, the province and town from which he comes, etc., is written, and provided with the seals of the authorities. Each Japanese servant has such a pass, and as long as this is in the possession of a foreigner, so that its owner cannot lay hold of it, his master may be tolerably sure that he has at hand a servant as any Japanese can be.

We have passed through Homura, and are ascending the hill. Those buildings down to the left there, were formerly used by the French garrison (for France and England maintained, till the end of 1874, a detachment of soldiers for the protection of the subjects of those countries. When we are at the top of the hill, you will see to the left what used to be the barracks for the English soldiers; they are now used by the Japanese. This armed force was of great service to the foreign community during the late civil war, but if not been for them, Yokohama might have been pillaged by some detached band of samurai or rônin (samurai that had no lord, and being too lazy to work, were the bravos of Japan.) As, however, the country appears to be quiet, the two governments of the treaty powers accorded to the instances of the Japanese Government, and the troops were withdrawn. Before reaching the top, just turn round and see what a splendid view of Yokohama and the Bay. How pure that sky, how peaceful the atmosphere. Certainly the air bouncer repose, and we can comprehend the indolence of the natives in such a climate.

But let us go on; we will walk to Homoken, and from there take the new road. We can see Treaty-point, the place where Admiral Perry landed on his ever memorable visit to the Empire of the Far East. The road is still ascending, and is lined on both sides by bungalows, and residences among which the building formerly occupied by the British Legation is conspicuous. Most of the legations are now at Tokio; the French, Dutch, and Belgian Ministers alone residing at Yokohama. There are two roads from which to take, either the first, before arriving at the above buildings, winds along the hills that border Yokohama or Homura, and the barracks, and joins the second, which, from the Homoken road, descends into a ravine and forms a street occupied by Japanese houses, from whence now and then, an urchin cries out to you: "Ijin-san doko mara?" (stranger where are you going?) quite confounded not to receive any answer. Having left this street we pass a larger beer house, quite stately, was established, and after crossing a bridge, the road turns to the left. Here are some chaya (tea-houses) from where some homely looking girls invite you to enter. Their "come here!" might cause you to suppose they understand English. But this is about all they know, and if you enter they will go on in a language, peculiar to the open ports in Japan, and which more educated natives call the Yokohama Kotoba, (Yokohama idiom) a kind of jargon consisting of a mixture of Japanese, Malay and English.

The natives in and about Yokohama have lost all their innate politeness, so that some even are unable to address decently a countryman of their own. We will enter and take a cup of tea. Stepping on a kind of veranda, a sliding door is opene and we are in the room, covered with mats and no other furniture in it. But, being foreigners, they do as the house of bringing a table and some chairs, and a moment afterwards present us with a cup of tea. The cup is of common earthenware, and is smaller than a wine-glass; the tea is yellow, and has no taste at all. Good Japanese tea should have scarcely any color. Here come some sweet meats and eggs. The natives can always take some eggs, and these girls think that we foreigners have the same gluttonous stomachs as their countrymen. They take the shells of the eggs, and, squatted on the mats, place the eggs and salt before you. You don't want any? Then I will tell them to take those things away. Mo yoroshi (that will do) or mo imasu (I don't want any more.) But we can take a glass of Beer here, and this beer, though bottled expressly for exportation is tolerably good. It bears the label Bass & Co's pale ale, and may be had in nearly all the tea-houses around Yokohama. The price is in some 14 bu (12½ cents) and in some 14 bu. (but be either or bu) bu "shu." You would like to know perhaps why all these servant girls remain squatted in the room, talking and laughing and cooing as well as any of our ladies at home understand it. First they do it to keep their guests company and secondly to attend to any of their wants. You want to know how old that little girl in the corner is. I will ask her but she will most probably tell you a lie; possibly too, she does not know herself, for the Japanese count differently from us, so if a child is born on the 28th of December, on the 1st of January it is one year old. I think she is about 11 years. Ite, onna, omaye wa ikutsu? (Hi, miss, what is your age?) A prolonged giggle from all the girls takes the place of an answer. At last the beauty addressed, says with a coquettish smile, "anata wa ikutsu?" (how old are you?) But I insist upon knowing her age, and at last she says, always laughing, "watakshi wa ju-ichi." (I am eleven years old.) which, as you can see yourself, is most decidedly a white lie. But in Japan it is as with us. Young ladies don't like to be asked after their age, at least as soon as they have passed the time when a husband or suitor may be expected, and as our Japanese beauties marry, or better, become women at younger ages (which accounts most probably for their small size,) they are not very anxious to acknowledge that they have attained that age. Anata Namban? (what number do you live at in Yokohama?) is the next question from one of these girls. T. N. R.

A Suit for $400,000,000.—The celebrated Jennings case, which has been in the courts of England for fifteen years, it is said will be soon decided. Jennings died in this State about a hundred years ago, and left property in England valued then at $65,000,000. Since that time it has increased in value to over $400,000,000. The heirs to this immense sum in England and the State of Virginia number about 100. The ground of the litigation now going on is the identity of the Virginia claimants, which is disputed by some of the English heirs. There are seven claimants in Richmond, and one of the principal is a young gentleman who is a clerk in one of the stores here. He is represented in this case by Messrs. T. T. Giles and Judge Holcombe and J. V. Reddy, Esq., of this city, two lawyers in Georgetown, D. C., and Hon. Judah P. Benjamin in England. He yesterday received a letter from the last named distinguished lawyer, in which that gentleman assures him that this tedious case is now rapidly drawing to a close; and states that there is every indication that the identity of the Virginia claimants will be admitted. In that event the heirs in this city would receive $75,000,000 or $5,000,000 apiece. The majority of the other English heirs reside in Scotchburg. Mr. Reddy will probably go to England soon, in the interest of his client. The Jennings estate has been in the hands of the Cashier of the Bank of England, and he will continue to hold it until the courts decide the matter.—*Richmond Whig, Jan. 12th.*

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