HAWAIIAN GAZETTE.

J. MOTT SMITH,
Director of the Government Press.

HONOLULU:
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1868.

The reduction of the tax on horses, which, for many years, has been one dollar per head on all over two years old, has been under discussion for several days in the Assembly. The Bill, as brought in, substituted half a dollar in place of one dollar, making a reduction, if passed, in the estimates of the Budget, of $30,000.

One of the reasons which induced the levying of this tax in the first instance, and has persuaded subsequent Assemblies to keep it in force, was the great number of worthless horses which overrun the Islands, devouring pastures which should have been devoted to raising stock, and occupying ground that ought to be cultivated; and the still greater evil which the ownership of these animals had upon the habits, welfare and morals of the people themselves.

Horses have been sold at auction in Honolulu as low as $2.50 each; and all through the country their value as property had become reduced to an insignificant figure, and therefore worthless as property. But very few of them were put in the service of labor, while they tempted the Hawaiian to idleness and dissipation. Many horses have disappeared through the operation of the law, but not so many as was hoped, and horseflesh still remains a cheap commodity.

No man is so poor in Hawaii nei that he can not own a horse; and the numbers returned by the assessors, together with those which escape taxation, and those exempt under the law, prove that the horses outnumber the adult inhabitants.

In most countries such a state of affairs would be considered an evil, and as hindering the advance of the people in habits of labor and industry, and as tending to mischievous and effeminate idleness. In the rural districts many a man, without the facility of locomotion enjoyed by means of his cheap horse, would be content to remain about his own house and field, to find in the improvement of them a source of interest and gratification, through the inability of seeking excitement abroad.

But the horse has become so connected with the habits and modes of Hawaiian life, that it is difficult now to distinguish where the necessity ends and the luxury commences. The laborer rides to his work in the fields, the children to school, the congregation to church, the voter to the polls; the servant attends to his errand on horseback, while but a small proportion of the nags are doomed to pack service or other labor.

The horse on these Islands has ceased to be a luxury—he has become in the popular mind a necessity. Poor people in other countries use their legs, and it certainly would cause a smile to associate the adjective poor, with the owner of a horse.

With such a multitude of cheap horses, and so generally owned among the people, it was, and is, evident that the horse tax must be unpopular, and always remain so. Any reduction which may be granted by the present Assembly, will be hailed with satisfaction for the present, but any tax will be regarded as a burden to be removed at some period hereafter; and the argument of unpopularity will be as weighty then as it can possibly be now.

The tax bears unequally on the people as viewed with regard to their respective wealth, as indeed do all taxes levied on particular species of property, and if the special objects sought by the levying of the tax on horses, are now deemed unattainable, we believe the modifications proposed by the Committee will place the tax on a more equal basis, and render it more uniform in its operation on all classes.

The Bill as modified, (and which will probably be enacted by the Assembly), imposes a tax of fifty cents on all horses worth less than fifty dollars; one dollar on all other horses, with the addition of one per cent. on the excess of value over one hundred dollars.

SUBSIDIES.

This matter which has been referred by the Legislature to the Committee on Commerce, has been under consideration before them for several days. A great deal of evidence has been taken and many statements made, including among the latter, those of the most prominent business men of Honolulu. Some of the statements are for the proposed subsidy and some against, the larger portion however being in favor of the measure.

The preponderance of the testimony gives an affirmative answer to the proposition upon which all legislation ought to be based—will it be conducive to the general welfare of the country? If so, no particular class or interest should be permitted to stand in the way of its adoption. The facts and statements, we think amply show that this subsidy will conduce to the general welfare of the country, not to say anything of universal experience of like legislation. It may be regarded as sure here as elsewhere that the conditions being equal, "like causes produce like results."

It has been demonstrated before the Committee that it will save some fifteen thousand dollars per year as interest on imports; will prevent the market from being cornered, by the certainty and despatch of our connection with our nearest and greatest market, and by inducing competition and lowering the price of articles of consumption, will be a great benefit both to the capitalist and the consumer, to one of which class, we all belong. The same is equally true of exports, the saving of interest on which, acts equally with the other, for our exports are as much our capital as the money with which we purchase our imports. The value is only represented by a different medium. The saving of insurance alone in two years, on that now paid on our imports and exports will amount to about eight thousand dollars, "money saved is money earned." All money thus saved may be used in all the various ways calculated to enhance the material prosperity of the country, which consists in its commerce and manufactures and agriculture. It will give us such increased mail facilities as will be a substantial benefit to the country; giving the merchant and business man the advantage of certainty and despatch in his communications with his correspondents not only in San Francisco, but by telegraph with all the commercial world both in America and Europe, thereby decreasing the rates of exchange and re-exchange, and laying the foundations for business operations which could not otherwise take place. It will give us likewise the latest information on all matters of literary, commercial or political importance. We think even this advantage, did we possess it, would not be parted with by us, for the sum of fifty thousand dollars. It will bring increased passenger travel, benefiting us by the actual amount of money expended here; by the location among us of men of capital with their means, by the opening up to the knowledge of the outside world, of actual information of our climate, lands, national character and business resources, and thereby accelerating immigration.

