

A CEMETERY SITE

Trip Made for the Purpose of Viewing Lands.

MOANALUA AND KAHAIKI

Halawa is Not Favored—Majority for Moanalua—Kahaiki's De-feats—President's Party.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

A personally conducted exploration for a cemetery site was made yesterday down the railroad. President Dole, who is at the head of the joint committee of the Board of Health, the Executive Council and the Oahu Cemetery Association, was in charge of the party. Mr. Dillingham, general manager of the railway, placed a coach and engine at the disposal of the committee and invited guests. In the party were twenty-four souls, allowing a soul for each man. The prominent citizens, excluding the newspaper representatives were: Gov. Cleghorn, Geo. R. Carter, Dr. N. B. Emerson, Dr. C. B. Wood, Dr. C. B. Cooper, Dr. F. R. Day, John Phillips, David Dayton, Dr. J. S. McGrew, Geo. W. Smith, John E. Bush, J. W. McDonald. The only delegate from the Hawaiian press was F. J. Festa. All who were expected to make the trip were at the depot promptly at the hour indicated in the courteous summons and a start was made without any delay.

Inspections were made of lands in Halawa, Moanalua and Kahaiki. There was scarcely any consideration of the Halawa tract. It was not liked and was considered unavailable for a variety of reasons. Distance and the fact that cane would grow all about the place were amongst the objections.

Quite a stop was made about three-quarters of a mile beyond Moanalua. The acreage that it is believed can be secured here was carefully viewed. It gently slopes upward from the railway track, affords a view of the harbor and city and it was stated that there would be no trouble in digging to desired depth with ordinary tools. It was figured that an artesian well could be provided and that perhaps a wind-mill or a modest pumping plant could supply the water. The expense of preparing the land will be slight. That is, it is good soil was guaranteed by several, both Governor Cleghorn and David Dayton remarking of the growth of kulu as a sign that fertilizers would not be required in growing grass, trees and flowers. The time from the city on the railway would be but a few minutes and besides there is a Government wagon road through the tract. It is desired to secure from seventy to two hundred acres and there is ample land there. It is owned by Mr. Damon, Minister of Finance.

Nearly an hour was spent by the party in viewing the Kahaiki land. This task involved a walk of a mile and a half or more from the railway to the wagon road and back again. Mr. A. T. Atkinson particularly distinguished himself as a pedestrian. There were a number who said at once that the Kahaiki plot pointed out was a choice piece of land for the purpose in view. It is at a good elevation, has fertile soil and can be watered cheaply as the Moanalua piece. Then Kahaiki is but about a mile further from town than Nuuanu cemetery. But there is one thing adverse to Kahaiki that is believed by many to be serious, if not fatal. A member of the party who is familiar with land matters, made the assertion that the tract if at this time subdivided and put upon the market would sell readily to people who would build. The place would certainly make a beautiful suburb. The landscape and marine views are unexcelled on the island. Another gentleman put it this way: "We must look to the future, look ahead ten years, which stage is not distant. The land will be wanted for homesteads by that time. There can be no doubt of it. If it is not, Honolulu will have so shrunken that it will not need much of any cemetery. Let us avoid the mistakes that were made in selection of Nuuanu, Makiki and the Catholic cemeteries on King street." Still there were a few who would yet vote for Kahaiki.

A heavy majority of the party of twenty-four was for the Moanalua site. It is quite clear of the land on which Mr. Damon is making such great improvements and the "lay" of it could not be improved upon.

Considerations kept in mind by the committee and guests were chiefly accessibility and economy of facility of transportation. The Kahaiki tract is off the railway. The Moanalua piece is on the line. Mr. Dillingham, on behalf of the railway, offers to provide a chapel at which services can be held and to make what all consider a reasonable, or rather a very low transportation scale. A number of the gentlemen insisted from first to last that no bargains should be made which did not include the assurance that the poorer people would be well off as at present in disposing of their dead.

An official recommendation will be made in a few days.

Nearly every member of the party gave views on cremation and nearly all of them were in favor of it. The physicians are for it to a man as a health measure. Mr. Festa did not believe the natives would take kindly to interment of bodies. One gentleman said that few if any Roman Catholics would be permitted by their relatives to be disposed of in a crematory. Both Dr. Day and Dr. Wood thought that the Japanese and more specifically the Japanese, would favor a crematory. Mr. Dole said that it had been his thought

A STATE'S WAY

Manner of Handling the Lepers of Louisiana.

MENTION MADE OF KAWAII

Home on Leased Ground. With a Stockade—Some Difficulties Set Forth.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 19.—The lease of the Lepers' Home of Louisiana will expire in a short time, and the State will again be brought face to face with the question of what to do with the lepers. The timidity of the State in dealing with the question is responsible in part for the continuance of the disease. Drastic measures, such as have been adopted in Hawaii and other countries where leprosy prevails, would, it is believed, have routed it from the State long ago. As it is, leprosy has lingered in Louisiana for a century and a quarter.

