

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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THE NATIVE AND THE NEGRO.

Some extended inquiry among the natives, discloses their general and sincere suspicion that, in the event of annexation, they will be treated in social, if not in political matters, like the American negroes. The native and the negro are now, and will continue to be placed on very different footings in America. But it is difficult to prove this to the native, because the proof lies rather in opinion than by demonstration. Recently Liliuokalani crossed and re-crossed the continent in the Pullman cars, with all of the privileges of the white traveler. We believe that the negro would not be permitted the same privilege of travel. She was entertained in hotels which refuse the negro any accommodation.

The reason why a distinction is made in the American popular mind, between the negro, on the one hand, and the Indian and Hawaiian, on the other hand, cannot be readily understood by the native, nor even by the educated European.

The prejudice against the negro lies not so much in color, as in other matters, such as ignorance, lack of thrift, general reputation for uncleanness, and coarseness of feature. The same distinction exists between white and white. The Irish bog trotter had hardly a better footing than the negro, thirty years ago. These prejudices are not radical, but temporary. Thirty-five years ago, in the large cities of the Atlantic coast, horse cars were "reserved for colored people," owing to this prejudice. But gradually the whites occupied them. If you asked the conductor why they did, he replied: "They'd rather sit next a nigger than lose five minutes." By 1870, the reservations were withdrawn. Trade conquered the prejudice. Dr. Bagby, a noted Southerner, used to say, "we are vastly superior to the nigger, of course, but when in the course of time, rich niggers come, and they have daughters, our young white fellows will cross the color line fast enough."

Today, there is an extreme prejudice against the negro in the Northern States. He is excluded from many hotels, restaurants, theatres, schools and churches. At Atton, Illinois, only two weeks ago, negro children were excluded from the public schools. A girl in Vassar college, with so little negro blood, that it could hardly be detected, after three years' residence, has not been saved from dismissal, by a "charitable" act. The prejudice at the South against the negro is as strong, but of a different kind. One of President McKinley's negro postmasters has just been shot in Georgia, because he accepted the office.

The time has not arrived for a discriminating popular judgment regarding the negroes. They are all classed alike. The larger part of the race is descended from the low types from the Congo river. But there are thousands whose ancestors came from the hill tribes. They have their lips clear cut, even Grecian features, and overmatch the poor "white trash." From this class come the surprises, the men of ability. One of these, from Washington city, a pure black, was the manager of the China Merchant's Steamship Company, when King Kalakaua visited Shanghai in 1881. He was married to a beautiful English girl, and though cordially received by the Europeans, was entirely ignored by the American residents. The prejudice was not really against

the man, but against the ignorant race to which he belonged.

But it is character and not color which draws the line. The Indian, superior for obvious reasons to the average negro in independence of character, does not come within the color line. Here, again, prejudice does its curious work. The Western people regard the Indian as a wild animal. The Eastern people overestimate him. One of the difficulties in maintaining discipline in the large Eastern schools for Indians, is the persistent desire of the white girls to flirt with them. More than one Indian student has been sent away from a New England farm house, where he was learning the art of agriculture, because the romantic girls made love to him. General Parker, a half breed Cherokee Indian, served with distinction during the war, on General Grant's staff. No negro ever reached his rank, nor could he be expected to do so. Until the emancipation act, the Cherokee Indians were the owners of many slaves.

The causes which created the prejudice against the negro, do not exist in the case of the native Hawaiian. If the native comprehends or realizes the important fact that it is not really founded on color of any kind, he will dismiss his fears.

But we see that the native confuses the social and political status. In many ways, his social condition, and that of the white man, on these Islands, has been distinct. But the rights of both, under the laws, have been carefully protected, and there has been no friction. The native should realize it, that the relations which he bears to the resident American population here, are the relations, which he will bear to the people of the United States, in the event of annexation. But is it foolish to criticize harshly the native's suspicions, regarding his future treatment, so long as the facts stand as they do regarding the attitude of the American people towards the negro. But some service may be done in convincing the native that he is not, and will not, be classed with the negro.