It will open markets for products hitherto useless except for home consumption, thereby stimulating that home industry in which consists the true wealth of every country. It will give us, if properly managed the monopoly of the San Francisco market for our oranges and bananas. Running in connection with the *Kilauea* as this line proposes to do, there is no reason why our whole crop of oranges, bananas, limes, &c., may not regularly be supplied to the San Francisco market. Lands hitherto unproductive in the hands of our native population will thus yield a handsome revenue, will stimulate other industry, and thus conduce to the wealth, greatness and revenue of the nation.

It will not make a monopoly other than such as the laws of trade and commerce yields to a speedy communication at the same rates of carriage, over a slow and uncertain one, and as the company are willing to carry passengers for $75 each, and the products of these islands at $6 per ton, and contract to do so, there can be no danger of our being at their mercy as has been suggested. Nor is it unjust to our citizens to grant a subsidy to the steamship line. In the first place both the packets and the steamers are American vessels, we have no Hawaiian vessels on the line. In the next place if it were unjust, we do not think the American Government would have paid one steamer alone $54,000 per annum in coin, having at the same time, lines of sailing vessels on the same route; we may therefore cite her example and uniform practice, even if both lines belonged to ourselves. The true rule however, seems to be, that individual interests should always give way to the public good, and if it is to the interest of the Hawaiian Kingdom, every encouragement ought to be given to steamers, both ocean and inter-island.

In the manner in which the money for the subsidy is proposed to be raised, the amount of taxation will not exceed $5,500 for the first year, decreasing each year until the whole is paid. No tax will be materially increased in consequence thereby, and an increase of imports of goods to the value of $50,000 alone would, by reason of the duties thereon, pay interest and principal each year.

The above reflections are the result of our deductions from the evidence and statements made before the committee, to which we have listened with some attention.

HONOLULU ELECTION.

The Committee on the Judiciary, selected from the Legislative Assembly, to whom was referred the much-vaunted petition against the return of the sitting members for Honolulu, having sat for three consecutive days, taking testimony and hearing arguments on both sides with most laudable patience and care, have made an elaborate and exhaustive report, to which they have annexed a very full note of the evidence adduced. They have arrived at the unanimous decision that none of the charges alleged in that petition have been sustained, and therefore recommend it to be laid on the table; and the House, after hearing the report read *in extenso*, in both languages, without opposition adopted their suggestion.

So ends this great political movement, heralded by such a flourish of trumpets, and from which such important results were promised, but so very little achieved.

A cotemporary journal has seen fit to give publicity to some severe, and, as we think, unwarrantable comments on the subject, which demand more than a mere passing notice. Having attacked the Ministry, the press, the military, and one of the Inspectors, it then launches an envenomed shaft against the Committee, whose chairman is subjected to the grave imputation of being "a Noble and a Privy Councillor, and the majority of which were so clearly in sympathy with the Government interest and with the incumbents, that from the first there was no prospect of any other decision being arrived at." Such a palpable breach of privilege as this would, elsewhere, be summarily dealt with by an Assembly, and, indeed, we anticipated some such result here; but on inquiry, we find it assumed with entire unanimity that the character of the source from which that slander emanates, is a sufficient antidote to any deleterious effects which could result from it; and that, in fact, any formal notice of it by the Assembly would only give it a a fictitious importance.

It is alleged in that article that the result of this petition "goes to establish the fact that in election matters the Government is determined to trample on the rights of the people," and concludes with a rather startling suggestion to the effect that "when all this can be done, and no redress obtained in a legal way, it remains for the voters of Honolulu to take such action" (in an *illegal* way, of course,) "as will secure their rights in future. If they submit to such conduct again they deserve to forfeit their rights."

Such an undisguised counseling of open revolt against lawful authority as this, would be visited with summary and condign punishment in other countries; and if the Government were indeed the domineering body which it is the delight of the author of that article to depict them, the probability is that he would be held to a strict account for language so inflammatory.

The evidence laid before the Committee in support of the petition, does not establish one solitary act on which an election was ever set aside in the United States. There, it is well settled law that when there is no discrepancy between the number of ballots counted out of the ballot-box and the number of voters' names recorded by the check-clerk at the poll, "the will of the people" is held to have been sufficiently ascertained; and nothing short of positive and distinct proof that intending voters for the defeated candidate, outnumbering the numerical majority of the returned members, were prevented by unfair means from casting their ballots, will suffice to vitiate an election, even when it is proved that the conduct of the agents of the sitting member has been illegal, improper, or fraudulent.

Now in the present case, the number of ballots counted out of the ballot-box exactly corresponded with the number on the clerk's check-book, and in the absence of any proof that *one single elector* was unfairly prevented from voting for the defeated candidates, it was, of course, impossible for the Committee to have legally or honestly arrived at any other conclusion. All this was fully and clearly explained to the Committee, and appreciated by them in making their report.

The author of the article in question still further expands the base of his attack by leveling a charge against the whole Legislative Assembly for having referred the Honolulu election petition to the Committee on the Judiciary instead of a Select Committee, as *he* says it ought to have been. Now it is a standing rule of the House that all petitions concerning contested elections shall be referred to the Committe on the Judiciary, and we see no reason why the Honolulu petition should have been made an exception to it.

