

CHANGED AROUND.

AN INTERVIEW DOCTORED TO SUIT THE PAPER.

Hon. L. A. Thurston's Experience With a Reporter of the San Francisco Examiner.

When T. T. Williams of the San Francisco Examiner was here recently, he remarked that when his paper sent out a correspondent or a reporter, the pencil pusher was expected to bring in something of an interesting nature, and no objections would be made if it was a bit sensational.

The hired men of the journal bear their instructions in mind, as the following will prove:

It will be remembered that on a late trip of the Australia Col. Geo. Macfarlane and Hon. L. A. Thurston left for San Francisco on some law business. On their arrival at that city the reporters pounced on Mr. Thurston and clamored for an interview of some kind.

Mr. Thurston would not talk about political affairs in this Kingdom, and compromised the matter by giving some information about Mauna Loa, which showed signs of an outbreak just previous to the departure of the Australia.

The interview was a trifle tame for the reporter, and he afterwards doctored the story to the extent that when it appeared in print Mr. Thurston was a surprised man.

Appended will be found the reporter's sensational story:

BIG MAUNA LOA IN ERUPTION. The Great Crater of Hawaii Vomiting Forth Moulten Fire.

PERILS OF HILO AND WAIKAEA. These Villages Being Near By and in the Path of Old Overflows Are Liable to be Swallowed Up.

"Those who have been living in the vicinity of Mauna Loa," said Mr. Thurston last night at the Occidental, have for some time been expecting one of the periodical outbreaks and flows. It may have ruined the country, but nobody as yet can tell with certainty. Each succeeding outbreak has come closer to the towns of Hilo and Waikaea. The indications and the past actions of the volcano justify the belief that the lava may fall upon them. A stream of lava has been more than once also directed towards the village of Waimea.

"Hilo is thirty five miles away to the east. In 1852 the lava rose to a height of 701 feet over the crater, continued for twenty days, and came to within ten miles of Hilo. In 1862 there occurred the most terrible earthquake in human knowledge. The side of the mountain slid off three miles in as many minutes, overwhelmed a village and burned thirty-three people and 400 cattle, besides opening fissures twenty miles in length. Lava was thrown up 1,000 feet, and rocks weighing as much as 100 tons apiece were tossed up so numerously that they seemed a lot of balls in the air.

"Another flow brought the lava still closer than in 1852, and in 1880 the lava rose 800 feet high. Pele's hair, a fine glass, spun by the wind from the lava, fell in the streets of Hilo. The flow stopped, but speedily started again, and continued for nine months over the old lava track toward Hilo. Its deadly flow stopped in the very outskirts of the town, and within half a mile of the harbor.

"If it had continued a few days longer it would have overwhelmed the town, buried the sugar plantations of Waikaea and destroyed the harbor front. The lava stream was twelve to thirty feet in height.

"The next news from the islands will arrive by the Alameda, a week from to-morrow. I am apprehensive as to its character. It is barely impossible that no further word will be received meantime at Honolulu, for it is 200 miles from Mauna Loa and vessels do not run very regularly. In that case full particulars may not be received here till the Australia goes to the Islands and gets back, a month hence."

Beautiful sugar plantations surround the towns of Hilo and Waikaea. Splendid groves of coconuts and plantations of bananas also dot the country here and there. Beautiful residences are also to be seen thereabout. The plantations are very valuable, so it is stated, and should the flood anticipated sweep upon them, immense sums would be lost.

The people of the towns, it is thought, will be safe from harm unless bursts of lava should be as sudden and terrific as in the case alluded to, one of several, by the way, when death to large numbers might occur. The crater of Ki-

lauea, containing a lake of liquid lava, thirty miles distant from Mauna Loa, and which is always active, shows sympathy with Mauna Loa by a slight increase in the violence of the explosions and upheavals.

WILL VISIT US.

Proposed Trip of United States Congressmen.

An extended trip is contemplated by a contingent of the members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The scheme is a visit to the Hawaiian Islands to be taken by fifteen Democrats and fifteen Republicans from the House, and seven Democrats and seven Republicans from the Senate, the trip, of course, to be made at the expense of the United States.

The object is said to be a business one, though whether this means the purchase of some island for a coaling station, or to make arrangements for laying a Pacific cable, or to enter into negotiations for the annexation of the Hawaiian group is not yet stated.

One or the other of these may be the ostensible object of such a trip, but the real object is junketing, with a strong suspicion of jobbery annexed. There is no more necessity for forty-four members of Congress to go to the Hawaiian Islands than there would be for them to pay a visit of inspection to the Washington monument. They can learn more about Hawaii by staying in Washington than they could by going to Honolulu. If individual members want to take such a trip, let them do so at their own expense, and not at the expense of the national treasury.

If this trip be meant to further the scheme of annexation it may be set down as a certainty that there is some jobbery about it somewhere. The annexation of the islands to the United States would give matters there a tremendous impetus, and it would be a very nice thing for these forty-four Senators and Representatives to be able to get in on the ground floor, especially in the present depressed condition of values in Hawaii. A solid phalanx of thirty in the House and fourteen in the Senate would go a long way toward passing a bill for annexation, especially if their pecuniary interest lay in that direction.

If Congress wants to keep its skirts clear of scandal it would better frown upon this proposed trip and refuse its consent to anything of the kind. It is very expensive and absolutely unnecessary, and will be certain to result in the suspicion of a corrupt bargain, if nothing more. — [S. F. Chronicle.]

A OTHER FLAGSHIP.

Admiral Skerrett and the U. S. S. Mohican to Visit This Port.

VALLEJO, Dec. 30.—Constructor Taylor, United States navy, will report the United States ship Mohican ready for sea duty and for the reception of Commodore Skerrett, Acting Rear Admiral of the Pacific squadron, to-day. Since the Mohican's return from the Behring sea she has eaten, in repairs and otherwise, quite a hole in the treasury. The cost of repairs has exceeded by many thousands the amount demanded by the board of inspectors and approved by the Secretary of the Navy.

The destination of the Mohican is Honolulu, where she will be flagship of the Pacific squadron. On her arrival Commodore Skerrett will inspect the Boston, after which the Boston will be ordered home. The Mohican will sail from Mare Island immediately after the arrival of Commodore Skerrett, which will be next week.

Installation of Officers.

The newly-elected officers of Harmony Lodge, No. 3, I. O. O. F., were installed on Jan. 9th by Bro. C. J. Fishel, P. G. D. D. G. S., assisted by Messrs. M. D. Monsarrat, F. J. Wilhelm, J. C. Lorenzen, H. H. Williams and L. H. Dee, all of whom acted as Grand Officers:

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Chas. H. Hill, V. G.
Albert Lucas, Secretary.
J. A. Magoon, P. G. Treasurer.
H. H. Williams, Chaplain.
A. L. Cron, Warden.
Jas. Love, Conductor.
F. J. Wilhelm, P. G. R. S. N. G.
J. C. Lorenzen, P. G. L. S. N. G.
L. H. Dee, P. G. R. S. V. G.
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