The report of the Board of Control to Governor Foster shows that Louisiana will be entirely unprepared to care for the inmates of the Indian Camp Home upon the expiration of the lease. It will be impossible to secure a renewal of the lease because of public prejudice in Iberville parish, where the home is situated, and the bitter opposition of the neighboring prosperous town of Whitecastle. The same opposition will be encountered in other parishes where the State may try to establish a home for lepers. The Board has frequently called the attention of the Legislature to the matter, pointing out that the State ought to purchase property for a home and not depend upon a lease; but the Legislature has always dodged the unpleasant question. Whether the failure of the State to act will result in turning the lepers loose on the community, or whether they will remain where they are until they can be removed elsewhere, cannot now be determined. No one is likely to venture on the place to remove them as trespassers. It is possible that they will find another home through the charity of friends, for they have received many gifts and legacies from all parts of the country, and there is an auxiliary association of women in New Orleans who look after and care for these unfortunate people.

The present home was established in 1892 when Louisiana seemed to be aroused to the importance of dealing with the problem of leprosy. It had previously been regarded as a subject to be avoided, the mere mention of which was thought to be prejudicial to the interests of the State. For more than a century since Carondelet's regime under the Spanish domination the leper question had been ignored, and it was agreed not to recognize the existence of the disease. But in 1892, owing to the unpleasant publicity that had been given the disease, through the discovery of a leper barber and a leper baker, the necessity of action was recognized by all. The Legislature provided for a home, but unfortunately appropriated only enough money to lease one, not enough to buy one, and passed an act which provided penalties for harboring lepers and required sheriffs to deliver such unfortunate to the house when so ordered by the district judge. The first idea was to establish the home in the outskirts of New Orleans, where better medical attendance could be provided; but the city protested so loudly that this plan was abandoned. The Board of Control kept its subsequent plans secret to prevent similar protests from the parishes, and it was not until the Indian Camp plantation had been leased that the location determined on was made known.

The leper home is admirably situated. It covers 200 acres of an old plantation in Iberville parish, on the Mississippi, seven miles from a railroad and two miles from Whitecastle, on the opposite side of the river. The lepers are confined within a high stockade surrounding a space of fifteen acres. Within the stockade are seven houses occupied by the lepers, an elevated pavilion or lookout for their amusement, and a splendid grove of live oaks. On the other side of a fence in the direction of the main plantation building is a long raised cottage, especially constructed for the lepers' dining hall, kitchen and other offices. No one is allowed inside the inner leper stockade except the doctor, the nurses and the members of the Board of control.

The home is admirably managed in all respects, and the greatest care is taken to prevent any spread of the disease. All money handled by the lepers is soaked in bichloride of mercury solution and fumigated with the strongest disinfectants. The site is healthful and isolated. There is an old-time plantation mansion, an immense brick

building, which is only half occupied by the Sisters of Charity, who do the nursing and other employees, and there are accommodations on the place for five times as many lepers as are now. Indeed, when the plantation was leased, it was with the plan that the lepers in the home would be rigidly enforced. The home is somewhat expensive, and the State is paying some \$200 a year for the support of each inmate.

Unfortunately, the law of 1892 has been allowed to fall into desuetude, and there are more lepers outside the home than in it. This is due partly to the concealment of lepers, and to the unwillingness of the Sheriffs to arrest them. The Board of Control itself has not heretofore insisted on the compulsory confinement of lepers, preferring that they should voluntarily go to the home, and should be attracted by the fact that they would be more comfortable in the institution than on the outside, where they are avoided by every one. The home is certainly comfortable. The lepers are well cared for, well fed, well clothed. They suffer a great deal from cold, for when it comes reaches their bones, it seems impossible to warm them up by any fire. Otherwise they are well satisfied, and only one leper has escaped, a young man, who ran off to go to the Hawaiian Islands, where he thought there were better chances for a leper to make headway than in Louisiana. One chief reason why many lepers refuse to enter the home is that it is not permanent. Lepers are timid, and their relatives want to know all about the home before placing members of their families there; and when they find that the home is merely leased and that here will have to be a removal this year they refuse to take advantage of the accommodations the State offers.

The Board of Control in its report to Gov. Foster makes an earnest demand for energetic and vigorous action, the purchase of grounds for the lepers and the confinement of all lepers in a home. If this be done it is the opinion of all experts that the disease can be got rid of in Louisiana in a very short time; but action should be taken at once, as the lease of the present home expires this year.