We are not in the habit of referring personally to members of the Fourth Estate, but when they volunteer to enter the witness-box to sustain their peculiar editorial views by their individual testimony, they become thereby divested of all editorial privileges, and open to public comment. Mr. H. M. Whitney, who gave evidence in support of this petition, was obliged to admit, on cross-examination, that after the poll had closed, and before its result was declared, he did state that, as compared with a New York election, that of Honolulu had been *fairly conducted*. There are, however, among us gentlemen of unimpeachable veracity who heard him state, distinctly, and without any exception, after the close of the poll and when he manifestly thought that his party had triumphed, that the election had been conducted with perfect fairness. No sooner, however, was the state of the poll declared, than fair became instantly foul, corrupt and scandalous!

Under such circumstances, there can be little difficulty in forming an adequate estimate of the real intent and value of such broadcast censure, which is manifestly intended as a diversion, to palliate the irritation naturally resulting from an unexpected but very signal defeat.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY---1868.

EIGHTEENTH DAY, FRIDAY, MAY 8.

Assembly met at 10 A. M., H. H. M. Kekuanaoa in the Chair. Prayer by the Chaplain, and Journal of the preceding day read and approved.

PETITIONS—Mr. Nakila presented a petition from Makawao, praying that persons over 50 years of age be exempt from poll tax. That wholesale and retail licenses be $100 each.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES—The Judiciary Committee returned a bill to amend section 876 of the Civil Code, reporting favorably to its passage. Report approved.

On motion of Mr. Hitchcock, the order of the day was taken up.

ORDER OF THE DAY—An Act to amend section 481, Civil Code.

Mr. Keawehunahala moved to refer the bill to a Special Committee. Motion lost.

On Motion of Mr. Hitchcock, the House went into Committee of the Whole for its consideration. Mr. Upa called to the Chair, and bill read.

His Ex. S. H. Phillips objected to a decision of this question at present. It was a fact that the revenues of the country were considerable, and there was a large amount in the Treasury, but a good many changes were contemplated in the laws, especially if the Reciprocity Treaty passed. If it passed, it would at once take from the poorer people a large share of their burden. All the clothing is now taxed 10 per cent. when it comes into the country. If a man wears $10 worth of clothing free of duty, he would save as much as the whole horse tax. The new laws would have the effect of placing the burden of taxation upon the rich. It had not been proved that the exemption of the horse tax would relieve the poor people. It had been thought well to make remarks slanting at the Ministers, to the effect that they were receiving good salaries, and should bear the burden of taxation. If the amendment to exempt all persons paying poll tax from tax on one horse be adopted, he would be one of the first to receive the benefit of the law. A woman does not pay poll tax, so she would have to pay a tax where a man is exempted. A poor blind man does not pay poll tax, so he would have to pay a tax which his well, strong neighbor was exempted from. He could not help thinking that it was a pretty good joke, that should exempt him from a tax while a woman or a poor blind man would pay the tax. He thought the motion of the member from Waialua was wise, to refer the bill to a Special Committee. He did not think that the country would become bankrupt by the loss of revenue resulting from a reduction of horse tax, but he thought so large a falling off of money should be carefully examined. He agreed with the gentleman of yesterday, that it was not well to mix up the subject of horse tax and subsidy for steamers. So far as the subsidy was concerned he was not going to argue that now, for it would be well examined by the Committee in whose hands it now was. He hoped, therefore, that the question would be considered as it ought be, on its own merits. If pressing this subject now would kill the subsidy, he wished to say that the friends of the subsidy do not propose to pay it out of the public revenue. Until the report of the Committee, no one could form any correct opinion upon it. It was not proposed to take the $50,000 out of the annual taxes. If the steam line was to be a benefit in the future, let them bear the burden of the subsidy. It was proposed to borrow a sum of money, payable in forty or fifty years, on which we should pay the interest, and a small portion of the principal, which would amount to about $5,000 per annum. It would be seen at once that such a sum could not embarrass the treasury. When the subsidy question came up, he hoped that the members would vote upon it, not as an unpopular measure, but upon its merits. Now, if this measure ought to be investigated by a Committee, why should not the horse tax be also? The argument that the country fully understood it, would be very good if the circumstances had not changed materially since the last regular session. He did not see how this tax could be determined by what was thought two or four years ago. If the treaty passed, the deficiency would be made up in various ways. By tax upon real estate, and the member from Waimea had given notice of a Stamp Act, and of other measures. Now, by a little time being taken, the whole matter could be regulated, and it was unwise legislation to rush single measures through without reference to the general interest. A great deal could be said for and against this tax upon horses. He did not understand that the whole object of this tax was for the revenue to be derived from it. Last year over 50,000 horses paid taxes, more than half as many horses as there were people; this was exclusive of those under two years of age, and every Assessor could bear witness to the fact that it took a long time to reach that age. Then there was a large number of horses belonging to no one, making probably over 60,000, more horses than people. These horses eat up all the vegetation. Now, is it not proper that there should be some legislation to do away with this great nuisance. The opinion to be derived from all this was, that due deliberation should be used before our decision. If the motion of the Hon. Vice President to postpone passed, then the member for Waialua could make a new motion.