CHILD TRAINING.

The attention of the Board of Education is called to the suggestions contained in a lecture delivered in the Island of Jamaica, by Dr. Morris of the Kew garden. Among other things, he said, regarding the cultivation of fruits, flowers and vegetables, that they required a certain amount of skilled knowledge in the cultivators. He says: "The work of training agriculturists must be taught theoretically at least in the elementary schools of the country. Already something is being done in this direction by the Board of Education, and 'two Jamaica readers' have been prepared, the use of which will be compulsory in all schools. These readers consist of lessons on plant life and treatment of common objects of cultivation throughout the Island. In 1887, Mr. Craig furnished a valuable text book on tropical agriculture, and it has greatly assisted in the teaching of agriculture in colleges and schools in Jamaica and the other West India Islands. Various agencies like these cannot fail eventually to raise the character of practical agriculture in the Island, and render the people more capable than at present in responding to the requirements of the markets of the world."

Dr. Maxwell would, if requested, prepare, no doubt, a suitable primer on the subject, and arrange it in a way to meet the needs of the young children. And if, with the instruction, object lessons were furnished, some foundation would be laid for higher instruction subsequently.

If the Louisiana Planter, the organ of the sugar cane interest in

the United States, is correct in its statement that the triumph of beet sugar over cane sugar is merely a question of time, the preparation for the change should be begun early.

The competitors of Hawaii, in the future will be California and Mexico. With California, it will be a competition largely in the fruit trade. That State is carefully educating her people to the best methods of cultivation, and it is now proposed to train the children in the elementary principles of vegetable life.

Our advertising columns tell a curious story of the strangely backward condition of some of the smaller industries. "Ex Australia: peaches, plums, oranges, apples, grapes, nectarines, lemons, celery, cauliflowers, potatoes, cheese, roll butter, crab apples, quinces, onions." These are imported from a country over two thousand miles distant. It is true that the local demand for these articles is so limited, that their cultivation on a large scale would not be profitable, unless there were a foreign market. But the conditions must be changed, and many of these articles be exported to, instead of imported from San Francisco.

The only way for success in this business lies, as Dr. Morris says, in the very best horticultural training. It cannot be begun too soon. Aside from the valuable practical knowledge obtained, the mental training by object teaching, must be valuable if the views of men like President Jordan are correct.

PORTUGUESE EMIGRATION.

There is some idle sort of talk in town about what the Portuguese will do, in the near future. Will they stay here or clear out? Will they become voters, or will they not? And, what will they do? They will do just what the Americans or Europeans would do under similar circumstances. That is, they will follow their own private interests. They did not immigrate in order to support the Monarchy or the Republic. They came here simply to better their own condition, to get better pay, and a better living. For the same reasons other Europeans and the Americans are here. None of them are political missionaries. They take no interest in politics, until they are out of a job, or there is danger of social disturbance and misrule. The main object in the mind of any poor immigrant is to get ahead. If wages are high, work abundant, and living to be had at reasonable cost, the Portuguese, like other people will be perfectly content to remain, under any form of Government that protects them. They are not distressed about their political condition under annexation. What they do wish to know is, how that act will affect wages, labor and living. The idea seems to be about that the Portuguese laborers are studying very closely the books on political institutions, and are profoundly impressed with the importance of the voting franchise. The truth is, that a few of them are interested in political affairs, but the vast majority of them are much more deeply concerned about acquiring property. Whether they will remain or emigrate to other parts depends entirely on that question.

They, like very many intelligent Americans do not know how annexation will affect the labor conditions, and they are not willing to take the opinions of men in town who "know it all." If annexation brings high wages, or abundant work, there will be no emigration to Timor or to any other place. If annexation does not take place, the Portuguese and the inhabitants generally will be in more or less trouble.

