

# THE DAILY Pacific Commercial Advertiser

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# THE Pacific Commercial Advertiser

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FRIDAY : : : November 6th.

## MOLOKAI.

### Description of the Leper Colony on this Island.

### Social Condition of the Lepers—Their Mode of Living, Relations, Etc.—Contagious or Non-contagious—Conclusion.

The Island of Molokai is the fifth largest of the Hawaiian Group and contains 200,000 acres. The northern coast line is very bold, precipitous cliffs or pinnacles coming down to the water's edge except about midway between the eastern and western points, where an irregular tongue of land projects from the cliffs, enclosing about six thousand acres. There is evidence in the general configuration of this piece of land, and in its formation that it is not caused by subsidence, but is in fact a later formation, the result of independent volcanic action. The Titanic forces that produced the stupendous pinnacles of the main land had long been extinct before the crater of Kahukoo became a vent for the subterranean fumes, and threw out lava and scoria boulders to form the little peninsula of Kalawao. In short this peninsula or tongue of land is a modern addition to the ancient and grander structure of Nature adjoining, completed when her energies were unimpaired, and before her constructive forces had become paralyzed with incessant use.

The crater of Kahukoo is the highest point of this peninsula, and being close to the ancient coast line, it forms a central ridge dividing the peninsula of Kalawao, formed by the volcanic mud ejected from it, into two divisions, the eastern slope giving its name to the entire district, while the western slope is called after the steamer landing, Kalapapa. Of course both are ancient Hawaiian names; but Kalawao was the name of the district, Kalapapa being a local name. The soil is very fertile, it was originally overlaid with scoria boulders. Underneath this soil, which is simply volcanic ash and decomposed lava, lies a bed of hard volcanic rock that crops out occasionally, and forms a solid barrier against the sea along its northerly and easterly aspects at least one hundred feet high. There is access to the beach at the extreme eastern point of Kalawao, where it joins the ancient shore line and at Kalapapa which, being more sheltered from the sea and wind, does not need such an effective natural breakwater. But except at the points named the peninsula of Kalawao stands full a hundred feet above the ocean along its shore line. The shelter and protection it gives to the main land along its entire breadth is evidenced by the luxuriant vegetation on the face of the pinnacles of it and in the gulches, where oranges and figs grow to perfection, as well as valuable timber trees. But for its sheltering influence the pinnacles in rear of Kalawao peninsula would be as bare and weather beaten as those on either side of it.

Kalawao was an old ahupua'a belonging to the ancient chiefs of Molokai, and as its name implies—"hog" and "dress"—was probably held subject to a yearly tribute to the superior chief of a land hog and a robe. It was evidently the seat of a dense population, and the old natives speak of it as being famous for its production of sweet potatoes and hogs. Indeed, there is no doubt whatever that it could supply the entire population of these Islands to-day with these food commodities were it applied to that use. It is heavily grassed with Bermuda or manana grass, and could easily carry 10,000 sheep. The ancient population have left traces of their occupation, but for its sheltering influence the pinnacles in rear of Kalawao peninsula would be as bare and weather beaten as those on either side of it.

war with lepers and Kokuas about metes and bounds, and that is all there is to show for them except the stone walls and windbreaks. It is a sad comment upon the past, and points a moral which intelligent readers will not fail to draw for themselves.

The crater of Kahukoo has a subterranean vent connected in some way with the sea, because the water which is always in its bottom is slightly brackish and is evidently influenced by the action of the tide. The settlement at Kalapapa obtains water from wells, while that at Kalawao has water brought from a gulch in pipes. Close by this source of water supply is excellent taro land, but it is unused as the lepers could not cultivate taro, and it would not be expedient to permit Chinese or others to do so under existing conditions.

**SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE LEPEPS.**  
The Leper Colony at Kalawao, using this name for the entire district, in many respects unique. Cut off by nature from the outside world, the condition of the lepers has been made as favorable as circumstances possibly admit. They are well housed, comfortably clothed, and provided with abundance of wholesome food, medicines and medical attendance. Although isolated, they are recognized by the Government and society at large in the Hawaiian Kingdom as wards of the Nation, whose misfortune entitles them to greater consideration and kindness than is accorded to less afflicted persons. By the nature of their malady they become outcasts from society; but to the infinite credit of the Hawaiian Kingdom be it said, they are not neglected on that account in the slightest particular. By tacit consent it is assumed that the lepers on the Molokai reservation and at the Kakaako Branch Hospital have lost their civil rights, but the statutes nowhere declare it, and it is doubtful whether any Court in the Kingdom would sustain this "unwritten law." Nevertheless, the point is not at all likely to arise, as the lepers do not apparently concern themselves with public affairs, being wholly engrossed with their own bodily ailments and requirements.

As has been already stated, there are about forty individual holdings on Kalawao outside the Government reservation. These will in time be bought by the Government, thereby extinguishing all independent title. The lepers are free tenants on the Government land. They have no rent or taxes to pay, and may enclose and cultivate a patch of land at pleasure. Many of them do so, and little colonies of them are formed who squat among the sheltered rocky land some distance from the villages, and plant and cultivate sweet potatoes for their own use. A surplus might very easily be raised, but prejudice among people on the outside would deny them a market. What is done is therefore on a limited scale.

The Government provides the lepers a liberal ration, consisting of twenty-one pounds of poi, or of rice and poi, with seven pounds of beef, and occasionally mutton. Although the wholesome meat of the two, the lepers as a rule prefer beef to mutton. Salmon is also served out as an occasional ration in lieu of beef or mutton, and during the visit of His Excellency Mr. Gibson to the Settlement, several of the old people requested a continuous salmon ration because their teeth could not masticate beef. One old man who has been a continuous resident for nineteen years, but who is a Kukuas and not a leper, came specially to the President of the Board of Health to press this request upon him. Their ration further includes kerosene, soap, milk (of which between sixty and seventy gallons per day are distributed). There is also a supply of clothing equivalent to a couple of blankets and two suits given to each individual. This ration is drawn by young and old alike.

Those who have the means or whose friends take an interest in them, erect comfortable frame houses for themselves, and upon their death the house is sold for account of their heirs to some other resident, or is bought by the Board of Health and used for housing those who are without money or friends. The Government sees that all are provided with comfortable homes. Those living outside the Hospital do their own cooking and washing; the fifty inmates of the Hospital are attended to by paid help.

Taking a rough estimate there are between 300 and 400 frame buildings in the Settlement, which is divided into two communities, the more numerous and more active living at or near the steamer landing at Kalapapa. There is a "live public opinion" at Kalapapa, which does not exist in such marked degree at Kalawao, where the people are more subdued in manner and tone. Frequent intercourse without any account for this in part at the former place, but it is also largely owing to the presence there of a rather numerous class of people who are not lepers. There may be in the Settlement about 150 of this class, some of whom are there to attend upon their friends, some own land, others are merely visitors, and others again are employed by the Board of Health. Of the former, or Kukuas, there are ten on the roll from charity, their enabling them to draw rations. There is a Catholic and a Calvinistic Church building at Kalapapa, and similarly also a Calvinistic and a Catholic Church at Kalawao. The Rev. Father Damien ministers in the Catholic Churches, while a native preacher conducts divine service in the Protestant Churches. The Catholic mission is, however, by far the more active.

The working staff of the Leper Settlement is well organized and inexpensive. The Hospital management, under Dr. Arthur Mouritz, is simply as perfect as it can be made with the appliances at command, and the Government and residents of the Leper Settlement are to be congratulated upon securing the services of so efficient and painstaking a physician. A great deal depends upon the character and methods of the medical officer in charge of such an institution, and judging from results Dr. Mouritz is just the man for the place. He has been in charge for twelve months, and has certainly accomplished a great deal in that short space of time. A firm hand is needed in the medical control and management of these people.