Mr. Wilder said he would support this bill without any amendment, on the ground that it was the universal wish of the people, and it was the only tax that could be well reduced. As there must be a line drawn somewhere, he made the amendment so as to exempt those who pay poll tax, as that was the tax that should be exempted. But he would withdraw his amendment so that the minister, women and blind men can be taxed.

Mr. Boyd said he would support the bill with his amendment. It was a mistake that his amendment would exclude the poor from the benefits of the law. Very few of this class of people have horses under two years of age.

Mr. Lyons said he was much obliged to the Ministry for separating the question of subsidy from the horse tax. A few months since he was against a reduction of the horse tax, but when he began to consider the question, he was led to support it, because it would be on the road to a general property tax. He regarded this law, if it passed, as but a stepping stone to something better.

Mr. C. R. Bishop said that he disliked taxes as much as any other person, but they could not do the thousand and one things that were petitioned for without taxes. He thought the horse tax should not be reduced. The horses were a curse to the nation, on account of their immense number. He thought that the present tax had an influence on keeping down the increase of these animals. As a general thing, the people have about as much need of horses as they have of wings. If we go to the homes of these inveterate horse riders, we shall find that they live in misery, land neglected, and the whole aspect was one of decay. Those who need horses could pay the tax, and it would not be a burden to them. Reducing the tax would not equalise it, making the burden fall upon those who should bear it. He was in favor of referring the question to a Committee. Because that the Treasury was now full, it did not follow that it would be wise to throw off this tax.

Mr. Koakanu said that there had been too much dispute upon this subject already. The arguments brought up by the Ministry were very frivolous. Mr. Bishop's remarks about the misery of horse-back riders was not so. The reason that the lands were neglected, was because the foreigners had bought them. The desire of the people was not to kill off all the horses, but to reduce the tax, and if this was done, he was of opinion that the tax would be raised from the present $60,000 to over $70,000. It was profitable that, should the law pass, it would be found that there were almost 1,000,000 horses on the islands.

Mr. Keawehunahala said that the bill would not help poor people particularly, and he supported the idea of referring to a Committee. If the bill passed, it would undoubtedly please his constituency.

Mr. Rhodes thought that the bill could be so amended as to satisfy all parties, and he was of opinion that in lack of other bills to reduce taxation, he was in favor of this, with some modifications. He thought that horses used for work should be exempt from taxation; horses used for pleasure only, and horses for breeding, should pay an appropriate tax.

Motion to postpone was lost.

Motion to refer to a Select Committee was put upon the Ayes and Noes—Ayes, 20; Noes, 19—Total, 39. Committee rose, and report approved.

Select Committee—J. W. Keawehunahala, S. G. Wilder, V. Knudsen, E. H. Boyd, S. H. Phillips.

The House then adjourned.

NINETEENTH DAY, SATURDAY, MAY 9.

House met at 10 A. M. H. H. M. Kekuanaoa in the chair. Journal of preceding day read and approved.

PETITIONS.—Mr. Martin presented a petition from Kau, praying that parents be empowered to select their District School Teachers.

Mr. Nahaku offerred a petition from Kanapali, asking for a reduction of the horse tax; also a petition to reduce the pay of Government officers.

Mr. Wilder presented a petition from Oahu, praying for an appropriation to cut down the Koolau pali. Referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Halemanu presented a petition from Honolulu, praying that Sec. 1323 of the Civil Code be amended. On motion the petition was tabled.

Mr. Kelipio presented a petition from Molokai and Lanai, praying that the harbor of Kaunakakai be a port of entry; that $1,000 be appropriated for roads and cisterns on Molokai.

Mr. Kaukaha presented a petition from Hanalei, praying that the horse tax be reduced to fifty cents; that poor people should be exempted from court costs; that all vehicles be exempt from taxation; that the expenses of the special session should be paid out of the salaries of the Ministers; and that the salaries themselves should be reduced for all government officers "from top to bottom." Referred to Finance Committee.

A petition was presented from the lepers, asking for redress of various evils and protesting against being removed to Molokai.

RESOLUTIONS.—Mr. Hitchcock moved that the Appropriation Bill have precedence upon Monday, Wednesday and Friday of next week. Passed.

Mr. Koakanu moved an appropriation of $1,000 for the harbor of Nawiliwili. Passed.

Mr. Hopu gave notice of a bill to exempt all parents from school tax who send their children to school.

Mr. Nahaku gave notice of a bill to extend the powers of Circuit Judges.

Mr. Martin gave notice of a bill permitting persons having husbands or wives sent to Molokai Leper Hospital, to marry again.

Mr. Hopu presented a resolution that $500 be appropriated for a bridge at Kapaula, at Koolau, Maui. Tabled.

Mr. Halemanu offered a resolution that $2,000 be appropriated for the harbor of Kapolalale. Tabled.

Mr. Koakanu offered a resolution that the Secretary draw $50 for each member. Lost.

His Ex. F. W. Hutchison introduced a bill to amend Sections 255 and 256 of the Civil Code, and a new Section to be added—256 A.

