

passionately—every one being alike interested in solving the problems it presents should have the right freely to express his views notwithstanding those views may differ from those of others. Every suggestion made, either wise or unwise, does its share of good by inducing thought in other minds. It is true that it is sometimes unpleasant to be disagreed with on matters of great importance, most men are more or less intolerant in this respect. It is no less true that a fair, candid and gentlemanly discussion of a subject between those who honestly disagree, is more apt to lead to a just and wise conclusion than no discussion at all, and certainly much more apt to do so than when the gag is attempted to be used by the party which either may be or may consider itself to be the strongest. Vituperation and what is called "bounce" never yet, as we believe, made one willing or constant convert to any cause—from self interest or through fear men have apparently changed their views, but from changes so brought about but little good has ever accrued to any cause—unless, perchance, it have been the one from which the man has been converted.

We repeat, the columns of this paper are, as they ever have been, open to all those who wish to express their ideas on this question. It is desirable that all sides should be heard in order that the public may be enabled to judge for themselves of the merits of the views held by different persons.

Cruelty to Animals. We have before spoken of the unnecessary cruelty sometimes exercised towards animals in shipping them on board of our coasters from the various landings from which they are taken for transportation to Honolulu. We have seen but little, comparatively, of this business, but the little we have seen has been sufficient to impress us with the idea that if we had a Bergh amongst us who would make it his business to suppress unnecessary cruelty to the dumb brutes he would find a field of great usefulness. It is a fact that at nearly every point in the Kingdom from which cattle are procured, difficulties are presented to shippers which render it necessary to put animals to more inconvenience and suffering than a humane man can well look upon without shuddering.

We were glad to observe yesterday afternoon, before the departure of the Kilanea, conspicuously posted up in different parts of the vessel, notices signed by the agent, Mr. Wilder, warning all persons employed on the steamer against unnecessary rough handling or cruelty to live stock, and requesting any witness of such ill-treatment to report the same to him. The best of it is, he declares his intention to prosecute the offender to "the extent of the law." This is a step in the right direction, more particularly so, as it is well known that Mr. W. is in the habit of performing his promises. It is to be hoped that owners and agents of our sailing coasters, will follow this good example and give like warning to those employed on their vessels. To lash a bullock's head to the side of a boat or scow, to force him through the surf, and to hoist him on the deck of a vessel which is rolling and tumbling about, though at times necessary, is quite cruel enough, and one cannot look upon it without pitying the animal. But to see a poor brute hoisted on board with one or both horns knocked off, a leg broken perhaps, through carelessness, is sufficient to raise the indignation of the most indifferent and hard-hearted spectator.

CORRESPONDENCE. NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Every person interested in the welfare of this Kingdom has a right to express his opinions in this paper. However, it is understood that the Editor is not responsible for the opinions expressed by any correspondent. [Communicated.]—No. 3.

General and Population. The liberally expressed opinion is that the problem of population will be solved with the solution of the labor question. If the whole area of this group of islands is to be divided into large sugar estates, and each estate imports its contract laborers from the quarter of the globe where they are to be had for the least outlay—and this will be the governing motive—the opinion is perhaps a correct one. But will the population thus massed be the foundation upon which to base hopes for the upbuilding of a new empire? Will not such a society consist of but two classes—the very rich, or their representatives, and the very poor, without that element of society upon which the prosperity of a State mainly depends, the great middle class? We shall have, under such a condition of affairs, a mere handful, comparatively, of very wealthy estate owners, an aristocracy of wealth, and a very large number of poverty-stricken, untutored laborers, and as a necessary growing out of such a condition of society, an oligarchical form of government under which, in this period of the world's history, I have my doubts whether it is possible for a State to rise to any eminence, much less to become the centre from which shall radiate an influence for the civilization of the Pacific.

We are told that we have no lands to offer to immigrants, that our territory is held by a few proprietors in large districts running from the sea to the mountain tops, which can not be profitably separated and cut up into sections. Then the new comers can not hope to be landholders, but serfs, their condition to be mitigated under the influence of our superior civilization. "The glorious and prosperous State" which we are to build, the sails of whose commerce "are to whiten the Pacific," is to rear its pillars upon the corner-stone of serfdom. Verily, I had thought that such vicious and dreams were forever dissipated by the "logic of events" in the United States between the years 1860 and 1864. There are those who believe that reforms are needed in the treatment of our native laborers, that if carried out, we have so such immediate and pressing need of imported laborers as we are led to believe. Again some, while willing to admit the need of reforms, say that to wait for reform is to invite ruin, that the immediate introduction of more labor is a dire necessity.

