

# Hawaii Holomua

PROGRESS.

The Life of the Land is Established in Righteousness.

HONOLULU, JAN. 24, 1894.

## The Chinese Question.

The Planters' Labor and Supply Company have been in session this week and done less than the usual amount of talking. The most interesting portion of the subjects, before the meeting, was, as usual, the report of the committee on Labor. It was the more interesting because of their being at present a movement on foot to flood the country with Chinese coolies. We have, in former issues of the HOLOMUA tried to show how extremely unpopular such a policy will be to all classes, and we have advocated a continued importation of Japanese if really any more labor is needed. The Attorney-General, who also seems to be a planter, referred, in his address to the meeting, to the risk in getting more Japanese here on account of the Japanese Government's demand, that Hawaii shall fulfill her treaty obligations to Japan. The Attorney General knows as well as we do, and we notice that the Star backs our opinion that the demand of the Japanese Government is of small practical moment as all what is asked is that those Japanese who have the necessary qualifications under our Constitution, if we have one, shall have the same rights as the citizens of the most favored nations, and none of the Japanese plantation laborers possess those qualifications, (we thought more-over that a franchise in Hawaii was a thing of the past never to be resurrected.) The committee on Labor did not follow the Attorney-General altogether because, through Mr. Bolte, it was said that the Japanese were "industrious, cheerful, and a valuable addition to the population." But the Chinese found, strange to say a strong champion in that valiant Scotchman Mr. Morrison, the manager of Makaweli. That gentleman evidently does not believe in encouraging the white mechanics, and workmen in Hawaii, because he suggested that restriction upon the importation of Chinese should be removed. There were too many Japanese in the country. The Chinese were the best and steadiest plantation workers. They did not organize and threaten such concerted action as "striking." They were sober. Mr. Morrison evidently doesn't care a rap for the fact that "unrestricted" Chinamen very soon would drop plantations—except he should make them lunas, sugar boilers, clerks or engineers and come to Honolulu to compete with Mr. Morrison's brother Scotchmen in the line of mechanics and workmen. That the Chinese only organize on plantations, now and then, to kill a luna or beat an informer or are "sober" on opium, whenever they get a chance, is none of Mr. Morrison's affair. They don't strike for higher wages and they consequently are men to Mr. Morrison's liking. Only, of course, according to the same authority the working dogs in this country get too much wages anyhow, wherefore, he with envy, tells the meeting that "In Java, plantation laborers were paid but \$4 to \$5 a month, and 1000 hands could be had in twenty-four hours." We hope after this that there will be no objections to the further immigration of the virtuous and high-priced Chinese laborers—if there is we will risk that the planters will bless the country with \$4—\$5 a month Javanese and then were would Tim and the rest of the crowd be then.

W. R. (J) Armstrong is quoted as desiring to indulge in oyster planting and also as an exponent on "Practical Politics." Mr. Armstrong is supposed to be a stranger, visiting here for a short period.

## READ AND PONDER.

### THE PRESIDENT'S HAWAII MESSAGE.

#### A World-Known Newspaper's Able Editorial.

We risk nothing in saying that no fair minded person can read President Cleveland's message on the Hawaiian affair without coming to the conclusion that the President and the Secretary of State are absolutely right in every position they have taken with regard to this unfortunate business. No state paper concerning a similar subject has ever come from the Executive office that reflected more honor upon our government, and of which every patriotic American citizen had more reason to be proud. It sets forth once more in a plain, clear, and candid way the well-established facts of the overthrow of the Hawaiian government by a small band of conspirators under the instigation of the American minister and with the aid of United States troops—facts so well verified by documentary proof and all manner of conclusive evidence that the most unscrupulous partisan mendacity has not been able to obscure them. It is well that the President's message shows more fully than it has been officially shown heretofore how the American minister had for years been bent upon accomplishing the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States; how he had yearned for the "golden hour" of opportunity; how he had asked the State Department to permit him to use the United States forces in Hawaiian waters for purposes beyond the mere protection of the American Legation and of the lives and property of American citizens; and how, when he thought the "golden hour" had arrived, he used the United States forces even to the extent of committing an unjustifiable act of war against a friendly government.

