

## Hawaiian Lepers.

A correspondent writing recently from the Sandwich Islands says: "Epidemics have swept over the islands, sweeping away thousands, but there lingers here a scourge which is striking deep into the vitality of the race. I allude to the leprosy, which is becoming fearfully alarming in its spread. The settlement on Molokai Island, to which the unfortunate victims of the desolating disease are banished, contained by the census, four hundred and thirty-eight lepers, but since that time about one hundred more have been added. Within the space of one week I have seen a vessel depart from this port with its second load of leprosy patients. It is almost impossible for the authorities to ferret out all the cases of leprosy existing, the victims being concealed or secreted by relatives and friends, that they may not be doomed to perpetual banishment, as the strict sanitary regulations require. No leper can ever return to his home. It is a sad and sickening sight to witness the final separation between the hideous looking victims and loving hearts, who rend the air with their plaintive wails, as the leper ship moves seaward. I have been an involuntary witness to the painful sundering of ties of love and friendship, but in the incident have seen that the finer feelings of human nature exist in the hearts of these poor Kanakas as sensitively as in the superior race. It is strange that leprosy confines itself almost exclusively among the native population. I have heard of but one case on these islands where a white person was attacked by it. A brief description will suffice to show the terrible nature of the destructive plague. The patient is attacked with irregular liver red spots in the face, and at a late period the ears and nose are similarly attacked. In many instances the whole body is more or less covered with them or with a somewhat scaly eruption. Slight itching is sometimes felt, but not always. These spots are slightly elevated, shining, and after a time become darker; then small hard or soft tubercles appear, mostly on the face, of the same color, which become after a while confluent and form irregular tubercles of the size of a pea to a hen's egg; the face now becomes much disfigured, the skin rough, full of wrinkles and fissures, similar to the skin of an elephant; the nose and ears are much increased in size, the nostrils are enlarged, the eyes become inflamed—the lids nearly covering the eye, the lips are enormously swollen, and the whole face has a most horrid appearance. The nails of the feet and hands become affected, the former being raised by the matter deposited under them. The feet and forearms swell, and ulcers form; the skin becomes gangrenous leaving the muscles bare. The joints are thus attacked and destroyed in succession by the slow progress of this terrible disease which renders those who are affected with it objects of horror until the grave conceals them. From the most reliable data I can obtain, the disease was brought here from China in 1848, and it was not until 1853 that the attention of medical men was called to it. Notwithstanding the strict surveillance maintained by the government, it has increased, propagated by intermarriage and through hereditary transmission.—*California Paper.*

Says the Albany Argus: "If local prohibition was 'shot to death by J. A. Dix,' it was buried by a Republican Assembly, the pall bearers being furnished, rumor says, at one hundred dollars apiece."

Uneasy—Thayer, on the B. C. R. & M. R. R. It is proposed to move the town one mile to the junction of the road with the W. B. P. & N. Mo. R. R. House cleaning and gardening is deferred until the matter is settled.—*Burlington Hawk Eye.*

One day lately, Mrs. Rogers, of Bloomfield township, Polk county, Iowa, presented her husband with four children at one birth. A year or so since the same lady increased the census returns by three children at a single birth.—*Ec.*

The Des Moines Register says those who have an eye "for fresh, pure, healthy, non-milliner made beauty, should visit the State Agricultural College at Ames, where can be seen a hundred or two romping, rosy, unpadding, lithe, sound-livered, strong-backed, useful, marriageable, worth-having girls."

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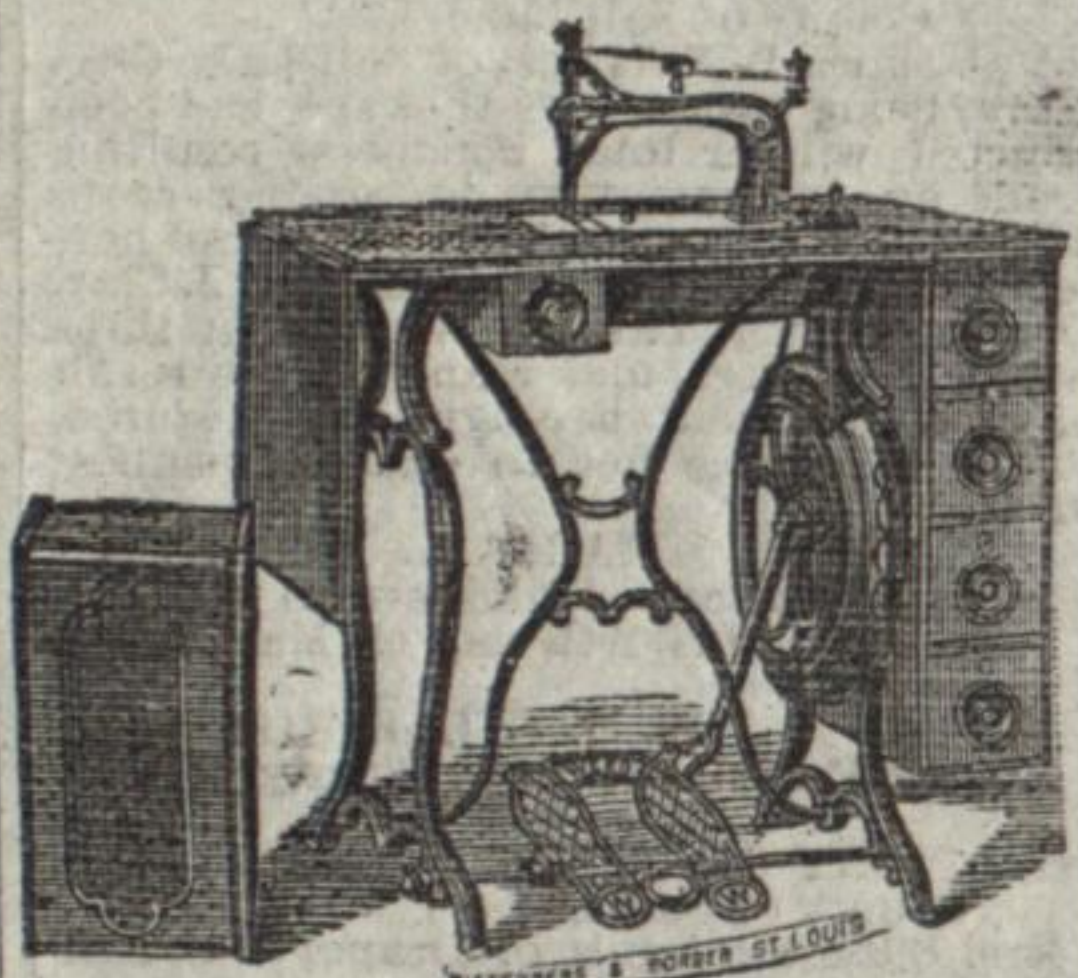
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