The Portuguese complain of the low rate of wages on the plantations and the want of employ-

ment outside of the plantations. There is foundation for it. At the same time, there are hundreds of these people engaged in ranching, or in the cultivation of coffee, who do not complain, and are prosperous. All agricultural laborers in these Islands, are suffering from the dependence of the community on the single industry of sugar making. From any standpoint of political economy, it is a dangerous condition, and involves violent changes. It hangs by the hair of a legislative act, which may be cut in an instant, as it was once cut to our sorrow. The lack of diversified industries, makes the Portuguese largely dependent upon this single industry also. If there is any shrinkage in this industry, every one will be "squeezed," excepting those in the rice and coffee business, just as in America every one is "squeezed" when the value of grain is low.

The Portuguese have the right to object, just as the Americans have the right to object, to the standard of wages created by the Asiatic. We have trained the younger Portuguese in our schools and by example, to more expensive habits of living, and they are restless because the rate of wages has not been increased accordingly. Any one who studies the situation must see that it may have a very serious side to it, in the future. If annexation ends all Asiatic immigration, wages will undoubtedly rise, and the Portuguese laborer will be benefited by it.

It is quite doubtful whether an emigration to Timor, will benefit the Portuguese. In these Islands they are close to the large American markets, and to a great population which pays and receives, the very highest wages for labor. Emigration to the Westward means closer competition with the millions of Asia and India.

We are in a transition state. The Portuguese, together with other people, must wait, in the hope that a few months will bring us out of the clouds. Those Portuguese who believe that annexation will simply improve their material condition, will favor annexation. Those who are in doubt will simply do nothing, and the most of them will do nothing.

THE "COLOR" QUESTION.

An Indian was recently appointed to an office in Oklahoma, by President McKinley. The people residing in the district when the appointment was made, fully approved of it, in spite of the prevailing opinion that some Indians are wild beasts. Several years ago, Dr. Eastman, an educated Indian physician, married Miss Goodell, of Massachusetts, not only noted for her beauty, but well known to the readers of the "Independent" and other journals of the higher class, as a poetess of excellent reputation. Not the least objection was made to the marriage by the friends of the lady, on account of Dr. Eastman's color, which is very similar to that of the natives in these Islands. The marriage did not, in any way deprive the lady of any social standing. Her husband was admitted, without question into the refined white families of the West and the East. Dr. Eastman is now a Federal officer. There is no more striking instance of the fact that the prejudice against color in America is strictly confined to the negro, for the reasons we have before stated in these columns. The recent appointment by President McKinley of Demas, a negro, to the office of Naval officer in New Orleans has aroused the most intense opposition among the Republicans, although Demas is a Republican and a good "worker." The prominent Louisiana Republicans have informed Mr. McKinley that the appointment will ruin the party in the State, and they cannot hope to maintain

it, if he proposes to keep a "nigger" in such an important office.

These cases illustrate the form of prejudice against color, which exists in America. They clearly demonstrate to the native Hawaiian that he has little reason to fear discrimination against his race.

The native is fully justified in concluding that there is no prejudice against Hawaiian color, from the fact that many most estimable Americans and Europeans have married natives, with happy results. Indeed, a person who has traveled far, and is well informed on the racial question, has said, that on the whole, the marriages of the whites with the natives here, were as "successful" as the marriages of whites in America. This may be an open question. But it is certain that no social standing would be allowed to any white person, in this community, who married a negro woman. It might be grossly unjust to make this exclusion, but it would be made.

The black color is regarded in the States as an evidence of low intelligence, and social degradation. It is good evidence of it, owing to the natural inferiority of the negro, as a race, and, more than that, to the fact that the negro has just emerged from the degradation of slavery. But even this prejudice will gradually pass away, if the negro really raises himself morally and intellectually.

Many of the negroes have increased the violence of the prejudice against themselves, by their grossly ignorant conduct in public places. The native Hawaiian is vastly superior to them in behavior. Indeed, he is really superior in outward conduct to the majority of the white citizens of America, owing to certain racial characteristics. No European sovereign excelled the late King Kalakaua, in personal bearing and social manners. No one will say that the late King acquired them. They were characteristic of the race to which he belonged.