What most interests the American people at the present moment is the conduct of their own government under such circumstances. The government of Hawaii had been stolen, and offered to the United States in hot haste by the thieves. President Harrison—so Mr. Cleveland generously presents the case—was misled by artful misrepresentation into a hasty acceptance of the stolen goods, and submitted a treaty of annexation to the Senate. But Mr. Cleveland's administration, having taken office fortunately before annexation was consummated, easily detected that there was a grave discrepancy between the assumption of Harrison, that "the overthrow of the monarchy in Hawaii was not in any way promoted by this government," and the protest of the Queen, declaring that she had surrendered to the superior force of the United States, and that she therefore confidently submitted the case to the enlightened justice of the government of this republic. It was in obedience to the simple dictate of common honesty that President Cleveland withdrew the annexation treaty from the Senate, and sent a man of high character and of known ability and experience to Hawaii to ascertain the facts. Mr. Blount the agent selected, had enjoyed the rare distinction, when leaving Congress after many years of service, of carrying with him expressions of the highest regard from leading members of both political parties. No man ever thought of questioning his universally recognized integrity until, after a conscientious endeavor to ascertain, and with a firm determination to speak the truth, he told the whole story of the theft of a country, and thus incurred the rage of those who found themselves balked in the iniquitous attempt to profit from the disgraceful transaction.

We have now before us in the President's message a frank statement of the steps taken by the

administration after the truth was known. "Our country," says the President, "was in danger of having actually set up a temporary government on foreign soil for the purpose of acquiring through that agency territory which we had wrongfully put in its possession. The control of both sides of a bargain acquired in such a manner is called by a familiar and unpleasant name when found in private transactions." In other words, our agents have taken the first steps to put upon the country the guilt and ignominy of an unmitigated act of fraud and robbery. It was the duty of an honest government to do all in its power to retrace those steps, and thus to clear the name of the country of the foul spot. So far as the President, within the constitutional limitations of his power, could redress the wrong that had been done by the agents of the government, it was his plain duty to do so. He honestly tried to perform that duty, and making the attempt he did not forget the consideration due to the circumstance that those who had taken an active part in the overthrow of the Queen's authority had been encouraged by the American minister, without whose aid they would not have undertaken the venture. The President, therefore, while offering his good offices to the Queen as a mediator between herself and the provisional government, insisted that if returned to power she should grant a general amnesty to those concerned in the setting up of the provisional government, and a recognition of all its *bona fide* acts and obligations. This was eminently humane and proper in every sense.

The Queen had not then seen fit to accede to this condition. On the other hand, the wild shouting of the jingoes and of Republican partisans in this country has made the provisional government in Hawaii believe that it has a majority of the American people at its back. These two circumstances have conspired so far to frustrate the efforts made by the President and the Secretary of State to conciliate the differences in Hawaii and to vindicate our national honor. This is not their fault. They have done what it was in their power to do, and are henceforth clear of responsibility. The President mindful of the limitations the Constitution imposes upon him, refers the matter "to the extended powers and the wide discretion of the Congress." He will gladly "co-operate in any legislative plan which may be devised for the solution of the problem before us which is consistent with American honor, integrity, and morality." True to these principles, he will, of course, not resubmit the annexation treaty to the Senate.

