

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

W. R. FARRINGTON, EDITOR.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1897.

FRANK P. HASTINGS.

"For he was a good friend and a true gentleman." These were the words written by United States Senator John T. Morgan in referring to the untimely death of Frank P. Hastings, news of which was received in this city by Tuesday's steamer. In these few words Senator Morgan has expressed the sentiments of every friend who came in contact with Mr. Hastings in his home or during his career as a public official. No higher tribute can be paid to any man. Aside from deep sorrow of relatives and friends, Hawaii as a nation has, by the death of Mr. Hastings, lost one of its most able officials, and at a time when he was doing his best work for the country of his adoption. In his four years of service as secretary of the Hawaiian legation at Washington Mr. Hastings has never been found wanting. He had the true instincts of a diplomat coupled with untiring zeal to accomplish the purposes that would serve the welfare of the nation he represented. He was an unassuming, honest, indefatigable worker and gave a personality and dignity to his position that will never be overshadowed or forgotten for many years to come. The universal opinion that the country has not today among its citizens one who can carry out as successfully the work Mr. Hastings has left unfinished is the best evidence of Hawaii's appreciation of his true worth.

HAWAII IN WASHINGTON.

Again the news from the United States Congress leaves Hawaii hanging on the hopeful edge of hope. After two weeks of blissful ignorance the returns from the States bring the assurance that during this time no more ominous clouds have appeared upon the horizon than were there when we last heard from the seat of war. Under the circumstances this is decidedly satisfactory since our enemies are making about as fierce an attack as possible and there is more or less comfort in the feeling that all their big guns have been fired. To add to the hopeful outlook we have the newspaper forecasts that the Senate will probably restore the Hawaiian clause in the sugar schedule of the tariff bill. We have learned however, not to put too much confidence in forecasts as surprises seem to be the order of the day. Our next advice will probably bring news of the settlement of the problem so far as Hawaiian sugars and the United States are concerned.

This eternal battle-dore and shuttlecock business which Hawaii's commercial interests have to go through every time a tariff bill is brought into the American Congress ought to convince the people irrespective of race or faction that our only salvation is annexation. The periodical shaking up of the business of the country is quite as ruinous as the political embroils. Hawaii will forever rest between the devil and the deep sea and its citizens be forever amenable to the policy of "after us the deluge" unless it secures the positive and absolute protection of the United States to be obtained only by political union. This year the country is brought face to face with a new form of opposition that will be a steadily increasing power. If annexation is not soon secured the chances are that the deluge is not far distant.

There seems to be no doubt that President McKinley and his advisers have decided that the Re-

publican policy of "control" shall be interpreted "annexation." To Hawaii this should be the signal for continuing the annexation campaign with the same active determination that has characterized the struggle to maintain the treaty. There should be no let up. The fight should not be considered won and our advocates withdrawn when the sugar schedule is settled. In season and out, whether Congress is in session or not Hawaii's representatives should be constantly in the field quick to take advantage of every hopeful indication and watchful to discover the probable course of action of their opponents. Politics must be taken as they are, not as we think they ought to be, and we must not if success is hoped for, force impossible tasks upon one or two overworked diplomatic representatives.

MR. FITZGERALD'S MISSION.

As some of the California papers have charged that the mission of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald to the Islands was entirely a political move, intended to affect the action of the United States in Hawaiian matters, and was not a movement made in good faith, we give a brief, but accurate account of the origin of this mission. The parties engaged in it, did not care to declare their intentions on "posters," but preferred to make it successful, before making it public. It was understood by all the parties, that there might be an unfavorable result to Mr. Fitzgerald's mission, as it was purely a business affair, and he was requested to pursue his own course in any investigation.

The statement we publish shows that Mr. Fitzgerald's mission was a purely business matter, suggested by men who had faith in white labor, and it was believed that if it was successful, it would revolutionize, in time, the social and political conditions of the Islands. The planters were not invited to join in the invitation to Mr. Fitzgerald to visit the Islands. The Government neither aided, or supported the movement, although it approved of it.