THE "DOCTORED" TARIFF.

The discovery of an interpolation into the Dingley tariff bill, of a clause laying discriminating duties in favor of American vessels, is making some trouble. The Attorney-General has at last given an opinion that the duties cannot be laid, but his reasoning is not very clear, and some of the journals call it a "Bunsby" opinion, which had no point to it. Senator Chandler has already apologized to his constituents for his want of vigilance, in not detecting the alteration of the law. But Senator Elkins, on the other hand, says the Attorney-General is all wrong, and even if Speaker Reed says the clause "slipped into the bill," he says it is just what ought to have been in, and he glories in it. He says: "It was meant for the ocean what the tariff meant for the land. I think it was American and for that reason I pushed it. This country is bound to be mistress of the seas, just as soon as we get time to attend to it. I worked for success (in quietly getting the clause into the law). Of course I was not going to tell those opposed to the scheme all about it."

Senator Elkins is a strong annexationist, and is entitled to the gratitude of all those who believe in the expansion of American empire. Instead of talking about the glorious Republic, he is a most indefatigable worker in the building up of the commercial marine. The building up of the commercial marine, means, in America, what it does in Great Britain, the securing of trade and strategic outposts. The Senator feels, like the soldier in the late civil war, who stole and killed a sheep contrary to orders. "A man who is risking his life for his country has no time to look up the title to a measly sheep."

The Senator claims that the Attorney-General's opinion is not

an honest one, but dictated by a geographical section, whose interests would be hurt if the Dingley law is enforced. The incident shows how very practical the American politicians are.

The sugar beet, craze now prevailing through the middle American States has been checked at Menominee Falls, Wisconsin. The farmers have large quantities of beets, but the men who contracted to erect the mill have failed to do so, and there will be a loss on the beet crop. The men who undertook to furnish the mill were ignorant of the business and neglected to inspect the successful factories in Nebraska and Utah. But it is said, that if the quality of the beets is approved of, local capital will quickly erect a factory, during the coming year. It is clear enough, that many mistakes will be made, in the development of this industry; but if there is any money in the business, there will be enough enterprise to push it vigorously. But the farmers will find that it is best to make haste slowly. The growth of this industry demands close watching. The beet growers of California discover that the cultivation of this crop is exhausting. The value of fertilizers must be added to the cost of the cultivation. Until this value is well defined by a wide experience, the profit in raising the beets will not be settled. The probabilities are, however, that in any event the profits will be equal to the profits of any other agricultural product.

Yorktown Arrives.

The United States steel gunboat Yorktown, Stockton commanding, arrived in port and anchored in naval row at about 11 a. m. Saturday, after a trip of 14 days from Yokohama. The Yorktown is of 1,710 tons displacement, has an indicated horsepower of 3,392, twin screws, 6 6-inch guns in the main battery, 4 6-pound guns in the secondary battery and 2 1-pound and 2 rapid-firing guns. The Yorktown is a sister ship to the Bennington. Her officers are as follows: Commander, C. H. Stockton; Executive Officer, Lieutenant-Commander Winslow; Surgeon, Dr. Bailey; Paymaster, L. C. Carr; Lieutenant Lucien Young, Lieutenant Bell, Ensign Trant. The Yorktown sailed from here November 21, 1894, on her last trip. She will remain here, awaiting orders as to time of departure for San Francisco.

Kau Coffee.

Tom White, freight clerk of the Mauna Loa, has kindly left at this office a photograph of some coffee trees on Us Ranch, Ninole, Kau, which compare most favorably with the finest specimens of any coffee that has ever been grown on these Islands. On a branch picked out at random there were 200 berries. The plants are only three years of age. It might be a matter of interest to know that the ranch received the name of "Us" from the fact that one of Mr. Searle's children said to him one day: "Papa, you go up to us ranch now."

Bruce Waring & Co. will have a pavilion at Cyclomere Park. The judge's stand is just being started.

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