This is as it should be. The President and the Secretary of State have done their duty. Now let the unscrupulous ranters in Congress who have so wildly vociferated against the administration show what remedy they have to propose, consistently with American honor, integrity, and morality. Mere denunciation will no longer serve. On the bare assumption that the President had ordered the Queen of Hawaii to be reinstated by force of arms, without authority from Congress, they have hurled against the President vilification without measure, even to the threat of impeachment. The message, showing that the President has remained strictly within his constitutional limits, covers them with confusion and shame. They are exposed as wanton calumniators. Their rage may grow more desperate, but it will also become more harmless every day. "If national honesty is to be disregarded," says the President, "and a desire for territorial extension, or dissatisfaction with a form of government not our own, ought to regulate our conduct, I have entirely misapprehended the mission and character of our government, and the behavior which the confidence of our people demands of their public servants." Let the President rest assured that, the demagogues

notwithstanding, the American people are neither fools nor knaves. Their conception of the mission and character of our government corresponds with his own. Their sense of justice will stand by him, and turn his severities into his most signal triumph.

"STAR"—"Rats," anagrammatic and synonymous.

THE secret league has passed another resolution for presentation to the Councils to-morrow. Is it not time that the Council members showed the courage of their convictions and called a "halt" in the domination of this secret body.

Rats is lead to say, editorially: Mr. Irwin was quite right in his statement at the meeting of the Planters' Labor and Supply Company, that the Bureau of Information is not doing efficient work. So far as the public is aware it is doing no work at all.

Correct, and further, would it not be a proper business action to present a public statement of the receipts and the expenditures for, say the last two years? We don't mean to be too inquisitive, but some people would like to know, you know.

SAY, *Bulletin* mouse, never mind correcting the "items" in the HOLOMUA, but tell us, little brother, what is this new "disease that is coming upon us," "heretofore unknown" and only lately discovered by Professor Koeble? The space donated by you to Prof—(scuse us)—Hon?—No, he's not a royalist; well, Mr.—Marsden, in the past, should entitle you to an *entre* to his fund of knowledge on bugs and blights, and space might be well utilized in diffusing the information.

POLITICS does make strange bedfellows; now does it not, Messrs. the leaders of the inner circles of Honolulu society and the pillars of the only fashionable congregation. Faugh! How you must hate yourselves, how deep down you must have crowded every manly and American principle when you decided to run the gauntlet of being elected into the folds of a secret political organization and by the will of, whom? Gentlemen, your lines have not fallen in pleasant places but you well deserve the degradation of the associations which you are now pleased, not compelled, to endure. Your acts show that you are not now American citizens, for an honest such should rather be "a dog and bay the moon" than ever be guilty of such un-American action.

"STABLE" government, forsooth! When all of the officials are compelled to join either military or secret organizations and commit blasphemy in favor of the oligarchists now in office.

A "prominent annexationist" is charged in the *Rats* paper, last evening with performing a seeming miracle in "opening the eyes" of a native. No definite statement is made relative to whether the native was blind, asleep, or drunk. The following words are however quoted as aiding greatly in the accomplishment of the miracle:

Native. Was the P. G. going to fight the United States?

Prom Ann. No, not the United States but President Cleveland, who like Liliuokalani was going to make war upon us against the law of his land and the wishes of his people.

Native. I am not afraid any more.

Sound sense Mr. Native; who's afraid of an opponent about 5000 miles away?

B. F. DILLINGHAM; W. L. Howard; W. A. Brown; W. O. Atwater; George Castle (a good man gone wrong) C. H. Atherton; D. P. Lawrence; W. H. Bromley; C. E. Hawkins and James Sheehan are said to have been delineators of the beauties of secret political organizations at

the last meeting of the secret League.

WHAT does *Rats* call a popular government? We would be awfully obliged to be informed because it is evident that there is a vast difference between the definition of popular government served up by the Star, and that adopted by the American people. The Star is virtuously indignant, because the Advertiser uses the "sneer of an oligarch" against the "people," but may we ask if the Provisional Government which the Star pretends to support is not an oligarchy in the very worst form. Now, we thought always, that the fundamental principle in a popular government was *no taxation without representation*? We are not now aware that the great majority of taxpayers in Hawaii have any representation in present affairs or are even offered any in the future. We are simply wishing to be enlightened so that we, perhaps, can be able to swallow the dose of political buncombe which is dished up every evening in the *Rats'* columns.

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