PEARL OF POLYNESIA

Facts About the Hawaiian Islands, the Little Pacific Group Where American Enterprise and American Influence Are Paramount.

A Veritable Garden Spot Nestling In Midocean—The Equable Climate and Wonderful Natural Resources.

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Behind the timbers of the United States, excepting only the exact spots where our brave boys in blue may happen at the time to be fighting for the honor of the flag, there is no place in whose social, political and business conditions greater interest is just now taken by the people of this country than the Sandwich Islands, officially known since the deposition of queen Liliuokalani as the republic of Hawaii.

The Sandwich Islands, if in number, only seven of which are inhabited, are the most northerly cluster of the Polynesian archipelagos in the Pacific ocean, extending in a curve from southwest to northeast 400 miles, just below the Tropic of Cancer, in the mean latitude of 20 degrees north. They are a land of almost continually summer temperature, where extreme heat is never known, the mean temperature being 75 degrees. It is regularly designated by meteorologists as tempered by trade winds, but to be accurate it is more properly a land of perpetual summer, with little rainfall, and its climate is one of beauty, with soft breezes, filled with palm fronds, bananas rustling, mangoes, cocoanuts, guavas and fruit trees, the gardens filled with rare, exquisite flowers, clumps of bamboo, groves of the lauan or Siberian and the accompanying tropical growth, the air fragrant with the perfume of the flowers, the streets, roads and street cars in my nothing of many other interesting evidences of material progress and civilization, such as public schools, hospitals and public buildings and in the cosmopolitan universe.

The indigenous terms of all these islands are known, but it has been impossible to find out if it is more possible to obtain a good day's shooting. Outside it is not the illegal hunting ground of the poachers, fishes does, rate, a bell of feathers of a golden yellow color which are both in length. The noted war cloak of the famous chief, Kamehameha I, was made of these rare feathers. It was a foot long and 11½ feet wide at the bottom, and its fabrication is said to have cost original inhabitants.

A staple of diet with the natives, or Kanakas, is the great variety of fish with which the waters abound. The fish include the almost incredible number of 80 species. There are the cocoanut, banana, breadfruit, pandanus, cordyline and taro, or kalo, which is the principal food of the Hawaiians. The products of the islands are numerous, including sugar, rice, cotton, coffee, tea, tobacco, rubber, arrowroot, wheat, malts, lemons, oranges, lemons, tamarinds, guavas, potatoes, yams, beans, kidneys, lettuce, peas and ornamental and medicinal plants. The fruits are noted in great numbers. Herds of wild cattle descended from some stock introduced by Vancouver in 1793 roam the mountains and are hunted for the purpose of obtaining their horns and hides.

The Pearl harbor of Pearl river is six miles from the city, and there is the refinery set up by a great naval station, with docks and yards, around which a city will eventually spring into being.

After the discovery of the islands by Captain James Cook (for Gaimes Dana one of them in 1542, and a century and a half later they were known to the Spanish under the general name of Mesa), who was killed by the Kanakas on Feb. 14, 1779, in Karakakoa bay, Hawaii. There seem to be little known of the islands since, that the people had abandoned cannibalism and were living under the reign of terror imposed by the great tyrannic of the time until the first missionary band came there in 1820. Kamehameha II became friendly with the white at once. They were governed at an absolute monarchy and were feudal seigniors until 1840 when Kamehameha III was induced to sign a bill of rights and in 1852 to grant a constitution by which he surrendered absolute rule in favor of a government by king, nobles and people, with universal suffrage, annual sessions, etc.

The constitution of 1852 and the civil and penal codes were principally prepared by Chief Justice William L. Lee, an American. The latter rendered great service to the nation, especially in convincing to the common nobles a third of the lands of the kingdom, which were formerly owned entirely by the king and chiefs. This condition continued until the accession of Kamehameha V, who abrogated it on Aug. 12, 1864, and promulgated in its stead a constitution conferring qualifications on suffrage and on eligibility to the legislature and restricting the government in the hands of the king. At this time even more Americans occupied various positions and entered offices under the government. It was, however, all generally the best that it was the only nation on earth that had neither army nor navy.

The native population has been steadily decreasing while the influx of foreigners—Americans, English, Portuguese, Germans, French, Chinese and Japanese—has been very great. The decline of the aboriginals may be traced to many causes, of which the principal one was their contact with the whites. Foreign diseases have been extremely fatal to them, and smallpox, measles and influenza have been prevalent among them. A hospital establishment runs now in the western part of Honolulu for lepers is of worldwide repute, and the story of the heroic priest, Father Damien, who buried himself in isolation with the unfortunates there and died at his post, is a tale of Christian martyrdom.

