

plantation, and, after completion of contract for his return passage home. The natives are not permitted to leave their native villages for any length of time except by permission from the village chief or magistrate.

The term Polynesian, as used in Fiji, applies to the inhabitants of nearly all the South Sea Islands, Solomon Islands and the New Hebrides, supply probably the largest number of that class of laborers which are known as Polynesians to Fiji. They do not as a rule give satisfaction as plantation laborers, but some of them make good household servants in private families. The contract for Polynesian laborers is generally binding for five years, during which time the planter pays £3 per annum for an adult male. Women and children are paid less in proportion to their working abilities; but all monies earned by them are deposited in the government offices, and never paid to the men themselves. They all get free house, food, clothes, medical attendance, etc., and after completion of contract are sent back to their native island at the expense of the original employer, who also pays all expenses connected with the importation. When using the term "clothes," it must be understood to mean a few cheap articles only, the value of which does not exceed nine shillings (\$2.25) per head per annum. At the expiration of contract the government hands each man his wages in cash or gives him an order on some tradesman, to supply the bearer with goods up to the value of the amount due him. These so called Polynesians are on an average considerably smaller men in stature than the Fijians and not so strong either; but they are a good-tempered, merry lot of people, who never give much trouble.

The third class of colored laborers, who by far are the most numerous in Fiji, are the Indians or Coolies, imported from Hindoostan or the East Indies. From an interesting article written by H. H. Thiele Esq., I cull the following in regard to Coolie labor: The Coolies or Indians were first introduced to Fiji from Calcutta in 1879, when some 480 arrived. It is, however, only since 1883 that the immigration has been regular or of importance. There are now about 10,000 Coolies in Fiji of whom about 6,000 are working for the Colonial Sugar Refining company. The cost of introduction has, on an average, been about £20 (\$100) for each individual over ten years of age, the percentage of women in proportion to men being about thirty-five. There are proportionately a large number of immoral characters among the women, who as a rule take very little care of their children, and consequently lose them. The indenture is for five years from time of arrival, at the expiration of which time the Coolie becomes "free," and after a further period of five years' residence he and his children are entitled to a free return passage to India by the first subsequent opportunity. Under special circumstances, Coolies can buy their freedom before the expiration of the five years stipulated. The Indian immigration ordinance states that a Coolie can be employed on either time work or task work. In the former case he is required to work nine hours on each of the first five days in the week, and five hours on Saturdays. A task means the quantity of work an able-bodied man can perform by working continuously and

diligently for six hours; five tasks and a half constitute a week's work. No man is compelled to do more than one task per diem. For field work men are paid about one shilling per term a task and women nine pence. The district medical officer has the power to reduce the labor to be exacted from any Coolie, if the condition of the man's health requires it. Many good workers can earn nine or ten shillings per week on the same task on which others can hardly earn their food. All Coolies working on an estate are supplied with free house, firewood, medical attendance, medicine and hospital treatment. Taking them as a whole the Coolies are a sharp, low and immoral lot; but there is no doubt about their being the cheapest laborers in Fiji, although they actually earn three or four times as much as they could do in their own country. Some of the laborers manage to save and place at deposit a considerable portion of their wages, others save, and then lend the money to rogues of their own color, who cheat them; others again gamble and lose all their earnings, to professional card sharppers, of whom there are many among them. Some of them are so innately lazy, that they will seriously injure themselves bodily, in order to plead the excuse of being unfit for work. The Coolies will tell falsehoods to an unlimited extent, and is therefore in many cases difficult to get convictions against them in the police courts. The usual punishment is a fine, and in default of payment, a period of imprisonment with labor. The time of absence from plantation work on this account is added to the time of indenture and called "extension of time." Nearly all the laborers employed on the Nausori plantation are Coolies, there being only a few Fijians or Polynesians.

By far the most important industry on the Fijian Islands is the growing of sugar cane and the manufacture of raw sugar, though this industry was not commenced here till about fourteen years ago. The cane raised in Fiji is grown from imported cane tops, principally of a variety originally obtained from the Hawaiian Islands. Lands just cleared and broken up for cultivation gave at first a very abundant harvest, but experience has already shown that it does not continue to do so in Fiji, but that fertilizing is necessary; hence a crop of beans is started about every three years, which is plowed under green for fertilizing purposes; at least this is the plan adopted on the Nausori plantation.

After visiting the Indian quarters, Mr. Wilson accompanied me to the native village called Nausori, it consists of something like twenty-five native houses, most of which are well built and roomy. The one we entered was also scrupulously clean in the inside, and was not without a certain degree of comfort. The little Western church provided with a pulpit but no seats of any description, was an object of considerable interest to me. During services the natives squat down on the mats. Most of the people (of both sexes) in this village were simply clad in their ordinary "sulus."

By invitation Mr. Thiele and myself dined with Superintendent Tenner whose fine residence is perched on the top of a hill overlooking the river for several miles up and down. Mr. Tenner has a nice little family, and we spent a pleasant evening, conversing about Utah

and its people. Mr. Tenner has visited our territory, being employed as an engineer on the Denver & Rio Grande Railway at the time that road was being built through Utah.

ANDREW JENSON.
BAU, near Viti Levu, Fiji Islands,
August, 11th, 1895.

ANN ARBOR NOTES.

ANN ARBOR, Michigan,
Nov. 8, 1895.

It is a pleasant duty to pen you readers a few paragraphs concerning Utah people in this city, who are bringing honor and fame to Utah.

The Utah colony is quite large this year. It includes four literary, three law students, four music students, a professor in the music school and two high school students. Aside from students our colony contains some fifteen children and mothers.

Bros. James Brown, J. E. Wooly, Arthur Dailey and Miss Ida Jones attend the literary department.

Grant C. Bagley, a prominent and gifted young man of South Bountiful, and Bro. Hansen, a representative Utah boy from Sanpete, and Judge J. D. Jones, of Provo, who is well known as a bright lawyer, held Utah's end up at the law school.

In the celebrated music school one finds on the register the book the names of George A. Done, the efficient leader of the Second ward choir at Payson; Stanley Partridge, of Provo, who undoubtedly possesses talent of high order in his art; Frank Wightman, another Payson boy, who brings great credit to his city, and Miss Ida Jones, of Provo, who has already won successes in Utah in concert, and who does fine work in the school. All of the music pupils, excepting Brother Partridge take vocal music with theoretical work, and Brother Partridge takes pipe organ, piano and theology.

In connection with the University School of Music, is the Frieze Memorial hall, named in honor of the late Henry Frieze, who, during the active part of his life, wrote many text books which are used largely in the public schools. His book called Frieze's Virgil, is especially noted. He also held the position of Professor of Latin in the U. of M. for several years. He died some six years ago, and the large musical hall was named after him on account of the interest he manifested in the progress of the music world.

Professor J. J. McClellan of the school of music, has the honor of being director of the University orchestra, which is composed of the best musical talent Michigan affords. Their rehearsals are held in the Frieze Memorial hall, which no other orchestra would be allowed the use of. Our Utah boy waves the baton over many older heads than his own, and looks dignified in the place, so well filled by him. Many musical people go to the rehearsals to listen to the sweet strains produced by the well known orchestra, which is under one of our own boys. He is also pianist of the Choral Union, a musical body of about 500 singers. The Columbian organ at the large University hall is under his sway at the Choral Union concerts.

We must not forget to make mention of the St. Thomas choir and