The Ewa Plantation Company promoted this enterprise along the line of its new methods of using labor, and in its earnest desire to place plantation property in these Islands on a better foundation. Mr. Armstrong's interest in the matter arises solely from his conviction that "the only way to Americanize the Islands, is to Americanize them, and if that is impossible, then let them go to the Asiatics and done with it."

JAPAN'S HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

The principles of international comity announced from time to time by the Japanese authorities have been gratifying to all admirers of the progressive spirit of the Mikado's empire, and surely have been reassuring to Hawaii in view of the immigration question between the two countries.

We admit, that the demand from Japan for indemnity, and for the continuance of immigration under the methods objected to at the opening of the correspondence, taking the information given out on these points as reliable, is something of a tumble from the lofty principles above referred to, and that any statement given to the public fails to relieve the situation.

Some allowance may however be made for Japanese inexperience. The nation having had but a generation in which to study diplomacy, and being without traditions in this field, cannot be held to the same discretion, as is expected from the Western nations. We feel assured, that the Japanese Government means well, as to general principles; its difficulty is to apply them.

When Count Okuma said, in a recent speech in the House of Representatives, that "diplomacy must

be based on justice," he sounded a key note of progress, creditable alike to himself, and the Government he represented. Undoubtedly Japan wishes to conduct its foreign relations upon the lines of this advanced sentiment, but like many another nation finds it hard to do so.

It is perhaps to be admitted that, with its pronounced diplomatic principles, Japan in initiating its correspondence in the immigration matter, should have stated its case, and asked for Hawaii's explanation, following western precedents, instead of announcing its conclusions, and making demands based upon what must have been an *ex parte* examination, and it is most probable that it will come to see that an exhaustive study of the evidence in the hands of the Hawaiian Government, relating to the conduct of the immigration companies, is desirable in view of the importance of its own understanding of the case.

If such companies have been attempting to evade the Hawaiian regulation, the Japanese Government will want to know it, not only for a clear understanding of the main issue, but also for the protection of its own subjects, and the prevention of acts tending to cast discredit upon Japanese business methods.

Whether it is in the right, or not, it does not appear that the Hawaiian Government has had, as yet, an opportunity of making the full explanation, which it is supposed to be ready to make, and the Japanese Government certainly will not come to any final conclusion before it is in possession of all the facts.

The letter of "an officer of the Philadelphia" to a San Diego friend should be taken as one of the curiosities of correspondence from Hawaii. "An officer of the Philadelphia" is a decidedly vague term and might apply to any one from the lowest ranked petty officer to the Admiral, consequently the article takes the position of an anonymous communication. As the writer feared to sign his name it cannot be said positively that an officer wrote it, as we have known newspapers to tack on dignified suggestions as to authorship in order to create more interest in the contents of a story. The individual's attempts to state facts show clearly that he doesn't know what he is talking about. This Government has made no changes in the laws relating to the admission of contract laborers. It does however, reserve the right require contract laborers to come to the country according to the law. The writer of the article evidently made up his mind and then proceeded to manufacture facts to support his conclusions. As to his opinions on annexation, they may be taken for what they are worth. Any one who knows anything of the country is aware that the Japanese are not voters and can't be under the present Constitution. The "easy task" of creating a Japanese electorate is an impossibility. Any man has a right to change his opinions, but before this so-called "officer of the Philadelphia," whether he is an officer or a San Diego newspaperman, delivers any more wise sayings to the public we would suggest that he read up a little on the subject.

Herbert Myrick writing for the Review of Reviews on "Sugar—The American question of the Day," says the striking out of the Hawaiian clause in the Senate sugar schedule was "admittedly a subterfuge to capture Senator Jones' vote." We do not know whether Mr. Myrick speaks from the card or not, but if he does we hope the temporary rejection of the clause has served its purpose and the item will be promptly restored. Mr. Myrick does not favor the continuance of what he terms "Hawaii's unfair and unjust

competition," for which the Dingley bill provides, but when he compares the sugar schedules of the Senate and House as a whole he is inclined to accept the latter as the least of two evils. The free admission of sugar machinery for two years is characterized as submission to a request from Claus Spreckels, as it will "save him vast sums on the plant for the biggest beet sugar factory in the world, that he is now building at Salinas, Cal." This looks as if the Senate schedule had made a sharp division in the ranks of the sugar men of the United States, and that many who have been our enemies would for the present at least become friends by force of circumstances. From the general tenor of Mr. Myrick's article he speaks for the beet sugar farmers as opposed to the Trust.