But political events have developed in the Hawaiian Islands of late years with marvelous rapidity. When King Lot (Kamehameha V) died in 1872, without leaving an heir or appointing a successor, William Lunalilo, descendant of an old family of high birth, was elected king on Jan. 8, 1873. He died in February of the following year without issue, and David Kalakaua, a high chief, was elected in his place by a parliament assembled on Feb. 12, 1874, for that purpose. In 1881 this doctor made such a tour of the world, and numerous stories are related of his bonhomie and his fondness for poker playing and champagne. In the fall of 1890 he went to California for his health and died in San Francisco in 1891.

His successor was his sister, Queen Liliuokalani, the widow of a Mr. Dominis, a former American resident. The wife the attempt to promulgate a new constitution, ostensibly for the purpose of increasing her power in the government. It was designed to deprive foreigners of the right of franchise, to create the house of nobles and give to the queen the power to appoint a new house. The effort, aimed principally at the Americans, who are the largest property holders in the islands, circuit them in action. There was a revolution without injury to a single person, and a provisional government was established on Jan. 17, 1893, after the queen confidentially abdicated the throne. Commissioners were sent to the United States government to apply for annexation. Under President Harrison it was supposed that favorable action would promptly be taken. The Hawaiian republic was proclaimed on July 4, 1894, and then began a series of endeavors by the opposite to be reinstated on the throne, in the course of which she even made personal appeals to the then President Cleveland.

Elected U. Inc. the president, who recently made a visit to this country, was elected for the term ending Dec. 31, 1903. The legislative power is vested in a senate and house of representatives, the former consisting of 15 members elected by indirect suffrage for the term of six years, one-third being renewed every two years; the latter, of 15 members elected by indirect suffrage for the term of six years, one-third being renewed every two years. The president is elected for six years by the two houses in joint session. It has always been understood that the Americans, who are the controlling spirit in Hawaii, would favor annexation as a territory to the United States.

The first treaty, as well regarded by the Hayes administration, failed, owing to the opposition of President Cleveland, his successor. The attorney general of the Pacific republic, William O. Smith, went to Washington in February, 1897, to open negotiations, in connection with the Hawaiian minister, for a new treaty of annexation. Subsequently Lorin A. Thurston and William A. Kinney were associated with the Hawaiian senator, Francis M. Hatch, and on June 16 Secretary Sherman signed for the United States a treaty with these representatives. In consulting the treaty to the senate the president said in his message, "This is not really annexation, but a continuance of the existing relations with closer bonds between people closely related by blood and kindred ties."

Some months ago it was rumored that Japan would oppose by force, if necessary, the annexation of Hawaii to the United States, but that country's legal rights having been respected, as they will be concerned, there is no further danger of an imbroglio with the pugnacious oriental nation. The treaty made between Hawaii and Japan in 1871 contains the "favored nation" clause, and under its provisions Hawaii cannot prevent Japanese from coming to the islands as free immigrants. A law was passed to exclude lunatics, paupers and persons liable to become a burden to the community, and the manner in which it was enforced led to the controversy with the Japanese. Another law restricted the number of contract laborers to a number equal to the demand for labor, necessary to existing emergencies.