ORDER OF THE DAY.—An Act to promote the safety of inter-island travel, was read and passed 3d reading.

An Act to repeal Chap. 10 of the Civil Code was read 2d time and referred to Committee on Education.

An Act to regulate the carrying of passengers between the islands, was read 2d time. Bill was referred to a Committee of the House. Mr. Boyd called to the Chair. Bill read.

Mr. Keawehunahala moved that $5, be the fine for not taking enough water or food to sea. Passed, and bill as a whole passed.

Committee rose, report approved, and bill was ordered for engrossment.

House adjourned.

TWENTIETH DAY, MONDAY, MAY 11.

Assembly met at 10 A. M. H. H. M. Kekuanaoa in the chair.

Prayer by the Chaplain. Minutes of preceding day read and approved.

PETITIONS.—Mr. Upa presented a petition from Hilo, asking to reduce the horse tax to fifty cents; also from the same place, asking that those who send their children to select schools may be exempt from school tax. Referred to Committee on Education.

Also, praying that the jurisdiction of the Police Justice at Hilo may be extended. Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Mahelona presented a petition from Honolulu, praying for an appropriation of $3,000 to build a market for general purposes of Island produce. Referred to Committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Pilipo presented a petition from the lepers on Molokai. Referred to Sanitary Committee.

RESOLUTIONS.—Mr. Keawehunahala gave notice of a bill to regulate the collection of taxes.

Mr. Martin offered a resolution that a sum of money be appropriated for the reconstruction of roads at Kau, Hawaii. Tabled.

H. H. W. C. Lunalilo offered a resolution that a vote of thanks be extended to Her Majesty, Mrs. Bishop and Mrs. Dominis for their patronage of the concert at Kawaiahao Saturday evening, May 9th. Motion indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Kamakau offered a resolution that the *P. C. Advertiser* be discontinued from the list of papers taken by the House, as it had said some disrespectful things on the action of the Judiciary Committee in regard to the Honolulu election case. After discussion resolution withdrawn.

On motion of Mr. Phillips the order of the day was taken up.

ORDER OF THE DAY.—Appropriation Bill had the precedence.

House went into Committee of the Whole. Mr. Boyd in the Chair.

Appropriation of $35,000 for His Majesty was moved to be placed at $40,000.

Mr. Keawehunahala said that in former times all the taxes were paid directly to the King, but he generously gave certain privileges to the people, among others the disposition of the public monies. Now, should we not give him, out of this public fund, a proper appropriation.

Mr. Pilipo thought that the appropriation was too much. If we were to be guided by other countries, even now the sum was too large. The tax on every person here for this purpose is over 50 cents, while in other lands it was but a few cents. If the King was paid as the Queen of England, his salary would be a little over $5,000. Besides the regular appropriation, the King had a very large income from the crown and his own private lands. He supported the item as in the bill.

Mr. Rhodes offered an amendment, that the appropriation remain as in the bill, and $6,000 be appropriated for his progresses. He saw no reason advanced yet to increase the appropriation. The King, out of his private purse, had paid the debts of a good many of his friends. He did not make known his private beneficences, and out of the appropriations which he had received he did not get any of the increases that had been made the last few years.

Mr. Nahaku was of opinion that the people, as a nation, would advocate an increase of salary. He amended to place the sum at $45,000.

Mr. Koakanu objected to the principles advanced by the member from Waialua. He thought that the rights which the people now had, were not from the King, but were inherent, and would have come at some time, King or no King. The money belonged to the people, and the Representatives were sent here to dispose of it. He objected to the amendment of the member for Honolulu. The travelling expenses of the King were nothing. Everywhere he went, the "aloha" of the people supplied him with a great deal of food, etc. He amended to place the sum at $34,000.

Amendment to $45,000 was put and carried 19 to 18.

Salary of Chief Justice, $10,000. Passed.
1st Associate Justice, $8,000. Passed.
Salary of 2d Associate Justice, $7,000.
On motion of Mr. Judd was amended to $8,000. Passed.
Salary of Circuit Judge of Oahu, $1,600.
Salary Circuit Judge on Maui, $2,400.
Traveling expenses of do., $200.
Salary Circuit Judge of Kauai, $2,000.
Provision for Hon. L. Andrews, $2,000.
Same for John Ii, $2,000.

Mr. Keawehunahala moved to insert "temporary provision for C. Kanaina, $2,000." Lost.

Salary of Police Justice of Honolulu, $4,000.
Police Justice at Lahaina, $2,000.
Police Justice at Hilo, $2,000.
Salary clerk of 2d Circuit, $400.
1st clerk 3d Circuit, $300.
" " " $300.
Clerk of 4th " $360.
Clerk of the Supreme Court, $4,000.
Deputy clerk Supreme Court, $,400.
Interpreter, $2,000.
Expenses Supreme Court, $2,000.
Expenses 2d Circuit Court, $1,200.
Expenses of 3d Circuit $1,500.
Expenses of 4th Circuit $600.
Stationery for Supreme and Circuit Courts $500.
Stationery for Police and District Courts $1,500.
Purchase of law books $500.
Salary District Judge, Puna, Hawaii, $600.
" " " Kau, $600.
" " " North Kona, $600.
" " " South Kona, $600.
" " " North Kohala, $600.
" " " South Kohala, $600.
" " " Hamakua, $600.
" " " Wailuku, Maui, $700.
" " " Makawao, $600.
" " " Hana, $600.
" " " Kaupo, $600.
" " " Lanai, $400.
" " " Molokai, $600.
" " " Ewa and Waianae, Oahu, $600.
Salary of Judge of Waialua and Koolauloa, $600.
Salary Judge of Koolaupoko, $600.
" " of Hanalei and Anahola, $700.
" " Lihue, $600.
" " Koloa, $600.
" " Waimea, $600.

