

pression to the thanks that are due him. As a commissioner he has shown himself an undoubted success.

A FEATURE OF ATHLETICS.

Apropos of the great game of football played a few days ago between Harvard and Yale students, to witness which "ten thousand came from New York and fifteen thousand from Boston," as we remember the figures, we are reminded of another game which was played at Adrian, Michigan, something over a week ago. One of the most interesting phases of the affair is described by an eastern paper. "A Toledo player, Carew," says the report, "had the ball, and downed to save it. Three Toledo boys dropped to save him, and in an instant the Adrian team was upon them. When the struggle was over, Carew remained motionless upon the ground. The crowd oried, 'Fakel' but it was soon discovered that the young man's neck was dislocated. Upon examination it was found that his body was paralyzed from his chest down, and his spinal column was injured; he died the next morning without having recovered consciousness."

It does not appear that the Yale and Harvard teams included this popular feature in their exhibition, and that is probably the reason the twenty-five thousand who traveled two or three hundred miles and stood several long hours in a raw wind to witness the performance, went home more or less disappointed. One can well understand how their feelings must have been outraged, when it is known that no less than four of the "little games" since the season began have succeeded in sending one of their men home to his fond parents in a coffin; while this, the greatest game of all, did not treat the crowd with so much as a broken leg!

Athletic sports in colleges may be the proper thing, but it is a great pity that boys cannot be boys without being brutes. Spanish bull fights have been a horror to civilization since the first awakening from the dark ages, but we question if any recent season of the bull-killing sport will show a record of human slaughter with a higher average than this season's football exhibit. We had a moral in mind for this connection, but will withhold it for our first funeral sermon on the score of the football mania.

LILIUOKALANI'S STATEMENT.

The deposed queen of the Sandwich Islands has not helped her case much by the statement she made to Commissioner Blount. It amounts virtually to a confession of the charges made against her, of secretly intriguing to promulgate a new constitution of her own making.

According to her statement of the case, her people, meaning the natives, as she explains, had been petitioning her for a new constitution. In due time she responds to the wish, drawing up an instrument upon the groundwork of that of Kamehameha and of 1887. The constitution of 1887 was the one in force when she was dethroned.

The constitution of Kamehameha vested in the crown almost absolute sovereignty. It may be guessed pretty nearly from this what might be the spirit of the new product. This constitution she says she placed in the hands of a person (no name given) who submitted it to numerous lawyers, from whose inspection it was returned without alteration or comment. Whereupon she concludes it is the proper article all through, and so enters upon a secret arrangement with certain trusted persons about the throne to promulgate it.

Her designs appear by her statement to have worked with the most elegant precision right up to the critical point, and then to have gone to pieces like the crumbling of the one-horse vehicle of poetic fame. The constitution was perfect and the whole idea was just the thing. But when it came time to promulgate, the affair very suddenly became her private business with which no one else was or cared to be concerned. As she expresses it, "They led me out to the edge of a precipice and were now leaving me to take the leap alone." This appears to have been her first suspicion that any one about her was playing her false. As a matter of fact, the evidence she gives would convict the whole lot of them of acquiescing with her folly in the secret belief that it would lead her monarchy to self-destruction. One can very well imagine those lawyers to whom this unknown person referred her document, exulting to themselves over her delusion, and what they must have known would be the result; albeit, viewing the case in its present state, one may reasonably doubt whether either party in the struggle has much to exult over.

There has been within the last two weeks a vast amount of speculation over the attitude of President Cleveland. Commissioner Blount has unveiled proof of intermeddling on the part of United States officials and soldiers at the turning point of the struggle, which has had an exasperating effect upon the administration at Washington. But no matter what may be the feelings of the emotional secretary of state over the revelations—feelings do not count in questions of such a character, and the measures he advises leading to the restoration of the monarchy need scarcely be seriously looked for.

PACIFIC CABLE PROJECT.

Now that the French cable from Australia to New Caledonia has been completed and is in successful operation, its projectors contemplate extending it to the United States by way of Samoa and the Sandwich Islands. The New Caledonia line is under French control, but the new project is entirely distinct from it so far as the national element is concerned, and the question now being discussed is whether it shall be controlled by America or Great Britain.

From Honolulu there are two routes under consideration, one being to Vancouver, B. C., and the other to San Francisco. The latter route is the longer and more expensive, but there

is in its favor the prospect of slightly heavier business than would come over the northern route. The cost of laying the line to the Golden Gate would reach nearly nine millions of dollars, while the other route could be followed for nearly a million less.

The matter of cost is, however, only a secondary consideration. The most important issue is whether the United States or the British government shall control the cable. If the line comes to San Francisco, it will be under the direction of our government. Considerations of expense being equal, the projectors of the line have signified their determination to take the southern route. If the excess of stock over the amount necessary to build to Vancouver, and a proportion of the remainder, were taken by American capitalists, or if the United States were to offer a subsidy of the difference between the two routes and a certain portion of the stock be subscribed for in America, the line would not go to British dominion on this continent.

But the English are alive to the advantage of having the cable laid over a route that is substantially British throughout, and would place the Hawaiian and Samoan groups virtually within their grasp. Sandwell Fleming is the chief projectors of the cable scheme, and his letter on the subject has been forwarded to the premiers of the British Australasian colonies by Mackenzie Rowell, with a communication from the latter, in which he urges the government to send a representative and have the matter settled in favor of Great Britain. Mr. Rowell proposes routes which touch only British territory except such landings as are effected at the Fiji, Samoan and Hawaiian Islands. He would have the line constructed under the joint ownership of Australia, New Zealand and Canada, as a public undertaking. Mr. Rowell's scheme is endorsed by the London Times and other influential British organs who see in its consummation an aid to British supremacy.

The subject is one that the United States might properly give careful attention to. The precise details of the offer as made may not be just what is most desirable, but there is no doubt these could be modified and arranged to suit the occasion. With cable communication effected between the Hawaiian Islands and America, the line should be under the control of the United States. It would be bad policy on the part of this government to allow it to be otherwise if it could be prevented with reasonable diligence. The Pacific cable is a thing of the not far distant future, and our government should arrange matters in some way to have this end of the line within its borders and at its disposal.

TAX SALE COSTS.

As the time is drawing near for the Legislature to convene, there is more or less discussion of such portions of our territorial statutes as need amendment suitable to the condition of the people. Some of these laws were enacted by early legislators in Utah and have stood practically unaltered for more than a generation. They were