**OPENING AND GROWTH OF THE SETTLEMENT.**  
The books at the Hospital show that the Leper Settlement was opened January 6, 1866, although it is common for writers to make it a year earlier. Through the

courtesy of Dr. Mouritz, and by his kind assistance, an examination of the books of the Hospital was made, and the history of the establishment, as written in the records, ascertained with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes. The first year opened with 141 lepers in the colony, of whom 103 were males and 38 females. The mortality for the year was 26. One man died at sea during transportation to the reservation, and ten were discharged. This is the record for 1866. Up to November 1, 1885, there were admitted 3,161 lepers, of whom 1,955 were males and 1,116 females. The record of deaths and discharged for 1878 being incomplete, it is impossible to give the exact totals under these heads. It is safe, however, to say that all the lepers admitted up to 1878 are dead, and that nearly all up to 1879 have also passed away. On the 1st of January, 1885, there were 717 persons on the leper roll at Kalawao. The largest muster roll from the foundation of the settlement was on August 19, 1884, at which date it stood at 841, comprising 512 males and 329 females. This was during the present administration, and is a sufficient reply to the charge that there has been neglect in segregating lepers. The second largest number was on September 4, 1873, when 866 inmates were recorded. That was the year Father Damien arrived and found the deplorable state of things existing as described in yesterday's ADVERTISER. With the largest number of inmates to provide for that, the records of the Leper Colony show the present Board of Health has reduced the administration of affairs here to a system far more effective, satisfactory and humane than was ever before attained. This fact should stand upon record in the face of the world to their lasting honor and credit. The biennial appraisal for the Leper Settlements is \$100,000, and the money has been judiciously spent. Had it been otherwise Kalawao and Kalapapa villages would have presented a very different appearance.

**CONTAGIOUS OR NON-CONTAGIOUS.**  
It is not perhaps within the scope of a newspaper article to discuss the etiology of leprosy, but inasmuch as this scourge is the one blot upon the country, it is proper to state the observations made by the writer. Evidence, absolute and conclusive, of the contagiousness of leprosy was presented to him. In each case, however, the disease was very slowly developed. Father Damien, who has been a close observer for twelve years, is convinced that the disease is contagious. Dr. Mouritz, of a different opinion, contrary to the teaching of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, of which scientific and learned body he is a member, his mind having been made up from tracing the spread of the disease abroad as well as by close observation and investigation at Kalawao. The manner in which contagion is communicated is, however, a mystery—that is, it cannot be as accurately determined as in acute contagious diseases, but when the blood becomes poisoned by the virus, whether by inhalation or actual contact, its development, although slow, is as certain and inexorable as death itself. But there is nothing whatever in the contagiousness of the disease, so far as it is known, to create general alarm. It is not communicated by casual contact like small-pox, measles or fever. There is no chance of contracting it in the open air, or in street contact, in steamboats or in vehicles of transportation. Furthermore, some persons are more predisposed to it than others, and persons in a low condition of health are always more liable to contagion than persons in robust health. With ordinary care and cleanliness the chance of leprosy contamination of the general public is so slight as not to give greater concern than to induce caution. Consumption and cancer are contagious in perhaps greater degree than leprosy; but their ravages do not disgust the mind through the eye as leprosy does. For this reason the consumptive and the cancerous are not segregated, although if they were in all countries the fatal ravages of these diseases would soon be arrested, and the average health and longevity of mankind be greatly increased. But leprosy, being a repulsive disease, suggests, as a precautionary measure, the complete isolation of the afflicted. This is a very difficult thing to do, and it is greatly to the credit of the present and previous Governments since 1866 that so much has been accomplished in that direction. This duty, at all times difficult and unpleasant, will be rendered still more so if the idea should be spread abroad, as is being attempted through a medical journal published on the Coast and in part reprinted here, that leprosy is non-contagious. If non-contagious, the compulsory segregation of lepers is an outrage which should not be tolerated. But the evidence is cumulative and conclusive that it is contagious, at least in these Islands, where a fierce form of leprosy prevails; and therefore it is the duty of all good citizens to lend their moral support to the Government in executing a law of public safety which, in its essence, imposes penalties upon individuals because of an infliction of nature, often induced by the noblest acts of self-sacrifice and love of kin and blood. The natives have no fear of the disease, yet they believe it communicable one to the other. The negative evidence adduced in the article referred to, for the purpose of sustaining the theory of non-contagion, is dissipated by positive evidence, which the history of several cases at the Leper Settlement furnishes. For example, Hoponi, who was declared a leper a few months ago, lived twenty-seven years with his wife, during twenty-five of which she has been a leper, and during the past five years both have resided at the Kalawao Settlement. Now, this is a case in which the disease was contracted precisely as cancer or consumption may be contracted, only its development was much slower. He is still a strong man. If he had been a weak one the disease would probably have shown itself many years ago. Long contact with the disease induced it in his case. An eminent English physician says: "That though leprosy is not contagious in the ordinary sense of the word, it is nevertheless propagated by inhalations of the excretions of those affected, much in the same way, but not in the same degree, as typhoid fever and cholera are propagated; but as leprosy is developed so slowly there is great difficulty in tracing it home to its true source." This is precisely the experience with the disease in this country.