The item for stationery for Police and District Courts was reconsidered and was put at $500.

Committee rose, report was approved. Bill passed 2d reading.

House adjourned.

CALIFORNIA CORRESPONDENCE.

ESPECIALLY TO THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE.

Samuel Brannan Shot.

The name of Sam. Brannan is as familiar to old Californians as it is possible for the name of any prominent man to be. It has been identified with many of our public enterprises, and is particularly associated with the Sutter title. Sam. is a man of wealth, liberality and public spirit. He has his vices and his eccentricities, (who has not?), but on the whole, is a good citizen, and one who deserves to be honored. He is the owner of certain property at Calistoga Springs, Napa County, and it was on account of a difficulty growing out of his claim to a mill that he was shot, and seriously wounded, on Thursday, the 16th inst. The telegram from Calistoga, narrating the event, is as follows:

"He had been given possession of the premises by the Sheriff, but a party claiming authority from the assignee of the late lessee of the mill, Mr. Buck, now an insolvent, had taken possession, and Mr. Brannan was in the act of entering the premises when he was ordered to stop. He did so, and, in attempting to leave, received the contents of a volley of buck-shot. Upwards of twenty discharges of guns and pistols were made, and he received four buck-shot in his back and one pistol ball in his neck, within half an inch of his jugular vein. Mr. Brannan made no effort to defend himself, and after being shot, fell from his wounds, in which condition he was robbed of his watch. The party who fired were Andrew Snider, Theo. Larbig, Wm. Quinn, Milton McDowell, and Jas. Lee. They are under arrest, and the preliminary examination will take place to-morrow. Drs. Rowell and Stillwagon are here, and pronounce his wounds not necessarily fatal, but very serious."

The latest information received from Mr. Brannan represents his condition as improving, with the prospect of a recovery.

Loss of a Vessel.

It is a remarkable fact, worthy of the strictest investigation, that the number of vessels wrecked within the past two or three years at our very doors, has been greater than on any other part of the coast beside. The fault seems to be attributable either to carelessness on the part of the commanders in refusing the aid of tugs or pilots, or to the pilots themselves when employed, on account of incapacity or intoxication. The latest inexcusable loss was that of the ship *Autocrat*, 133 days from Baltimore, on Arch, or Blossom Rock, near Angel Island. She went broadside on the rock at 9 P. M., on Monday, the 6th instant, during the prevalence of only a light westerly breeze. All subsequent efforts to get her off failed. She will prove a complete wreck. T. J. L. Smiley purchased the vessel and cargo for $10,000, and it is supposed will lose in the bargain. The *Autocrat* had 1,450 tons of coal on board, and was consigned to W. B. Cummings & Co. She was built near Boston in 1859, and owned by Thomas Howe, of that city. She rated as A. 1½ on Lloyd's Register, and is of 1,150 tons burthen.

One of our city reporters, in describing the accident says: As soon as the rock was seen the anchor was hove out, but before it brought the vessel up she struck, and now lies on the seaward side of the rock. A strong flood tide was running at the time. There is no less than from ten to sixteen fathoms of water all around the rock. The sails, masts, provisions, and considerable coal were saved from the wreck. The *Autocrat* was worth in the neighborhood of $80,000, and cargo about $20,000.

Real Estate.

An Act of the recent Legislature has made Oakland the terminus of the Great Pacific Railroad. Our bucolic neighbors are vastly elated in consequence, while our real estate dealers are correspondingly, or in the inverse ratio, depressed. No doubt the enactment is of vital importance to the aspiring city of umbrage. Our presumptious city has taken umbrage because of her ignoble defeat in the contest with her lilliputian rival. It has had a tendency—let what will be said to the contrary—to decrease the value of real estate in the suburbs of San Francisco, as any one may easily learn by comparing the subjoined sales made a few days since, with those made three weeks ago: Lot on the east side of Seventh street, commencing 105 feet north from Brannan, 25 by 80 feet deep, together with the one-story house thereon, containing six rooms, and a garden in front, $2,900. Lot on north side of Harrison street, 55 feet east of Fourth, 50 by 75 feet deep, with the frame dwelling-house thereon, two stories, etc., and a large barn in the yard, $6,925. Two lots on east side of Dolores street, 101½ feet north of Twentieth, each lot fronting 25 feet, by 165 feet deep, $450. Lot on Polk Street, near Pacific, 30 feet front by 80 feet deep, with the house thereon, $350. Lots Nos. 2,374 and 2,381, on Harvey Brown's Gift Map No. 4, $70 each.