After fairly considering the statements made, one feels in a quandary as to where to make a stand; but upon looking abroad and carefully studying the rise and progress of movements in Europe, Great Britain, and America, having for their aim the reform of abuses practiced upon the laboring classes of those countries, one must believe that the action is to be general, and it is well that we "mark time" in readiness for the advance.

I can not think it wise to graft new laborers upon our labor system; to do so and expect improvement, seems to me folly. It is noticeable that the character of the native laborer has degenerated in the last fifteen years, is now degenerating, and it is fair to expect that the introduction of numbers, large or small, of the laboring class of besthendom as co-laborers upon our plantations, is to exert an elevating influence? "Nothing decides the character of a people more than the form and determination of labor."

If our present policy in relation to the native laborer is to be adhered to, it may bring gain to the individual planter, but it must inevitably work ruin to the State. Write the Rev. Dr. Channing to Henry Clay, upon the question of the annexation of Texas to the United States: "Whoever studies modern history with any care must discover in it a steady, growing movement towards one most interesting result—I mean, towards the elevation of the laboring class of society. This is not a recent accidental turn of human affairs. We can trace its beginning in the feudal times, and its slow advances in subsequent periods, until it has become the master movement of our age. Is it not plain, that those who toil with their hands and whose productive industry is the spring of all wealth, are rising from the condition of beasts of burden to which they were once reduced, to the consciousness, intelligence, self-respect, and proper happiness of men? Is it not the strong tendency of our times to diffuse among the most improvements ever confined to the few? He who overlooks this has no comprehension of the great work of Providence, or of the most signal feature of his times; and is this an age for efforts to extend and perpetuate an institution, the very object of which is to keep down the laborer, and to make him a machine for another's gratification?" If this was true in 1837, how much more is it so in 1872. When we would perpetuate our present labor system and upon it hope to erect a prosperous State, we have two ideas in direct antagonism. Better far that we should attempt to eliminate the errors that have so beset our labor system. Reforms will cost less when we lead and direct them, than when they come upon us and bear us down before their irresistible march. For reform must come. The world moves, and Hawaii can not expect to block its wheels.

To bring about the needed reform must be the work of Government. The individual planter can not be relied upon. Men interested in large undertakings are prone to selfishness. The question of profits eclipses that of the rights of individuals. Most decidedly so when the rights are sneered at as mere matters of sentiment. When so much power was placed in the hands of Masters, a counter-check should have been in the control of the Government. In the countries where the leading features of our labor system obtain, particularly in the British Colonies of the West Indies and South America, a Commissioner has been appointed, to whom almost arbitrary power is given. It is his duty to visit plantations, personally investigate the condition of the laborers, see that they are properly housed, fed, clothed, and cared for when sick. The Government fixes by ordinance the dietary table, classified as Ordinary, Coolie, and Hospital diet. To compare these tables with ours would put us to shame. A most complete code of laws and regulations has been arranged, and any infringement can be most summarily punished. In cases of abuse of laborers, the Commissioner may cancel the contract by which he is held to service. Such checks were considered necessary to counter-balance the power of the masters. In spite of all precautions, abuses have crept in until they have attracted the attention of the Imperial Government, and reforms are being enforced. To my mind it is not at all surprising that abuses exist where power is placed so completely in the hands of individuals, with no check upon the will or caprice as to the care of laborers, save that of conscience.

Death of Mrs. Felicia C. Coan. By the last mail from Hawaii the sad intelligence was received of the death of Mrs. Coan, wife of the Rev. Mr. Coan of Hilo. For several weeks this intelligence has been looked for, indeed, it was hardly expected that she would have reached the islands, while on her return from the United States, more than one year ago. After the fatigue of the journey by land and sea, she revived while enjoying the quiet of her beautiful home and the most assiduous care of loving ones. During these closing months, disease has been gradually removing one prop after another, until finally on Sabbath afternoon, Sept. 29th, the spirit took its flight. Her consciousness was retained until the last, when

"A light from her Father's face, a light That comes beyond the moon, beyond the stars," and assures all that she is passing from a world of sorrow to one of joy, where "all tears will be wiped away."

