

THE PACIFIC

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - - EDITOR.

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The more crime the more judges, or the more judges the more crime. Which?

If Japan wants to make her own sugar she can probably do it. If the extreme southern part of the empire lacks the proper climate, Formosa offers one that would answer and, in fact, does answer. At present Japan imports sugar to the annual value of \$15,000,000 gold, a sum quite worth saving.

We see no reason why the wireless telegraph system should not do as well between islands, lying near together, as it does between ships a hundred or two miles apart. Such experience with wireless messages as our intermittent service has given Hawaii has created, in the business community, an appetite for more. On this account it ought not to be difficult for the company to get help in developing its business with correct appliances.

What can the public think of judges who send a bailiff to the steamship office to book them for the Coast merely as a cheap practical joke on the community? Such a trick might be expected of schoolboys or corner loungers, but it would be incomprehensible in judges who had even a faint sense of dignity. That the trick deceived but few showed its mental shallowness. The degradation of the bench has gone very far when its occupants easily play the clown.

MYTHS OF PATRIOTISM.

Among the cherished beliefs of the American people is one that Frederick the Great sent a sword to George Washington inscribed: "From the oldest general in Europe, to the greatest general on earth." Of the five swords bequeathed by Washington one was supposed to be the gift of Frederick, and it is now in the possession of the State of New York. The other day when Prince Henry visited Albany this sword was shown to him with the assurance that it was the first pledge of friendship of the royal house of Prussia for the republic to which Prince Henry's visit would convey another.

But the carping critic, the literary iconoclast, is always with us. He has destroyed faith in the story of the cherry tree and the hatchet; he has questioned the unselfishness of the Boston tea party; even the story of Washington's prayer at Valley Forge he puts under suspicion; he tells us that, when the dying Webster said "I still live," he meant it as a reminder to his nurse who had been told by the doctor that, if the patient still lived at 11 o'clock, to give him brandy. So it is not surprising to hear, as we do in a published letter from Moncure D. Conway, that the sword from Frederick the Great is a myth. "There is no such sword," says Mr. Conway. "Among the relics bought by the State from Mrs. Lewis Washington in 1871, there is a dress sword, but it has no inscription, and it certainly was not sent by Frederick the Great. I mentioned the legend to Carlyle, soon after the completion of his Life of Frederick; he had heard of it and declared it an absurd fiction."

"Frederick was no admirer of Washington. In his numerous letters 'Mr. Washington' is but once mentioned, and then incidentally and without the slightest interest or knowledge. M. d'Alembert and Frederick's other correspondents in France did their best to extort from him some word about Washington and the struggle in America, but he obstinately refused to allude to either. Frederick authorized the sending of Hessians to fight against this country. He refused to see an American envoy. He never in any way recognized the independence of this country. His fear of offending George III was extreme."

This would seem to vest the sword story with the need of more corroborative detail, for Mr. Conway is an historical authority. But what a pity it is that the interesting tale cannot stand unchallenged! So much that we once took pride in has gone from the earlier annals of the republic, that it wrenches the soul of the honest patriot to part with more.

INTEREST IN RAPID TRANSIT.

That the people have a deep interest in the extension of rapid transit all over the city was shown, beyond any possibility of misunderstanding, at the meeting called by the Governor to secure the sentiment of citizens as to the granting of rights of way in the Walkiki road. There was no other view than that every effort should be made to expedite the work of giving electric traction to the Kapiolani Park district, and the way seems to be opening for the accomplishment of this result.

The commission named is composed of enterprising citizens, and the result of their labors must be to secure the additions to the thoroughfare, so as to insure the right of way for the Rapid Transit Company, as well as the general improvement of this much-traveled road. The movement is one in the right direction; the road is one which is now and will be in the future the artery through which travel reaches the seaside and the parks, and it should be made as convenient and comfortable for passengers as is possible.

Superintendent Boyd has inaugurated work in the right direction, and will have able assistance in carrying through the project.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

The fight for good government in Hawaii began soon after the missionaries landed and has never been brought to a conclusion. In the earliest times, as soon as it was seen that the missionaries and the natives had come together to civilize the group and to establish it in righteousness, outsiders hurried in and made efforts to estrange them. Among these adventurers the names of Rives and Charlock are prominent in Island history. Both were able men, both gained more or less political influence or ascendancy and both came to grief. That, in fact, has been the story of their class from the beginning.