I hazard nothing in stating that the foregoing rates are from 20 to 50 per cent lower than the same property was held under the *inflated* prices to which I alluded in my letter of three weeks back.

The Chinese Embassy.

Mr. Burlingame and his Chinamen are still in the city, stopping at the Occidental. Fitz Smythe, who has an observant eye upon the Celestial variety, says of them:

"These high-toned gentlemen object to receiving their countrymen who wait upon them clad in a hybrid habit, in which the celestial blouse and leggings, or hose, struggle with American hats and boots. The Chinese nobility have accordingly caused a placard, printed in Chinese, to be posted at the foot of the grand staircase of the Occidental, informing all comers that Chinese gentlemen will be welcome if they seek audience in their own proper costume, with skull caps, long robes, and other oriental millinery: otherwise, not. The higher classes of San Francisco merchants appear to be somewhat snubbed by their aristocratic compatriots."

Glorious Spring!

A bride, dressed in laces, and bedecked with wreaths, could not present a more lovely appearance than the face of nature. The rains have been so abundant throughout the winter and spring, and the frosts so few, that the grass has got a splendid start, and has literally covered the earth from the mountain tops down to their bases, and through the fields, wherever there was soil enough to aid fructification. This is so particularly in the southern portions of the State. Now is the time for those persons to visit California who wish to see her in her natural glory!

Cheap Fares.

We have now four steamers monthly on the P. M. S. S. Line, and a vigorous opposition, which have reduced the passage home to the States to merely nominal rates. This is the reason why so many persons are now *in transitu*. Those who glance only at the surface of things, imagine that we are losing population because the lists of the outward-bound have lately swollen to such huge dimensions. Nothing of the kind. While rates are low, people of small means are determined to avail themselves of the opportunity to visit the "old folks at home." The same is measurably true of the incomers. They wish to see California at a time when it costs but little to gratify their curiosity, and by their visit, it may be, better their fortunes. We are more pleased to note the arrivals than the departures, when the former are not paupers, as is too frequently the case. We have more of that class here now than we know how to provide for, and we most devoutly hope that they may take a notion to journey in some other direction.

Canada.

ASSASSINATION OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.—D'Arcy McGee, a prominent member of the Colonial Parliament, and strongly favorable to the Government as against Fenians and Fenianism—an Irishman by birth—was shot dead by an unknown assassin, while entering his dwelling at Ottawa, on the 7th inst. The dispatches from that place, several in number, and succeeding each other in date, will best tell the story of events subsequent to the assassination. They are as follows:

OTTAWA, April 9th.—Two men named Whelan and Doyle are arrested on suspicion of complicity in the murder of McGee. Suspicion against them is very strong.

Funeral services in honor of McGee were performed at the Catholic Cathedral this morning. The remains were then forwarded to Montreal by special train, attended by members of Parliament and other distinguished men.

Dispatches from the Provinces express the deepest indignation at the murder, which is generally attributed to the Fenians.

McGee's family will be amply provided for by the Government.

Additional news from Ottawa represents the city in the greatest gloom. No clue has yet been discovered of the assassin. The flags are at half-mast. Parliament adjourned after speeches eulogistic and in condolence. All day long the Parliament House was thronged. The deepest sorrow is manifested. The bereaved widow is almost insane with grief. Many believe that another Fenian raid is about to occur. The murder created intense feeling against the Fenians. Several altercations have taken place. The Orangemen threaten vengeance. Two hours before the murder McGee made a brilliant speech on the position of Nova Scotia.

OTTAWA, April 13th.—The funeral of Mr. McGee to-day was one of the most imposing ceremonies ever witnessed in Canada. 80,000 persons were in the streets and 30,000 were in the procession.

OTTAWA, April 18th.—Whalen has been committed for trial for the murder of McGee.

The Jumping Mania.

The better to illustrate the jumping spirit among a certain portion of our landless population, I shall relate a couple of anecdotes. A citizen of Sacramento two years ago bought an outside lot in that city, paid for it, had his deed recorded, and went home to the East. On his return, a few months since, he found his lot fenced in, a house built upon it and a family dwelling in the same. He protested to the squatter that he owned the lot, produced incontestible proofs of possession, and threatened that unless the premises were immediately vacated he should *go to law about it*. "*Go to law and be d—d!*" was the cool reply of the occupant.

The original purchaser had paid only $400 for the lot, so he sat down with his pencil to calculate what the costs would be to recover that which belonged to him! He found, after feeing his attorney, taking the risks of the suit, losing time, and waiting the slow process of the courts, that he would be nearly a thousand dollars out of pocket, and therefore concluded that he would rather "suffer the ills he had than fly to others that he knew not of."