Dr. H. A. Lindley, formerly of Kona, where he was Government physician and a coffee planter, is now practicing medicine at Rampart City, headquarters of the Hawaiian colony in Alaska.

A PENDING CASE

Commitment Proceedings Against J. Titcomb.

Death of a Woman Under Suspicious Circumstances—A Brother's Quest.

Commitment proceedings in a most interesting case, of which mention has been made before in this paper, are now going on in the Circuit Court before Judge Stanley. This is the case of Jules Titcomb, charged with the murder of his mistress, Kohele, on Kanaal, last November.

The Titcomb family is well known throughout Kanaal, its members being old residents, fairly well off. Jules Titcomb was at one time married to the sister of Kohele, referred to, and after the death of his wife he began to live with Kohele, his sister-in-law. But vague rumors were heard that the two didn't get along well together and quarreled a great deal. On the 9th of November Kohele suddenly died.

An inquest was held and parties who were supposed to know something about the case either testified that they knew nothing about it or didn't testify at all. It is alleged that some of the Jurors were under the influence of liquor during the inquest. However that may be, they returned a verdict in which asthma was given as the cause of death. This supposedly ended the case. A Japanese physician attended.

A brother of the dead woman, an industrious fellow living on Hawaii, went to Kanaal upon hearing of his sister's death. He at once was struck by the thought that all had not been strictly right. He caused the body to be examined, but decomposition had set in and nothing new developed from that source.

The police department became interested and some good men were started to inquire into the affair. As a result enough evidence was secured to warrant them in placing a charge of murder in the second degree against Jules Titcomb. The commitment proceedings have been going on since Monday. The prosecution, contending with many baffling circumstances, places great reliance in the testimony of a little boy, Jules Lillil, a nephew of the dead woman. This boy says that he saw Titcomb assault Kohele, knocking her down and kicking her. This occurred, it is stated, on the 5th of November, and the boy was not allowed to see her until the 7th, when the woman spoke to him as if she thought she was going to die. Death occurred on the 9th. Numerous witnesses have testified that they noticed bruises and cuts upon the deceased after death, although the Japanese doctor who was called in testified that he had examined her "with a glass" after death and was unable to notice any marks or discoloration.

A most singular case of untruthfulness was developed during the proceedings. One witness deliberately testified that he had made an agreement with Titcomb before the inquest that he would testify as Titcomb directed in payment for a certain piece of land, that Titcomb had not kept his agreement, therefore he wouldn't keep his. He then calmly testified that he would give evidence in return for money.

There is a quite strong case for the defense in general denial, in the showing of the period between the time of the alleged assault and the death and in the claim of death from asthma.

HOW TO PREVENT PNEUMONIA. In a recent letter from Washington, D. C., to an old friend, Major G. A. Studer, for twenty years United States Consul at Singapore, says: "While at Des Moines I became acquainted with a liniment known as Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I found excellent against rheumatism as well as against soreness of the throat and chest (giving me much easier breathing.) I had a touch of pneumonia early this week, and two applications freely applied to the throat and chest relieved me of it at once. I would not be without it for anything." For sale by Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., wholesale agents for H. L. all druggists and dealers.

Down Again

Every steamer, as well as sailing vessel, brings us something useful and of ten ornamental. After repeated trials we have at last found the article we wanted; it is now offered for sale to the public of Honolulu at same prices as sold in the States.

NEW PROCESS

BLUE FLAME OIL STOVE.

A sort of dread may prevail among housewives that perhaps these stoves might explode, but we can honestly say that they are perfectly safe in every home. To endorse our statement just have a talk with any insurance agent; he will tell you at once that he would rather insure a home where these stoves are used than issue a policy on a home where different stoves are used. You wonder why the Blue Flame stove should be better than any other. We'll tell you. In this country the matter of fuel is a very large item of expense. As you have turned over a new leaf since the New Year and intend economizing where you never thought of before, you may begin on your coal and wood. It is a positive fact that the "BLUE FLAME" uses only about one-half the quantity of fuel any other stove does. Another great advantage is that there is no smoke or smell.

These stoves are placed on rollers and are so light they can be easily moved about. We have them in two sizes, one with two burners with oven attached and the other with three burners with oven. (The price of these stoves is \$16, \$22.50 and \$25.00.) We can't tell you all about them; the best thing to do is to come and look at them.

We are selling the Celebrated FISHER STEEL RANGE for wood and coal at \$45.00.

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The ship Emily F. Whitney will sail from New York for Honolulu on March 1st, and the bark Foohing Suey will leave April 15th from New York for Honolulu, if sufficient inducement offers. Advances made on shipments on liberal terms. For further particulars, address Messrs. CHAS. BREWER & CO., 27 Kilby street, Boston or C. BREWER & CO., LTD., Honolulu Agents.

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TIMELY TOPICS

February 21st, 1899.

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