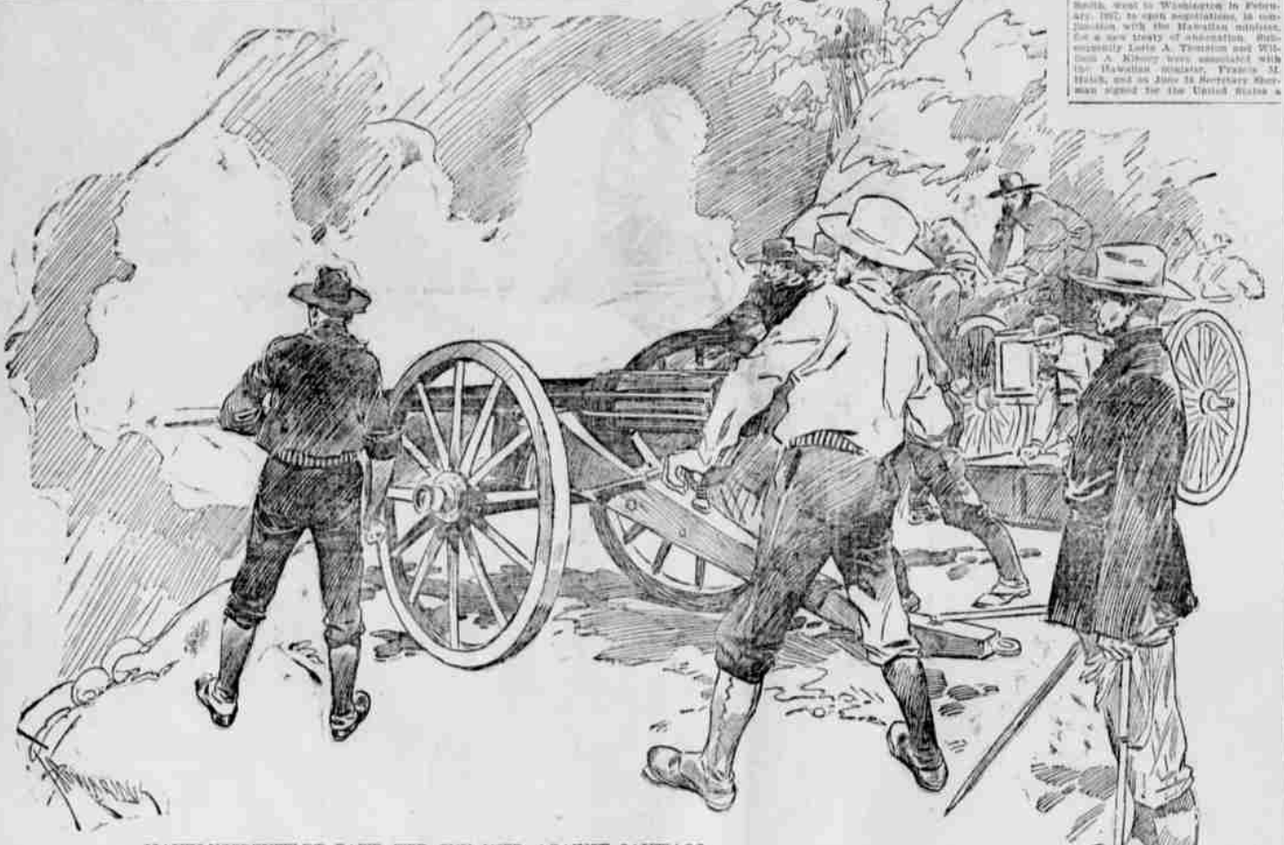
Though but five of the Japanese in the islands are able to read or write either English or Hawaiian, which disqualifies for the franchise, the Americans there have feared that the continued settlement of these orientals and the influx of educated Japanese would result in the transfer of power to them and the adoption of such laws as would make Hawaii practically if not nominally a Japanese colony.

The first restrictive measure was a regulation of the immigration contract, issued in July, requiring emigrants to import two-thirds of the number that laborers from China or from some country other than Japan. There was a successful protest against the agreement at one time, including a threat to Japan more than six navy vessels in Hawaiian waters. Two years ago a Japanese warship, the Naniwa, was dispatched to Honolulu, and she joined the United States steamer Philadelphia in the harbor, and what she might have contained to do to a religious ceremony was only by the power of an armed squadron of a mighty power.

Last summer there was some very sharp diplomatic correspondence between our secretary of state and the Japanese minister, but the sincerity of the intentions of the United States was subsequently recognized.

The Hawaiian islands, like that few had a written language on sale as late as 1822, is now thoroughly Americanized, but the English tongue has supported the native language in the schools. The schools of the United States are more prevalent than either those of the Kanakas or the phases of life prevailing at some remote period in Europe. Some of the small Hawaiian towns are exact duplicates of our country towns. The islands are today virtually an American colony, and they are in a prosperous and prosperity, with the promise of a brilliant future, to the delectation of American citizens.

CHANNING A. BARTOW.



MAXIM-NORDENFELDT RAPID FIRE GUN USED AGAINST SANTIAGO.

BRIEF WAR NOTES.

According to a provision of one of the postal laws any letter written by a member of either the United States army or navy and marked "Soldier's letter," "Sailor's letter" or "Marine's letter," and signed thereunder by a field or staff officer, post or detachment commander or by a surgeon or chaplain, and in the navy by the officer in charge, will be forwarded by the government, charged with postage at single rates, to be collected on delivery. The knowledge of this privilege will be a boon to warrior lads when their cash out of their supplies of postage running.

Captain Clark of the Oregon was talking with an old sailor about the service and asked by way of a joke whether he would prefer to have all the sailors made marines or all the marines made sailors. The old salt looked hard at the captain. "Look here, captain," said he, "do anything but turn us into them amphibious ones." The captain appeared to disregard the composition of the word, but presently asked Jack, "What do you mean by 'amphibious soldiers?'" "Why, I mean it," said Jack. "Them soldiers can't live on the sea and sailors live on the land."

