

## Memorial of Founders of Royal School

## Reminiscences of Honolulu

Saturday Press, September 15, 1882.

Tuesday was the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Mrs. Juliette Montague Cooke, wife of the missionary, Amos Starr Cooke, and founder of the Royal Chiefs' School, an institution perpetuated in the Royal School, of the public school system of Hawaii, which is housed in one of the first of the modern school buildings erected in these islands—an edifice indeed which will compare favorably with the best types of school architecture elsewhere.

Tomorrow morning the centennial will be celebrated at Kawaiahae church by the descendants of Mr. and Mrs. Cooke and the memoria' tablet, erected in their honor in the vestibule of the church, will be unveiled by Queen Liliuokalani and Mrs. Elizabeth Keekaaniau Pratt, the two survivors of the original Royal School.

The tablet is of marble, is six feet long, four feet wide and six inches thick. An engraving of the tablet is presented herewith. Its inscription reads as follows:

IN MEMORY OF  
AMOS STARR COOKE  
1810—1871  
AND  
JULIETTE MONTAGUE COOKE  
1812—1896  
FOUNDERS OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL AND INSTRUCTORS  
OF THE FOLLOWING YOUNG CHIEFS  
1839—1850

MOSES KEKUAIWA  
ALEXANDER LIHOLIHO, KING KAMEHAMEHA IV  
LOT KAMEHAMEHA, KING KAMEHAMEHA V  
VICTORIA KAMAMALU, KUHINA NUI  
EMMA ROOKE, QUEEN EMMA  
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JOHN PITT KINAU  
MARY PAAAINA



MRS. JULIETTE MONTAGUE COOKE,  
Born one hundred years ago Tuesday last, wife of the founder of the Royal School.

The contributors to the memorial are the members of the family, consisting of Mrs. C. M. Cooke, Mrs. S. T. Alexander, Mrs. J. M. Atherton, Mrs. A. M. Turner, Mr. A. F. Cooke, Mr. J. P. Cooke.

The dedication exercises will take place at 10:30 Sunday morning, and will consist of a short address by Mr. A. F. Cooke and Rev. H. H. Parker. No special invitations have been issued, the public generally being invited.

Sixteen royal chiefs and chiefesses were educated in the school, the centenary of whose founder is being fitly observed today. Among them were several whose names are writ large in the history of Hawaii, for example: Liholiho and Emma Rooke, who as Kamehameha IV and Queen Emma founded the Queen's Hospital; William Charles Lunaliilo, who, dying as king, left his estate to found the Lunaliilo Home for Aged and Indigent Hawaiians, today firmly established and one of the most interesting as well as beneficent of Honolulu's institutions; Bernice Pauahi, who as Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, by her last will and testament, left her entire estate to found the Kamehameha Schools for Boys and Girls, which are among the greatest private educational institutions of Hawaii; King Kalakaua, the father of Reciprocity that started Hawaii on the road to its present day prosperity as a Territory of the United States enjoying plenary free trade with the mother country; Lydia Kamakeha, the last sovereign of Hawaii, who as princess royal was a leader in religious and benevolent activities fraught with blessings to her countryfolk, and now as queen in retirement consumed with a motherly interest in the welfare of her people, to whom she is still Her Majesty holding court in their hearts, while at the same time possessing grateful affection of former political foes and friends alike, for her queenly charm as well as her public spirit manifested in such generous acts as that lately performed of donating valuable property for a city park; and it is eminently appropriate to note, in this connection, that Queen Liliuokalani's active concern for the advancement of all the people of Hawaii has been recognized in perpetuating her name by giving it to one of the first school buildings in Honolulu, now undergoing construction and of which it is hoped Her Majesty will consent to lay the cornerstone in a few weeks, so indirectly the Liliuokalani School will be another memorial to the Cookes through their royal pupil its matronymic.

Below, appropriately, is given a history of the founding and early days of the Royal School, written by Ruth Richards, a great-granddaughter of Juliette Montague Cooke, while a member of the 1911 class of Oahu College, and reprinted from the commencement number of the Oahuian, June of that year. The paper reads as follows:

**THE FOUNDING AND THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ROYAL SCHOOL.**  
By Ruth Richards, '11, in the Oahuian, June, 1911.

In May, 1839, the founding of a school for the children of the King and his Chiefs was first seriously considered. There were very inadequate school facilities at that time and as a result of this the children of the royal

families were growing up with little or no education. The company of missionaries was then comparatively small, but as they had a wide-spread influence among the Hawaiian people, naturally the parents, who were anxious to improve their children, turned to them for assistance.

