

# THE INDEPENDENT.

Vol. III.

HONOLULU, H. I., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1896.

No. 424.

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### ECHOES FROM HAWAII.

The Republic—Its Legislative Assembly—Contest With the Executive—Financial Difficulties—The Two Attempts of Ex-Minister of Finance, P. C. Jones—The A. P. A.—The Silver Question.

A truly Republican government is a roof which not only shelters and protects each and all who live under it, but these are at the same moment the very pillars by which it is supported. This figure of speech is true likewise of government by monarchy, for in this case the dome or source of the highest light and power is held up by the aristocracy and the people who have this common point of union in their loyalty to their ruler.

THREE YEARS AGO A SMALL RING

of sugar planters in the Hawaiian Islands took advantage of a sort of paternal oversight exercised by the United States in primitive missionary days, and under cover of our guns, cajoled a native Queen into giving up her sceptre which was to be restored if the arbitrator so decided. They considered themselves sure of the court before they tried their case. In this, they were not only disappointed then, but at the present moment they are studying political platforms and reading reports of political discussions anent our presidential contests, and doubting the testimony of their own eyes when they can discover nowhere the least reference to Hawaii. They do detect a possibility of a sugar bounty

THE ORIGINAL THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER

possibly it may be, for the like of which they sold the Master whom their ancestors went out to preach to a heathen people.

But they are willing to take that, so little confidence have they in their own future. "Having sown the wind we must reap the whirlwind, the lack of confidence in the stability of our government acts to paralyze business; if silver is to be installed in your system we must full into line and take the consequences, for we could hardly import goods from gold-standard countries for exchange would be against us. Our imports would have to come from America, Japan or China where silver would pass." Such is conservative judgement on the effect of a change in the standard of value.

ANNEXATION HAVING BECOME A TIME-WORN

disappointing myth, they are now harping on the word, protectorate. This means that the United States shall do avowedly what the naval officers have been doing secretly for over three years, namely keep Mr. Dole and his associate conspirators in power.

Do they fear a native uprising? Oh no, there is no danger of that. The noble, resigned, self-sacrificing conduct of the Queen, the dignified silence of Princess Kaiulani unite to keep the amiable natives from insurrection.

It is simply that there are no sustaining pillars to the roof which they hastily built: it may collapse of its own weight at any moment; sometimes when a structure is demolished, we find that rust and dry-rot have almost eaten away its support;

WE TREMBLE TO THINK HOW NEAR DEATH

we have lived: our only comfort is that we knew it not; but the trouble here is that Dole, Damon & Co. (limited), fully realize their situation.

The so-called legislature was only valuable as an argument for those who say that a council of seven could govern any one of our large cities far more wisely than any two deliberative assemblies. With her 16,000 registered votes, Hawaii was

not instrumental numerically in selecting these men save by about one-fourth; the 12,000 were disfranchised and of the 4,000 voting a large proportion had no further qualification than that of having gone in search of adventure to Honolulu, put on a uniform and carried a musket with as much chance of losing life as any member of our militia in time of peace. The Councils of the Provisional Government were at least united. The legislature seemed to consider that it was there for the purpose of quarrelling with the Executive Department.

A BILL FOR THE REGISTRATION

of all citizens was first passed, after having been law some two months without further enforcement than that of taking the measure of Mr. Dole's thumb, it was found generally offensive and repealed. Some of the measures introduced by the Attorney-General to prevent the spread of contagious diseases cannot be detailed in a public journal, for it has been proposed and even threatened to apply them to both the teachers and scholars of the public schools, and the Catholic sisterhoods. During the session of the so called legislature, this official was as we used to say in college "rusticated" sent to Japan and China at the public expense, because he was supposed to be an embarrassment both to friend and foe. Yet, these very people owe to him,—Gen. W. O. Smith,—a debt of gratitude; why? not because such an official should ever have been needed, but that

GRANTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BUCCANEER'S COURT,

and Hawaiian rule has never been worthy of any other name, it was necessary to have a "mild-mannered man" who should neither be afraid to "scuttle a ship nor cut a throat," and this describes Gen. Smith's legal course; he was just the man for the place, but it is a disgrace to American blood that the place was provided in advance.

In the matter of finances the situation is no better. Mr. S. M. Damon, the only Minister of Finance since the dethronement, having been obliged to borrow about \$150,000 a month from Danmon and Company, bankers, to keep the pot a-boiling, introduced three bills for the purpose of raising money and

REFUNDING THE HAWAIIAN NATIONAL DEBT,

every one of them was slaughtered by the Legislature without the substitution of any alternative. He became disgusted with the situation and to avoid being present at his humiliation left for San Francisco.

Eureka! There is one particular in which Hawaii is a republic; to the two men to whom the community owes the most, not excepting its President, it shows the most consummate ingratitude.

Now, came onto the scene, Hon. Peter C. Jones, Minister of Finance under the Queen; then amongst the first to join the insurgents; again, losing courage and coming to America; then returning to swear allegiance to Mr. Dole; then

APPLYING FOR PROTECTION TO SECRETARY GRESHAM,

to whom he offered two percent of his income as president of the Charles Brewer Sugar Co. if he could be protected at the time when the men who buried the dynamite bombs on the royal premises, dug them up and exhibited them around town for a pleasurable excitement, yet, Mr. Jones offered his invaluable services to the limited liability company, if they would only send him east to place the four million loan. "Place every dollar of it west of the Rocky Mountains,"—such was his boast to his constituents.

(Continued to 4th page.)

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