Private Harry Jackson of Company E, Second New Jersey regiment, claims to be and probably is the tallest soldier in the volunteer army. He is 6 feet 8½ inches in height, but he finds consolation in the thought that even if he were 10 feet high the Spanish Sackbutts couldn't hit him.

Here is an illustration of the difference in time of war and in time of peace of the punishment of soldiers who violate military regulations. Private Mapes of Company A, Eleventh United States infantry, shot off a finger to keep from going to the front. He said it was accidental, but a court martial found otherwise and sentenced him to two years' imprisonment. He subsequently confessed to did the deed on purpose, having lost his first enthusiasm for exposing his life to deadly bullets.

Warren Beckwith, the baseball player who eloped with the daughter of Robert T. Lincoln, has enlisted with the Town national guard for the purpose of going to the front.

Cincinnati says that it is the home of the man who fired the first shot in the war which wounded a Spaniard. His name is Martin Friedman, gunner on the Terror, and he fired the shot which wounded the shipbreaker of the merchantman Guido.

The Author of "Dixie."

Of all the martial tunes that is today being sung or played throughout the United States there is none so popular as "Dixie." There is something about the chorus about the old song that lifts a remarkable chord in every heart and bring a tear to every eye, no matter what part of the country one may hail from.

There was when it was treason to whistle or sing "Dixie" south of Mason and Dixon's line. Today things are different. Of all the leading national airs none is received with more favor than this old southern song in all sections of this our one country. The band that plays it in Chicago is cheered just as lustily as the band that blows out the old familiar air in New Orleans.

Few people who have hummed or whistled or heard the old song and accident of its history. Ask one acquaintance with old time music who wrote "Dixie," and the quick response will be, "Dan Emmett, the minstrel." Only to a limited extent is this correct. Emmett wrote the song, changing the tune a well Kimmell. His words are the one now. Emmett is the music, but Kimmell did not deserve credit for originality the song any more than he deserved credit for the music, although his word voice helped to make it famous.

The original words were written by Will S. Hays of Louisville, and the music by Charles L. Ward, who died in Louisville many years ago, and published by D. P. Faulds, then one of the leading music publishers of the country. Mr. Faulds is now nearly 70 years of age. He is a charming gentleman of the old school, courteous and polite. He is still in the music business on a small way. Will S. Hays is still living in the prime of life apparently and continues to turn out songs of merit on the slightest provocation.

Some of his more famous songs other "Dixie" are "Mollie Darling," "Take This Letter to My Mother," "Evangeline," "Little Old Log Cabin in the Lane," "Keep in the Middle of the Road," "Signal Bells at Sea," "Roll On Brave Dat Cotton," and "Swan Zanzibar." Mr. Hays is the author of between 300 and 400 popular songs, and he says he has never published one that did not pay the publisher well. The sales of "Mollie Darling" reached the phenomenal figure of 1,000,000 two years ago.

Pets of Our Jack Tars.

The pride and pet of the naval reserves aboard the New Hampshire is a cat which rejoices in the name of Monkey. Monkey has lived on the vessel so long that any attempt to remove him meets with stubborn resistance. A sailor tried it once, and a battle ensued, in consequence of which he carries several scars, received from Monkey's claws. Now when Monkey sees that particular sailor he makes a dive for the quarter deck, where he knows that he is safe from pursuit.

The pet on the Nahant is Rex, a scrawny dog, whose appearance is all that his name implies. When the officers on board the monitor received their commissions from Captain Richmond the naval reserves decorated Rex with the national colors and informed their guests that the dog, too, had been duly commissioned and was a lieutenant. The rank was to be "the tightest thing that ever happened."

The mascot of the New York is a goat which was picked up in South America by a sailor and then on the Monongahela. The goat has earned the friendship of the jackies by adopting their habits of life. It took some hard knocks at first, but after a time and a few voyages he became a first rate sailor. His favorite perch when the New York was in the navy yard was on the bridge of the vessel, and he would climb there for hours. The goat was allowed a bottle of beer every day, and he had a dark coffee after dinner. His only vice is the affection of the New York's crew was a small pig, which came from the island of Madeira concealed under the jacket of a sailor who had been ashore leave. The pig has a mind and dreams of nothing but bacon with fore feet before beginning his meal. The jackies tried to cure him of the bad habit, but the pocket refused to eat unless allowed to do so. Finally they gave up the attempt to teach him good table manners was finally abandoned.

The average person wears nearly 11 pounds of clothing.