**CONCLUDING REMARKS.**  
These observations of the leper colony on Molokai island are written solely for the purpose of presenting to the inhabitants of this Kingdom and the wider world

beyond its bounds, the exact condition of affairs there, reference being only made to the past when it became necessary to show, by way of contrast, the steady and marked change for the better in its administration and management. The experiment of segregating the lepers in 1866 was a bold one. It was a serious undertaking for a weak and poor country. Very little was known about the treatment and care of the disease; but King and Government set resolutely to work at the humane and benevolent task before them, and their successors have kept on, until now they have organized an institution for the care and treatment of lepers which stands unrivaled of its kind in the world. This is not a party question, as it has been sought to be made; it is a question of humanity, and just in proportion as denizens of this country and native Hawaiians realize and act upon this conclusion, will they hasten the happy time when the fell scourge of leprosy shall be stamped out and eradicated.

In conclusion, let a further word be spoken of the Kalawao Leper Settlement. There are about fifty cows on the land belonging to the Board of Health, which supply milk to the Colony, and about 400 hogs owned by the native population, the price of a good horse being from \$25 to \$30. They have also a large number of pigs and poultry. A herd of 1,000 cattle might be fed there, supplying abundance of milk and beef. The Legislature should take this into consideration and make the needed appropriation.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Some tree trimming is necessary in different parts of the town.

The algebra and geometry class meets this evening at the Y. M. C. A.

Messrs. E. P. Adams & Co. will hold their regular cash sale at 10 o'clock this morning.

Three new members joined Hook and Ladder Company last evening at the regular meeting.

Mr. Walter M. Giffard has resigned his position as Secretary of the Honolulu Yacht and Boat Club.

His Excellency Governor J. O. Dominis leaves by the steamer C. R. Bishop this morning for Waialua.

The circus will be closed this evening, but two performances will be given to-morrow—at 2 p. m. and 8 p. m.

The bark Lady Harwood will sail on Saturday. A mail for China and Japan will be forwarded by her from the Post Office.

A dividend of ten per cent on the capital stock of the Hawaiian Bell Telephone Company is now payable on demand at the Company's office.

A special meeting of the Hawaiian Rowing and Yachting Association will be held this evening at 7 o'clock at His Majesty's boat-house.

Messrs. Castle & Cooke make an announcement in to-day's issue with regard to insurance, which requires the close attention of our readers.

A meeting of the Myrtle Boat Club was held last evening when the reports of various committees were received and other minor business transacted.

Her Royal Highness Princess Liliuokalani held her monthly reception yesterday afternoon at her residence, Palama. The Royal Hawaiian Band was in attendance.

Attention is called to the fact that the Woodyear Circles attend all bills owed by them on presentation every Monday morning between 9 and 12 o'clock, at Mr. J. Dodd's office.