Several of the missionaries consulted Mr. and Mrs. Amos Starr Cooke as to their willingness to undertake the care and supervision of such a school. Although not refusing at once, they expressed doubt of their fitness for such an arduous task. In spite of their hesitation, Mr. and Mrs. Cooke were appointed, on June 7, 1839, at the general meeting of the missionaries held in Honolulu, to fill this position. This was done at the request of King Kamehameha III and his chiefs, who sent the following letter:

"Honolulu, June 1, 1839.  
"Aloha oe, e Mi Kuki.  
"Eia go makou manao ia oe. E illo oe i kumu no, na na keiki alli a makou, o oe ka mea nana e eo i ka naunau, a me ko pono, eia go makou manao ia oe.

Signed . . .  
Ka-hau-lu-olii,  
Ho-apili-kane,  
Keo-ho-ka-ole,  
Hoapliwahine,  
Matalo.

The following is a brief translation: Greetings to Mr. Cooke. This is our idea concerning you. You are to become a teacher of our royal children. You are the one to instruct them in wisdom and in right. This is our plan for you.

There was also one from King Kamehameha III, which was in the form of an announcement. This letter recognized the appointment of Mr. Cooke as teacher of the Alii or royal children, and Dr. Judd as the trustee.

The school first held sessions on June 13, 1839, but only as a day school. Later, when the building was completed, it became a boarding school. There were many interruptions at the beginning, as Mr. Cooke had to superintend the erection of the new home, and the children, unaccustomed to discipline, remained at home whenever they felt inclined.

The house was now rapidly nearing

completion. It was made of adobe painted white, and was thatched with grass. Having only one story, and wide verandas, it had a rambling appearance. Surrounding the inner court, in which there was a grass plot and a spreading tree, verandas were built also. The floors were covered with Hawaiian mats, and the walls and ceilings were plastered. The building had a parlor, schoolroom, sleeping quarters for the girls and

tables, with seating room for twenty-one persons were made of long boards. The greater part of the provisions was provided by the king and his chiefs. Among the presents were two pigs, three ducks, five fowls, fish and vegetables. After the feast, the building was formally dedicated by prayer and speeches by several of the missionaries. There were present at this dedication the king and his chiefs, a few of the day pupils who were to enter the

school, and four or five missionaries. Ke-ka-nui, who was governor of Oahu, was both at this time and throughout their entire connection with the school of great assistance to the teachers.

Although wishing to open the school as soon as it was possible, Mr. Cooke did not think it wise to do so until the wall was completed. But on May 4, 1840, the children began to appear with their kahus or servants. It had been unusual up to this time for a child of any of the royal families to be without his kahus. And the first nights were very bad ones for the little pupils, with their kahus banished. To do this entirely was impossible, as some of the younger children needed their attendance. Nevertheless many of them were sent away, but they remained just outside the walls, causing some of the children to attempt escape. This proved the great necessity of the walls, for had there been none there would have been no school.

There were fourteen young chiefs and chiefesses who received their education in this family school. They were Moses Ko-ku-ewa, Lot Kamehameha, who became Kamehameha V, Alexander Liholiho, who became king as Kamehameha IV, Victoria Kamamalu, William Charles Lunaliilo, later king under his own name; Bernice Pauahi, founder of the Kamehameha Schools; Abigail Maheha, Jane Loeau, who married Kamehameha IV.; Peter Young Kaeo; James Kaliokalani, David Kalakaua, who became Hawaii's last king, and Lydia Kamakeha, whom we know as Queen Liliuokalani. These young people were put in school, and John II and his wife Sarah

were made responsible for their persons.

The children, unused to regularity or restraint, were very restless, but they gradually settled down to the daily school routine. Every morning at six their family met in the parlor while Mr. Cooke conducted prayers. After this they had breakfast and a short play time before the beginning of the morning session. Of course, on entering school, the children knew little or no English; so that this received the most attention. They were much puzzled in differentiating the many letters, and could not at first distinguish g from d or k from t—a-k spit cat for them. Later they took up reading, writing, history, grammar, geography, arithmetic and nature study. The pupils were very fond of music, and spent much time in singing together. Mrs. Cooke, as a reward of merit, taught two or three of the girls to play the piano; but very little time was spent, as it was thought to be a light accomplishment.

The children, inclined to be lazy, preferred to sit around the house in their unoccupied time. After Mr. and Mrs. Cooke had taught them such games as ball, tag, hide-and-seek and many others, they needed no further urging. Early each morning the older ones rode out on horseback with Mrs. Cooke, and they became expert horsemen.

