

THE INDEPENDENT

ISSUED

EVERY AFTERNOON.

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F. J. TESTA, Proprietor and Publisher.

EDMUND NORRIE, Editor.

W. HORACE WRIGHT, Assistant Editor.

Residing in Honolulu.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1898.

MORE QUESTIONS.

Representative Loebenstein this morning asked a few questions, which apparently were embarrassing to the Government and to its blind henchmen. The Representative from Hilo was taken to task by Rep. Atkinson who claimed it bad taste at the present juncture to ask President Dole to give an accounting of his expenditure during his recent junketing trip. Mr. Atkinson got a hot reply from his colleague, who reminded him that he (Loebenstein) had at all times been consistent in his political views. That he had not one day been a royalist and the next day an annexationist, according to where bread and butter were to be found, and it was insinuated that the honorable editor of the Star was always ready to jump down on that side of the fence where the ruling power was to be found. Mr. Atkinson replied briefly that he could not take notice of personalities.

We admire Mr. Loebenstein for having sufficient independence and manhood to ask the questions presented by him, and which are of interest to the Legislature and to the taxpayers. When the Premiers of the Australian Colonies returned from their visit to England during the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, they were asked in the respective Legislatures to furnish a detailed account of their disbursements of public money, voted for their journey, and every voucher scrutinized and every item criticized by the "opposition." In New South Wales the Premier refused to furnish the information asked for and threatened to resign if the questions were pressed. He didn't scare the Legislature at all, as a Cabinet Minister did here a few days ago, and the question was pressed and eventually answered. The resignation bluff didn't work, and the Premier is yet in office.

Rep. Loebenstein asks what it cost the taxpayers to send W. O. Smith and his doctors to the East, Damon and secretary to London, and Dole with doctor and secretary to Washington. We can see no "bad taste" in the questions of Loebenstein. He is doing his duty simply and endeavoring to tell his constituents, who have hoped for roads and wharves, how much money has been spent on the junketing trips of this immaculate Government.

If these trips were properly authorized and carried out in the right manner, we cannot see why there should be any hesitation in furnishing the taxpayers with all needed information. Mr. Damon, we feel confident, is perfectly willing to state exactly what his trip to London, which we admit was a necessity and extremely proper, has cost the Treasury. Mr. Dole, upon his return to Hawaii, has indirectly admitted that his mission was a failure by asking the Legislature to raise the salaries of his Ministers, who would retire, as a matter of course, in case of annexation. But why should he

not explain how he has disbursed the \$10,000, which were foolishly granted to him, and, as we believe, in an illegal and unconstitutional manner.

Let us have light on the subject on government by all means. The only way to get the light is to ask questions and force the Ministers to answer them. If our "best" government is composed of honest men, why should they shirk a full and public investigation of their doings?

THE CARTER MONUMENT

We have always felt the deepest regret for the sad event which caused the life Chas. L. Carter and deprived the country of a bright young citizen, but we have never been able to understand the policy of those who want to make a national hero of the deceased man, and by erecting a monument on a public square to his memory simply continue in keeping open a sore, irritating and offensive to the People.

A monument for the man might properly be placed over his grave or in the yard of the barracks together with monuments over the men who were killed in doing their duty at Kalalau in the attempt to capture a lone, miserable leper.

Public monuments should be erected after slow and honest thought. We can think of no stronger support of this theory than in what Justin McCarthy says on page 276 in his book "Our Times— from 1880 to the Diamond Jubilee." Referring to the suggestion of erecting a public monument in memory of Robert Louis Stevenson, Justin McCarthy writes: "After his death it was proposed that there should be a public monument raised to him in this country. The original suggestion was made by Lord Roseberry, and strange to say some objection was started to it by a countryman of Stevenson and of Lord Roseberry: "Better wait, it was urged and see whether Stevenson's fame will hold out." This, as a piece of advice was sensible enough. Monuments raised in a moment of national emotion are often apt to become unmeaning fabrics in course of time. Even a well educated Englishman wandering about London to-day is sometimes apt to wonder, if he raises his eyes and looks at the things at all, who were the persons to whom this or that public monument was erected. It has been well said that *if a man's fame, needs a monument to preserve it, then he ought to have no monument at all.*

ALOHA MR. DAVIES.

The only real opposition to the suggestions and advices of Mr. Theo. H. Davies to the Hawaiians prior to his departure for England seems to be, that he was premature in advocating a policy, which necessarily must be adopted by all sensible men before the next election takes place.

No one can doubt the sincerity of Mr. Davies, and we differ with the Advertiser, when it says that the Hawaiians have received his open letter unkindly and his outlined policy in a hostile manner. The Hawaiians and those who have the most influence among them do not feel that the moment has yet arrived when a new national policy should be inaugurated. When the question of annexation has been settled and the scheme abandoned, as we feel assured it will be, then the time will have come where the Hawaiians will get together and earnestly discuss the advice of Mr. Davies and other friends. It is the uncertain conditions of to-day which have caused many of the leading Hawaiians to consider Mr. Davies' letter premature, but every one realizes his friendly feelings and his goodwill toward the country and the nation, and all hope that he will return as soon as possible to join and help Hawaii-nee in the solution of the vital questions which the future has in store.

The Belgic.

The O & O. S. S. Belgic, Capt. J. H. Rinder, arrived off port at 1 a. m. to-day, 10 days from Yokohama. She was locked at 6 a. m. at the Pacific Mail wharf by Pilot Saunders. The steamer flew the yellow flag at the fore, denoting sickness on board, necessitating the steamer going into partial quarantine. It was some time before the following particulars could be gleaned respecting passengers and cargo for this port. Cabin and saloon passengers for Honolulu were as follows: Mrs. J. S. Clark Stewart Clark, Miss S. E. Officer, Mrs. W. Finch, H. Cuzo. In the steerage were 6 Europeans, 186 Japanese and 71 Chinese. There was 695 tons of Oriental cargo for this port. The steamer took on 100 tons of cargo this forenoon. She is advertised to sail this afternoon at 5. It was at first thought that there was smallpox on board, but subsequent investigation proved that varioloid had not yet developed, although the patient, a Chinese, was in high fever with serious symptoms. About 9 o'clock the cabin passengers were allowed to come on shore, but precautions were taken to prevent any intercourse from the shore with the steerage section. The Asiatics were promptly removed to quarantine.

A notice of election of officers by the I. I. S. N. Co. appears in this issue.

Want to Emigrate.

The agitation among a certain class of Portuguese who desire to leave for the island of Timor is still going on. On Sunday a large number of them met their Consul by his request and listened to his explanation of what had been done in regard to the project. Emigration to Timor from Portugal has not proved a success and the Consul cannot encourage the movement although he sympathizes with his people under their present hardship. Further correspondence between Mr. Canavarró and his government will take place before any definite action can be taken.

Saturday, March 19th.
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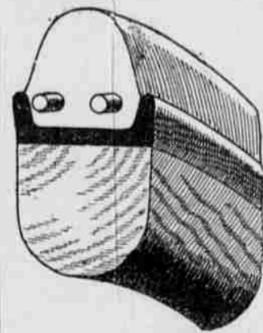
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