The fine residence of the late Justice Austin, situated in Nuanuan valley, is advertised to let. It has every convenience; the grounds are large, and everything is in very good order.

The Trustees of the Honolulu Library held a meeting last evening at the hall. The yearly report and reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were read and accepted. Other business transacted was of the usual routine character.

The Government has received from H. B. M.'s Commissioner, Major Wodehouse, a copy of a pamphlet containing the report of the Loadline Committee, and the instructions issued therein by the Board of Trade, mentioned to its officers in the United Kingdom.

The store on Fort street occupied by Mr. George Engelhardt as a hardware emporium is well worth a visit. During his recent visit to the Coast he made a careful selection of goods in his line of business, and he is expecting more by vessels nearly due from New York.

A Chinaman went to pay his taxes yesterday, and among the silver he offered was a counterfeit American dollar. He had other silver dollars in his pocket, which raised the suspicion that he knew it was counterfeit; so he was arrested and taken to the Station House.

Yesterday evening a four-wheel vehicle, driven by Miss Hall, came to grief at the corner of Richard and King streets. The children of Chief Justice Judd were with Miss Hall in the carriage, but no one was hurt. The off fore wheel collapsed when a sharp turn was attempted, to make way for another vehicle driven by a lady.

Now that the question of superiority in yachting has been settled, we may be pardoned the remarks that there is hardly room for questioning who holds the championship among Honolulu clothiers. Our store is the universal outfitting depot for men and boys. Our stock of Fall clothing, furnishing goods, hats and shoes is now ready.

Chas. J. Fisel.

Our correspondent, "15," writing from Kilauea, Kauai, regarding his letter description of the steam plow in use on the Kilauea plantation, asking to make two corrections. The words "yarda apart" were printed instead of "yards apart" in the beginning of the description. The other is a typographical error, which every intelligent reader will perceive.

The Queen's Own will parade at their armory, Queen street, on Monday next, 9th instant, at 9:30 a. m., sharp, under command of Captain W. F. O'Connor, and march to the Kapoliwai Home, accompanied by the Royal Hawaiian Band, to form the guard of honor on the occasion of the dedication of the above institution to their Majesties the King and Queen. All members of the corps are requested to be present; undress white clothing to be worn.

## Advertisements.

**ROYAL BAKING POWDER**  
Absolutely Pure.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be beat in comparison with the multitude of low-priced, short-weight, alum-phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 105 Wall Street, N. Y.

## TO LET.

THE RESIDENCE OF THE LATE  
**JUDGE AUSTIN.**  
227 Nuanuan Avenue.  
Fine two story house with large grounds. Two cottages, large hall, servants' rooms, carriage house, stable and chicken houses. Everything in perfect order.  
Terms reasonable to a good tenant. Inquire of  
JONATHAN AUSTIN,  
Over Bishop & Co's Bank.

**Dividend Notice.**  
STOCKHOLDERS IN THE HAWAIIAN Bell Telephone Company are notified that a dividend of ten per cent on the capital stock of the Company has been declared, and is payable on demand at the office of the Company.  
GEOFFREY BROWN,  
President H. B. T. Co.  
Honolulu, November 5, 1885.

**CHO WING & CO.,**  
No. 54 Nuanuan Street.  
—DEALERS IN—  
Crocery, Glassware  
—AND—  
China.

Now offer for sale at very low rates a choice variety of  
TEA SETS, VASES, FLOWER POTS, BIRDS AND TREES.  
**Great Bargains. Great Bargains.**

New and beautiful articles of the most delicate workmanship just received from Japan.  
P. O. box 229, Honolulu. 312 Jan 5

## WANTED.

A GERMAN, AGED ABOUT THIRTY-ONE years, strong and willing, and well recommended as a sober and reliable man, wants a place in private family to do outside work and take care of horses. Apply  
J. E. WISEMAN,  
General Business Agent.

## NOTICE.

DURING THE TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF our MR. WM. G. IRWIN to San Francisco, MR. W. M. IRWIN, will have charge of the general business affairs of our firm.  
298 no 7 WM. G. IRWIN & CO.