The Hawaiians had always been a very superstitious race, and the minds of the children were filled with stories of tabus and kahunaism. One day the children sat telling the stories which they had heard from their kahus about ghosts and goblins. Knowing them only too well, Mr. Cooke stopped them, but was not able to end it then and there. That night little William, one of the younger ones, tumbled out of bed, and roused the household with his terrified cries; for he thought the spirits had taken possession of him. After going to him twice, Mr. Cooke had to call in one of the kahus to stay with him the remainder of the night. The children were punished the next morning, and became very much ashamed of the trouble they had caused. At another time, when Mr. Cooke was out walking with Moses, Lot and Alexander, he and Moses stepped over a sign, made in the path, without noticing it. But the other boys discovering the symbol immediately foretold the certain death of those who had passed over it. Mr. Cooke stepped back and forth over the mark several times to prove to them how foolish their fears were. But this story was quickly carried to the town by the kahus, and Moses' mother came at once. She was followed by a messenger from the governor, who commanded that Moses should be sent down immediately for medicine. Mr. Cooke refused to permit this, and shut the children inside the house until they were over their fear of this form of superstition.

The school was constantly being hindered by interference from the parents. False and exaggerated reports were being carried to them frequently by the kahus. Mr. Cooke was compelled to write to them even if one of the children bumped his head or stubbed his toe. The parents made sudden and unexpected visits, and had to be entertained whether it was convenient or not. Kehauloohi, sometimes called Queen Regent, was a frequent visitor at school. She used to come and spend the night and wished



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Cooke Memorial Tablet in Kawaiahae Church to Be Unveiled Tomorrow.

completion. It stood across from the government buildings, where the old barracks now stands and was situated in the midst of large grounds with a grove of beautiful trees, and was surrounded by a wall with two large gates which were locked every night. The building itself was seventy-five feet square, enclosing a thirty-

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May 27, 1866, died in Honolulu, J. W. E. Maikai, a prominent and much esteemed native. He had but shortly before been created a noble, in recognition of his superior ability and rectitude of conduct. He was one of Hawaii's best men, and his death was a public loss. He had formerly filled the position of district judge for Honolulu, and had several times represented the district in the legislature. He was a graduate of Lahainaluna, and at the time of his death held the office of adjutant general of the troops. He was only thirty-two years of age at his death.

By the biennial report of the minister of finance to the legislature of 1860, the receipts of the treasury during the two years ending March 31, 1860, from all sources, amounted to the sum of \$655,866.68; and the expenditures during the same period to the sum of \$643,088.50, showing an excess of receipts over expenditures, of \$12,778.27. The government debt on the 1st of April, 1860, was \$108,777.33. The Minister states that "the receipts from the tax on real estate for the last year, were \$8,146.04, and from the tax on personal property, \$7,543.47, making an aggregate of \$15,689.51." How ludicrously small this sounds today.

Died in Honolulu, June 9, Mr. Henry Macfarlane, aged thirty-nine years, a native of Scotland. He had resided on the Islands about fourteen years. He was proprietor of the Commercial Hotel, and one of the most genial, large hearted men it ever was my good fortune to meet. His five sons are Messrs. Henry R. and Geo. W. Macfarlane, who compose the enterprising firm of G. W. Macfarlane & Co., of this city; Edward, Frederic and Clarence.

The new steamer Kilauea built in Boston for C. A. Williams & Co., expressly for the inter-island trade, arrived at Honolulu June 25, having left New London January 5th. Her long passage was accounted for by the fact that she but seldom used steam, and she had but scant canvas. Her arrival was greeted with much enthusiasm by all classes and especially by the natives.

The Fourth of July passed off with zest, but with less of demonstration than had marked the celebration of the previous year. There was a midnight serenade; a salute of thirty-two guns from the Esplanade by a detachment of the Hawaiian Artillery at four o'clock in the morning; a national salute at noon from the U. S. S. Levant, returned from Puncbowl battery—the Levant responded to this marked courtesy of the Hawaiian Government by another salute; salutes from several merchant vessels in port; bonfire of tar barrels at night on the side of Puncbowl; rockets, dance at Doctor Guillon's, attended by the King and Queen, Captain Thomas Spencer, who had the arrangement of details, was dubbed "Grand Marshal of the Fourth."