The selection of a successor to the late Frank P. Hastings is a matter of no small importance. At first thought many of our citizens have felt that the most judicious move would be to appoint a Washington man who has an intimate acquaintance with the public men about the capitol; one who would not require an extended term of education in getting acquainted. On the other hand it is recognized that any Washingtonian who has nothing at stake in Hawaii is likely to be considered by Senators and Representatives as in the same category as the lobbyist. Once let such an impression get abroad and Hawaii would be the sufferer. Talk as they may of the "power of the lobby," the fact still remains that Congressmen are inclined to slum the man who is a paid agent, while the one arguing and working from firm conviction is given a more ready hearing and his words carry more weight. There are of course remarkable exceptions to the rule and if our officials can find one of them the country can at the present time afford to offer large inducements, if not they cannot, home timber is preferable.

The Orange Judd Farmer, an agricultural weekly issued in Chicago, but controlled by parties in Springfield, Mass., who also own the American Agriculturist, publishes the statement that the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution favoring the abrogation of the Hawaiian Treaty. The grounds given for this action are that the San Francisco merchants consider the prospects of the California beet sugar industry of more importance than the trade with Hawaii. The Farmer suggests to its readers that if San Francisco merchants do not want the Treaty continued there is certainly no reason why farmers of the Middle West should not oppose it. This statement regarding the action of the San Francisco merchants is news. Not only this, it is a rank misrepresentation of the majority of the mercantile houses of that city, and ought not to pass unnoticed.

The sundry civil bill started out with an appropriation of \$100,000 for the improvement of Pearl Harbor. The Senate cut it down to \$50,000 and the House rejected the item. Now it has emerged from the conference committee and accepted by Congress as \$10,000. Small favors are thankful received and if this sum will furnish the necessary wherewithal to erect a pole on which to raise the American flag over Hawaii, the people here will throw up their hats in honor of the \$10,000.

After reviewing the situation as gained from newspaper reports the New York Sun says of Hawaii's troubles with Japan: "What will be the outcome? Possibly the Japanese Minister will take himself home in dudgeon. If Hawaii stood alone she might quickly be forced to submit, as she has no navy, while Japan has a strong one. But prob-

ably she relies, and not without reason, on the fact that she has a backer in the United States, who will not see a question of disputed treaty interpretation decided against her by brute force. The exact merits of the case cannot yet be fully judged of, perhaps, as the diplomatic correspondence has not been made public. But the controversy suggests the kind of difficulties that the little island republic will have to be prepared for while she remains in her present political isolation. Fortunately that isolation may not continue very long."

The Board of Education has done very well in the matter of Executive sessions, but we believe a grievous error was committed at the last meeting when the public was shut out from the investigation of matters that will be common talk today. It is far better for the public to know exact facts, than it is for indefinite inklings to be scattered about and the usual hasty and often unjust conclusions drawn therefrom. The ban of secrecy always suggests a line of attack upon the work of officials, which if the facts were known would not be given a second thought. Having a knowledge of one of the principal matters occupying the attention of the Commissioners of Education yesterday, we fail to see wherein public or private interests were best served by discussing the matter in hand behind closed doors.

The participants in the Japan-Hawaii tug-of-war seem to be laying on the rope waiting for some one to show signs of weakening. During the lull in the "tug" the rumorologist is doing fine work that results in drawing a crowd and exciting new interest. It is safe to predict that there is as much probability that the Japanese will shortly land to collect indemnity funds as there is that Punchbowl will break out into a living fiery volcano.

BUNKER HILL DAY

C. Ah Fook Wins First Prize for Oratory.

Y. M. C. A. Hall Crowded—Essays Read and Prizes Awarded.

The prize oratorical contest in the Y. M. C. A. last night, on the subject of "The Objects and Results of the American Revolution," and for prizes offered by the Hawaiian Society, Sons of American Revolution, was attended by an audience that filled nearly every chair in the lecture hall. About one-half of those present were students from the various schools, drawn thither more especially by the anticipation of a close contest for first place as orator between the only two contestants, W. B. Godfrey, Jr., and W. C. Ah Fook, both students of Oahu College.