## REGATTA!

PROGRAMME OF REGATTA TO BE HELD on the anniversary of  
**His Majesty's Birthday,**  
NOVEMBER 16, 1885,  
Under the Auspices of the  
**Honolulu Rowing and Yachting Association.**

PART I.  
1—Four-class yacht race.  
2—Two-class boat—stationary seats.  
3—Six-paddle canoe race.  
4—Whale boat race, six oars.  
5—Six-oared boats, free for all.  
6—Swimming race.  
7—Single scull (helms).  
8—Six-oared boats, sliding seats (junior).

Intermission.  
PART II.  
9—Second-class yacht race.  
10—Racing canoes, paddles.  
11—Barge race.  
12—Four-oared boats, free for all.  
13—Canoe sailing race, for any style of canoe.  
14—Diving contest.  
15—Five-oared whaleboat race.  
16—Four-oared gull, junior crews.  
17—Single sculls, shore boats.  
18—Launch race.

Per order.

## NOTICE!

HATS AND FEATHERS CLEANED AT THE Temple of Fashion. 277 Jan 23

## NOTICE.

MR. FRANK P. HASTINGS WILL HAVE in charge of the business affairs of our Bank during the temporary absence of our MR. WM. G. IRWIN to San Francisco.  
299 no 7 CLAUD SPRECKELS & CO.

## Advertisements.

**BUY YOUR**  
Shirts, Underwear, Hosiery and Neckwear from  
**CHAS. J. FISHEL.**

We can safely guarantee a saving of 25 per cent to purchasers of clothing, etc. Call and see what we offer.

**Chas. J. Fishel**

## INSURE!

Save Yourself and Yours From  
Loss by

**FIRE, SHIPWRECK DEATH**

By insuring HOME, FURNITURE and EFFECTS, cargoes of SUGAR, RICE, GENERAL PRODUCE and MERCHANDISE, stocks of GOODS and LIFE, in the

**Aetna Fire Insurance Company,**  
Hartford, Conn.—Chartered 1819.

Assets Over Nine Millions.

**Union Fire and Marine Insurance Company,**  
San Francisco, California.

WELL KNOWN, SOUND, RELIABLE. The only California Company that paid its Chicago losses PROMPTLY AND IN FULL.

**The New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.,**  
The OLD RELIABLE. The Pioneer Life Insurance Agency in the

**Hawaiian Kingdom.**

Examine our new Full Term Endowment Policies. All Policies Non-Forfeitable by Law.

**CASTLE & COOKE,**  
Agents.

TO PLANTERS.

We have just received, by the steamer ALA-MEDA, a consignment of

**Automatic Trash Feeding Furnaces,**

For four and five foot furnaces, complete with grate bars, burners and trash carriers. Machines of this make are now in successful operation at Spreckelsville, Maize Sugar Company and other plantations.

**PLANTERS AND OTHERS**

Interested are requested to call and examine the above. For prices and further particulars apply to

**Wm. G. Irwin & Co.,**  
Agents.

**NOTICE.**

HAVE YOUR HORSES CLIPPED BY MACHINERY with the new American Lightning Horse Clipping machine, now in successful operation at the corner of Punchbowl and Queen streets. Any one doubting the superiority of machine over hand clipping should call in and inspect the above machine at work and be convinced. Terms as reasonable as any.

C. H. MILDS, Proprietor.

**THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE FORMED A company for the purpose of carrying on a plantation in Ewa, Oahu, under the name of BOW SING WAI CO. No individual partner can set independent of the others with regard to the business of the company.**

LAN ON,  
LAN IN,  
LAN WU IN,  
WONG TUCK LEONG,  
Honolulu, November 5, 1885. 2007

**NOTICE.**

THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVING BEEN appointed assignee of the estate of JAMES H. BOYD, a bankrupt, all persons indebted to said estate are hereby notified to make immediate payment to me at my office.

W. C. FARKE, Assignee.  
Honolulu, October 30, 1885. 2006 no 7