Early in July J. H. Morrison, whom I have mentioned in a previous number in connection with the celebrated Paahua land case, was arrested by the marshal on Hawaii, brought to Honolulu and confined in the Oahu Prison, the charge being contempt of court, in neglecting to pay over several thousand dollars received by him for a portion of the land which he had sold to J. P. Parker. The fact was, Morrison could not do as ordered by the chancellor, for he had sent the money to his family in the United States. The arrest and imprisonment caused a good deal of talk, and indignation was generally expressed. Of course the general public did not, and it is probable do not now, understand that a failure to obey or fulfill the orders of a court of chancery, for whatever cause, is of itself, pure and simple, a contempt, and must be punished as such.

On the 17th of July the corner stone of the Queen's Hospital was laid with full and appropriate ceremonies. The procession was formed at the stone church, Kawaiahae, at 11 a. m., under the direction of W. C. Parke, marshal and marched to the grounds, in the following order:

Military, Mechanic's Benefit Union, Odd Fellows, Masons, trustees, their majesties the King and Queen (in a carriage). The chancellor of the kingdom, Justice of the supreme court, ministers, and other high officers of state, foreign diplomatic representatives, commanders of national vessels, government officers.

Arrived at the site of the proposed building, the following order of exercise was carried out:

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong, singing, in Hawaiian; address in Hawaiian, by the king; laying of the corner stone, by the king, with Masonic ceremonies assisted by the brethren of the two lodges; address in English, by the king; music; prayer by the Rev. Mr. Damon.

The address of the king was one of those finished productions of which he was fully capable—not a word too much, but yet fully and clearly setting forth the subject in hand. It abounded in noble sentiments, clothed in beautiful and appropriate language. I am tempted to quote two short paragraphs:

"On an occasion such as this, it becomes me, the sovereign of these islands, to express, in the name of my people, the sense of gratitude with which the liberality and fellow-feeling of those who helped to establish the Queen's Hospital have filled their hearts and mine. Ignorant as some of them are, and still more or less possessed of prejudices which they have inherited, they may fall, for the present, fully to appreciate the service that you have rendered them; but I feel assured that the time will soon arrive when those prejudices will cease to exist. Already we see passing away the misgivings of those who doubted that a hospital would ever be resorted to by pure Hawaiians. The trial has been made, and it has succeeded, not perhaps to our wishes, but beyond our expectations. Therefore it is that in the name of the Hawaiian people, of humanity, and of that charity which levels all ranks and sets all distinctions at naught, I tender my hearty thanks to those who have assisted in this enterprise. In the name of the wretched and miserable, I thank you. In the name of the otherwise sleepless, I pray you may be at ease, and in the name of the dying, who die more painlessly for what you have done, I desire from the bottom of my heart, that long years of happiness may be in store for you.

"But let me remind you that so long as sickness shall exist, there will be a duty imposed upon us. Charities, like taxes, for the commonwealth, have to be met from time to time. There is no commuting for a given sum, and claiming exemption for all time to come. You live according to your means for the time being. When the next call comes, your capabilities may be greater or smaller, and according to your capabilities you will settle with your consciences; I do not envy the man who would wish (if such a thing were possible) to pay at one instalment all the claims of humanity. There is something wholesome in being called upon from time to time to acknowledge, however strong our own wealth may be, and however prosperous our fortunes, that, after all, the destitute and the sick are our brothers and sisters—our lot happier for the time being, but our liability to want and suffering the same. This it is that makes us human, and members of the human family. Society makes distinctions broad enough, but strip us of our artificial robes, and we are one and all equally naked and equally exposed to the keen swords of want and the torments of disease, I trust, therefore, and indeed I feel confident, that you will continue your support to this praiseworthy institution."

When, after reading the above, it is remembered that the King was always the writer of his own addresses, it must be conceded that he was a man of no ordinary talent.

Early in July, Prince Lot Kamehameha was taken seriously ill, and for days in succession his disease was hourly looked for. About the 20th, however, he began to improve slowly, and continued to do so, steadily but slowly, until quite convalescent. On the 29th of August, the prince took passage on the schooner Emma Rooke, Captain Chadwick, for Victoria, V. I. The Prince was accompanied by the Hon. I. Haelelen and Col. D. Kalakaua, both nobles, and by Mr. J. C. Spalding. After a short stay at Victoria, the prince and suite proceeded to California, where they became the guests of Governor Downey. He returned to Honolulu on the 1st of November, with fully restored health.

On the 6th of August, an old German, named Henry Zupplein, aged about seventy, and a resident on these islands for fifty years, committed suicide by shooting himself with a pistol. He was a miser, and, like a good many

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