Rev. D. P. Birnie, acting as chairman of the evening, spoke of the profound regret on the part of all, of the absence of Mr. P. C. Jones, the regular chairman, who was at home sick. He then referred to the great interest that Mr. Jones had always shown in matters relating to the Hawaiian Society, Sons of American Revolution. The vice president, Chief Justice Judd, being absent in the States, he, as a member of the committee appointed to arrange for the contest, had been called upon to preside.

Mr. Birnie then referred to Article II of the Constitution, in which is contained the objects of the society. One of these is to encourage research into American history among the students of the various schools.

The article referred to provides for the awarding of prizes for orations on subjects of American history, written and delivered by the competitors themselves. A mistake had been made by students in the Hilo schools and five essays had been written and sent down for competition. Since there were no prizes offered by the society for essays, the members had offered a special first and second prize for the same.

The first essay, by Miss Harriet K. Hapai, of Hilo, was read by E. O. Hall in a clear tone and without a falter.

The second, by Miss Ruth Richardson, was read by W. Rawlins. The reading was a bit too jerky, and hence much force of the composition was lost.

The third, by Miss Sarah J. Lyman, was very well read by H. A. Kluegel. The fourth, by Miss Ellen Pierce, was read by Miss Mabel Sunter. Miss

Sunter was herself to have been a competitor in the essay contest, but was unable to do so on account of stress of school work.

The fifth, by Maria Maby, was read by Walter H. Monroe.

Next came the oratorical contest proper, with W. B. Godfrey, Jr., as the first orator. Mr. Godfrey went through with his oration without a break, but if criticism were to be offered, it might be suggested that there was too much sameness to the manner of delivery. The composition was a creditable one, and showed thought and preparation, but the climax was hardly strong enough.

W. C. Ah Fook was the second and last orator. His appearance on the stage was not as good as that of Godfrey, but he soon won the audience over by the fire and spirit he put into what he was saying. His speaking, on this account, was most forcible, and the composition showed that a great amount of study had been indulged in in the preparation of the essay. A better climax could not have been asked for. Taken all in all, the oration was a finished production which would have done credit to one much older.

The judges—President Dole, Rear-Admiral L. A. Beardslee, U. S. N.; and American Minister H. M. Sewall—retired to the back room for about 10 minutes. Returning, President Dole announced the decision of the judges.

Miss Lyman was given the first prize of \$10 for the best essay and Miss Maby was accorded honorable mention. The prize won by Miss Lyman was handed H. A. Kluegel, who read her essay.

In awarding the prizes in the oratorical contest, Mr. Dole said that both the competitors had given great satisfaction, and that the judges had found no end of trouble in deciding between them, on account of the merit of each being so close. The delivery had been spirited and warm, redounding to the credit of the youthful orators. He then announced W. C. Ah Fook the winner of the first prize (\$25) and W. B. Godfrey, Jr., winner of the second prize (\$20).

After the announcement of the winners, the audience sang "America," this closing the occasion of the prize oratorical contest on the 122d anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill.

At the annual meeting of the society, held previous to the exercises, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- President—P. C. Jones.
- Vice President—L. A. Thurston.
- Registrar—Prof. W. D. Alexander.
- Secretary—W. O. Atwater.
- Treasurer—W. J. Forbes.
- Board of Managers—F. B. McStocker, W. W. Hall and J. W. Jones.

"There's no use in talking," says W. H. Broadwell, druggist, La Cygne, Kas. "Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy does the work. After taking medicines of my own preparation and those of others I took a dose of Chamberlain's and it helped me; a second dose cured me. Candidly and conscientiously I can recommend it as the best thing on the market." The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by all druggists and dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., agents for Hawaiian Islands.

The graduating exercises of the Kindergarten teachers will be held at 3:30 this afternoon. A meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held immediately after.

Cures Talk

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