In this generation the most distinguished aspirant for the leadership of those opposed to the religious and political welfare of the Islands was Walter Murray Gibson, who died in exile. This remarkable man's life was full of incident, and among his achievements was that of becoming a high dignitary in the polygamous branch of the Mormon church. His residence here was long, and he acquired the native tongue. When he went into politics his virile powers of intellect were devoted to leading the weak King astray and involving him in costly and injurious policies. Gibson won high office, and for a time was premier; but the inevitable uprising came and he was banished from the kingdom, dying soon after in San Francisco, knowing that he had played a great game and lost. Those who drove him out are the men who lead the good government party in Hawaii today.

The career of the late Celso Caesar Moreno was much more brief. He, too, aimed at empire, was made premier, continued as such for a few days, and then was compelled to surrender his portfolio. He left here to lead an embittered life at Washington, cursing the Hawaiian missionaries to the last and plotting impotently against the well-being of the Islands.

The Ashfords were next in evidence. Both were young men of fine presence, of legal attainment, of large political following and of anti-missionary spirit. It was believed of the elder brother that he aimed to be King. As lately as 1895, when the Queen thought the Wilcox conspiracy might restore her to the throne, she made out a commission for Volney Ashford as Chief Justice. The younger brother, Clarence, was once Attorney General. Both these shrewd politicians delved and intrigued for years; but the inevitable hour of exile fell. Of their work nothing is left save an increased vigilance among good citizens for the public welfare.

Another would-be disturber was Julien Hayne, a clever, unscrupulous Englishman, of varied and abundant resources, who had an intermittent career in Hawaii before his crimes landed him in a New York penitentiary. It was a token of poetic justice that he was sent there by young members of the good government party who were called from their studies at Yale to testify against him in court.

Perhaps it would not be out of keeping with historical truth to speak of Harold M. Sewall in the same connection. Rich and rising, a member of the diplomatic body, United States Minister to Hawaii, and later the special agent of his government, Mr. Sewall had a prestige which most of his ambitious predecessors in the art of playing personal politics in Hawaii lacked. His one great scheme was to become Governor of this Territory; to set up a personal machine; to reward friends and punish enemies. It all went well enough until he found himself confronted with the immovable, rock-ribbed conservatism of the dominating white element here. That power he beat against in vain. It conquered him and he left here, baffled and enraged, to indulge himself in petty conspiracies at the Federal capital against those who had rejected him.

Will history repeat itself once more? Why should it not? The men who are now sapping and mining at the foundations of Hawaiian honor fall far below, in point of cleverness, those who have been over-matched in the past. With records that have put good men on their guard; with brands upon them which all men may see, it is easy enough to forecast the ruin which they have invoked. That these men will ever have their way in Hawaii is inconceivable, for there still stands in this land as of old, a stern, rugged, unconquerable bulwark of good citizenship. Against this wall of defense the raw adventurers who are among us misusing the authority of courts, will spend their malice and their wiles in vain.

THE CARTOON IN REFORM.

I don't care what the papers say of me, but them cartoons of Nast's I don't like.—Wm. M. Tweed.

These words of the greatest public robber of his time emphasize the value of the cartoon in correcting political abuses and in punishing official delinquents. The world has never lost its taste for picture-writing; indeed, but a small proportion of the world, compared with the number that can be impressed by a pictorial argument, will take the time to follow a serious newspaper discussion. The picture teaches its lesson at a glance; the editorial must be read at length. Hence the larger audience and the wider influence of the pencil. Millet's great picture of "The Toilers" has inspired its multitudes while Markham's fervid poem on the picture has served merely to interest a few more thousands in the creation of the brush. It was Nast that led the fight of Harper's Magazine against the Tweed ring, not Geo. William Curtis, the editor of the paper; and no one was quicker to admit it than Tweed himself.

If one were to ask an Englishman whether The Times or Punch had wielded the greater influence upon the

internal politics of Great Britain during the past fifty years or more, he would probably award the palm to the weekly fun-maker. Where the thunder of The Times reaches the ears of a million people the cartoons of Punch draw the eyes of ten millions. The crowd best likes the impressions that come pictorially; and that is why the enemies of public order like them least. Napoleon himself tried by an action in the British courts to suppress the caricaturists; but he failed in the effort, as all men must fail in a free country and among free men. It was not the attacks of the French press upon the British government two years ago which nearly brought Anglo-French diplomacy to an impasse; but the caricatures, some of them inexcusable, of the Parisian pencil artists.