Mrs. F. C. Coan was born in Riga, New York, Feb. 17, 1810, and hence was 62 years old. After acquiring a finished education, she engaged in teaching, in which employment she acquitted herself remarkably well. Soon after her marriage with the Rev. Mr. Coan, she embarked for these islands and Hilo became her home, where she has lived since 1835, discharging the duties of wife, mother, missionary, neighbor, friend, in a manner to win the love, esteem and respect of all. Her home has been one where many from the sea and foreign lands have received such a welcome as they will never forget. How often we have heard officers of the British and U. S. Navy refer to the cordial welcome they received from Mrs. Coan! As a missionary help-met to her husband, during his remarkable career of usefulness, she labored most untiringly and acceptably. Of her it might most truthfully be said, "The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her."

She came hither, in the distinctive character of a missionary, and as such her life will bear the closest scrutiny. For many years she taught a school for Hawaiian females, while her labors as associated with her husband as the pastor of the largest church on the islands, were unwaried, and admirably adapted to the condition of the native and foreign population of the district of Hilo. It is quite noteworthy that Mrs. Coan and her husband should have passed away so near each other. They were both women of noble qualities, finished education, fine culture and christian experience, most nobly have they accomplished the work for which they came to these islands. Through a long course of years they have faithfully stood in their assigned positions, and now that they have passed away, their memories will be exceedingly precious to wide circles of surviving friends. S. C. D. Honolulu, Oct. 8, 1872.

THE POPULAR VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.—As among our American residents, sometimes, questions arise as to the popular vote for President in the United States for a number of years past we give a table, copied from the San Francisco Bulletin, showing the number of votes cast for the various candidates since 1836. As nearly all eligible to vote do so at the presidential elections the table is also interesting as showing the enormous increase of population in that country since 1836: "As a matter of reference, interesting as we are entering into a new political campaign, we have compiled the popular vote of the country for President since 1836, giving in the first column the vote for the successful candidate, with his name, and in the second the vote of the opposition candidate or candidates: 1836 Van Buren... 708,387... Harrison... 737,711 1840 Harrison... 1,374,399... Van Buren... 1,139,303 1844 Polk... 1,370,013... Opposition... 1,357,947 1848 Taylor... 1,362,258... Opposition... 1,413,713 1852 Pierce... 1,500,305... Opposition... 1,501,213

should be afforded to those who possess the necessary ability and enterprise to enable them to become producers when in a position to work for their own account and profit instead of for hire. I look upon it as impossible that the Government should, as Mr. Dale seems to think, conduct the measure of immigration alone; it can not bring foreigners here as settlers, or support, or find occupation for them when they are brought; this must be done by individuals personally interested, and acting in concert; what the Government can do is to second the efforts of agriculturists and others requiring supplies of labor, give them its countenance and support in the legitimate introduction of new blood into the country, introduce and advocate in the Legislature such measures as shall tend to bring our waste and unoccupied lands into cultivation, and faithfully carry out all existing, and especially sanitary laws. When this has been done, it has accomplished all it can: the rest must be left to private enterprise.

In the writer on this subject in the GAZETTE a stranger, that he asks what is the reason that natives can be found to work on the guano islands, or in the whaling fleet, but not on the plantations? In the first place the question is not fairly stated, and in the second, if he is not away among us, he ought to know that the reason why some prefer the guano islands or the whaling fleet to the plantations is, not that the planters are tyrants and monsters of iniquity, but because the sum of sixty or seventy dollars advance, placed at once time in the hands of the young or thoughtless, with the prospect of a similar sum at the expiration of perhaps a year, is not to speak of the excitement of a foreign voyage, is too tempting a bait to be resisted. The truth is, the greater part of the population is engaged either on its own private enterprise, or on the plantations, and they are comparatively few who seek temporary foreign employment.

Mr. Dale is perhaps correct in his belief that with our present population we have reached our greatest amount of export, but he appears to have failed in discovering any remedy to restore our waning fortunes. Now, if the capital centred in the country, instead of being sent out of it for employment elsewhere, were embarked in new operations here, if it were devoted to the extension of a laboring population and the establishment of new plantations, for which we have ample room, our difficulties would vanish, our independence would be preserved, and our national prosperity would go on progressively increasing; we should see thriving little towns grow up about the plantations, as is now the case in the districts of Makawao and Waialeale, thousands not connected with them being benefited by their mere existence.

This is a question for the consideration of our successful planters and merchants—if they employ their surplus capital in the judicious extension of their enterprises, or in enabling others to embark in new ones, our prosperity will be assured. On the efficient cultivation of the soil hangs our future, and it is to the interest of every member of the community to promote it to the utmost, according to his means and lights. I must conclude this communication by wishing God speed to the able and earnest writer in the P. C. Advertiser, who signs "Weltweidner," may his success in his undertaking equal his desires.

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