The second instance is told by one of our city papers, thus: "Last week a well-known physician, who owns a fine 50-vara lot on Fillmore street, near Jackson, concluded that in order to make certain that no one should jump it—as jumping is rather lively nowadays—it would be best to build a house on it, and put a family in possession. The house, a comfortable two-room cottage, costing him $350, was finished late on Saturday night, and the carpenter, on returning home, handed the key to the man who was to occupy the premises. It was too late for the tenant to take possession that night, so he waited until about daybreak on Sunday morning, when he started out with his household gods. On arriving at the premises he was just a trifle surprised to find that two men, who had been lounging about in the vicinity for days, had meantime picked the lock of the door, walked in and taken possession, and were installed as "settlers," with full possessory title, and ready to defend their rights by force and arms or in the courts. He posted off to the Police-office, but there learned to his astonishment that it was not a case for police interference, but for the decision of a civil court."

PACKET LINES.

CALIFORNIA, OREGON AND MEXICO STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S

San Francisco and Honolulu Line.

The Company's Splendid A 1 Steamship

IDAHO,

F. CONNOR, Commander,

Will run between Honolulu and San Francisco by the following Time Table:

DEPARTURE FROM		ARRIVAL AT	
Honolulu	May 9	San Francisco	May 22
San Francisco	May 28	Honolulu	June 9
Honolulu	June 13	San Francisco	June 28
San Francisco	July 4	Honolulu	July 16
Honolulu	July 21	San Francisco	Aug 3
San Francisco	Aug 10	Honolulu	Aug 22
Honolulu	Aug 25	San Francisco	Sept 10

RATES OF PASSAGE HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO

Cabin, $50 | Steerage, $30

Through freight to Portland and Victoria will be taken at reasonable rates, and

Liberal Advances Made on all Shipments per Steamer.

Insurance guaranteed at lower rates than by sailing vessels. Particular care taken of shipments of Fruit.

All orders for Goods to be purchased in San Francisco, will be received and filled by return of Steamer. H. HACKFELD & CO., Agents.
11-3m

HAWAIIAN PACKET LINE.

For San Francisco.

THE FINE CLIPPER BARK

CLARA R. SUTIL,

N. C. BROOKS, Master,

Having the greater part of her cargo engaged, will have

IMMEDIATE DISPATCH,

for the above port. For freight or passage, having Superior Accommodations for Cabin and Steerage Passengers,

Apply to WALKER & ALLEN, Agents.
15

HAWAIIAN PACKET LINE.

For Portland, Oregon.

THE FINE NEW CLIPPER SCHR.

ALASKA,

R. CALHOUN, Master,

Having a large portion of her cargo already engaged,

Will Have Immediate Dispatch,

for the above port. For freight or passage, apply to WALKER & ALLEN, Agents.
16-

THE STEAMER

KILAUEA,

Will run during the next quarter as follows

LEAVING HONOLULU

Monday, March 30 — Monday, April 20
Monday, April 6 — Monday, April 27
Monday, April 13 — Monday, May 4

Laying up the Week commencing Monday, May 11th.

Monday, May 18 — Monday, June 8
Monday, May 25 — Monday, June 15
Monday, June 1

At 4½ P. M., precisely, touching at
Lahaina,
Kalepolepo,
Kealakekua,
Kailua,
Kawaihae, and Mahukona.

—AND LEAVING—

Kealakekua, Wednesday, about noon,
Kailua, Wednesday evenings,
Kawaihae & Mahukona, Thursday evenings,
Arriving back at Honolulu Saturday mornings.
Passengers will be landed at Makee's Landing.

On Thursday, June 25th,

She will leave for

Koloa and Waimea, Kauai,

At 4½ P. M.,

Arriving back on Saturday, the 27th.
11- WALKER & ALLEN, Agents.

FOR NAWILIWILI.

THE CLIPPER SCHOONER

HATTIE,

CAPTAIN NIKA,

Carrying the Hawaiian Mail without Subsidy!

Will Leave Honolulu Every Saturday,

at Four o'clock P. M., Returning, will leave Nawiliwili every Tuesday afternoon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
17-tf D. FOSTER & CO.

Regular Packet

For Lahaina and Makee's Landing.

The fine staunch clipper schooner

'KATE LEE'

CRANE, Master,

Will run regularly and punctually on above route. For freight or passage apply to the Master on board, or to C. BREWER & Co.

March 31, 1868. 11-3m

For HILO, PAUKAA and KAIWIKI.

The schooner

'MARY,'

BALLISTER, Master,

Will run regularly for the above ports. For freight or passage apply to
L. L. TORBERT, Honolulu,
11-3m Or J. H. CONEY, Hilo.

For Hilo and Onomea, Hawaii.

Sch. Annie,

Will run as a regular packet to the above ports. For freight or passage apply to
11-3m WALKER & ALLEN, Agents.

For Hilo and Kaupakuea, Hawaii.

Sch. Active,

Will run as a regular packet to the above ports, touching at LAHAINA. For freight or passage apply to
WALKER & ALLEN,
11-3m Agents.

REGULAR PACKET FOR HILO.

THE SCHOONER

ODD FELLOW

IS REGULARLY LAID ON as a packet between Honolulu and Hilo. For freight or passage, apply to
CHUNG HOON & CO., Agents.
Honolulu, August 28, 1866. 11-3m

For Molokai.

The Schooner

KAMAILE,

Will run as a regular packet between Honolulu and Molokai, touching at Kaunakakai and Pukoo. For freight or passage apply to the Captain on board or
11-3m H. PRENDERGAST, Agent.