The Advertiser, which brought the cartoon to Hawaii, has found it an ally in the fight for good government here, the loss of which could not be compensated for by any addition that might be made to the editorial staff. What is it that makes our public rogues writhe and cry out and invoke the misused weapons of the law? It is not the writing of the paper, however plain-spoken that may be, so much as it is the really powerful drawings of the young artist whose reputation may soon carry him to a metropolitan field. The influence of the Yardley cartoon in exposing pretentious humbug and rascality and holding them up to derision and scorn, and its influence in restraining all manner of public corruption in this Territory, is a matter so clear to the Advertiser's widespread clientele that it needs no special elucidation here.

It is gratifying to see that Hongkong, a city with which Honolulu has intimate contact, is taking strong precautions against the plague. A similar movement in San Francisco would be pleasant to record.

PROBATE MATTERS IN CIRCUIT COURT

Judge Robinson yesterday denied the motion for default and judgment in the case of Carlos A. Long vs. E. C. Macfarlane et al. This is the suit brought at the instance of the Hogan troupe against the local hut which agreed to furnish the money to bring the minstrels to Honolulu.

Judge Gear yesterday referred the accounts of the B. P. Bishop estate trustees to George Davis as master. This is the fattest master's job in the courts.

George Chalmers was yesterday appointed administrator of the estate of Mary Ann Chalmers, under a bond of \$5,000.

Miss Alice F. Beard was appointed guardian of the Clemm minors. Humphreys remitted all costs. The same order was made as to John Arnold Rosario, a minor.

A petition was filed yesterday asking the approval of Judge Gear of the sale of certain real estate of James Love to Young Anin, for the sum of \$19,000. George Davis is trustee of the property of the former spendthrift, and approves the deal, having been unable to secure a bid of \$20,000 at public auction.

J. M. Vivas has been appointed trustee for Jacintha Walsh, a minor, for the purpose of withdrawing certain monies from the First National Bank. C. F. Reynolds has been appointed commissioner by Judge Humphreys to partition the real estate in the suit of Victoria S. Buffandeau vs. A. A. Montano.

Anton Helgesen has been appointed administrator of the estate of Anna K. Jack.

Judge Humphreys signed an order yesterday for the distribution of the estate of Gerardo Jose Rocio. Half goes to the widow, and the other half to the four children, share and share alike.

W. A. Wall, as commissioner in the case of Reyes vs. Callihan et al., made a report yesterday recommending a division of the disputed property into five parts.

Patrick Walsh was fined \$50 by Judge Humphreys yesterday morning for interfering with his former wife. The case was before the court upon a motion for the appointment of a trustee for the girl, and after the hearing she returned and told Humphreys that Walsh had used threatening language to her. The court imposed a fine of \$50, saying that the girl was under the protection of the court, but Walsh said he wouldn't pay it. He was ordered into custody, but released later. He claimed that the girl had secured \$2,000 from him since they were married, and denied making any threats.

Representative Prendergast was before the first judge also, to explain some transactions of his as administrator of the estate of Naomi Kaahue. It appeared that the legislator had lent money to some of his friends, J. K. Nakookoo, P. A. Akina and A. H. Renner, and held only their notes, without security. Judge Humphreys gave Prendergast sixty days to pay back the money, about \$600, to the estate.

IN FEDERAL COURT.

Judge Estee heard the petition for writ of habeas corpus in the case of Ah Sai yesterday morning. Collector Stackable, in his return, denied that the petitioner was a resident of Honolulu. Two witnesses were put upon the stand, who testified to knowing Ah Sai in this Territory. The case was taken under advisement.

Live Stock Men to Meet.

The second meeting of the Hawaiian Live Stock Association will be held today at Castle & Cooke's directors' room. The committee having in charge the matter of a herd book will report plans for the keeping of a register of the live stock bred on the Islands. The system which is proposed is that which is in use in the American Association, and there will be identical rules according to the present plans. The committee having the matter in charge is composed of Eben Low, Julian Monsarrat and Colonel Cornwell, but the latter is absent though the plan was acceptable to him, and the report signed before his departure. The committee is composed of Alfred W. Carter, W. F. Dillingham and H. M. von Holt. The plan is said to make the association as close to that of the American body as possible.

Get the Most Out of Your Food

You don't and can't if your stomach is weak. A weak stomach does not digest all that is ordinarily taken into it. It gets tired easily, and what it fails to digest is wasted.

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