







**THE HAWAIIAN STAR**

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1900

The stock market is feeling the result of the presidential election and all stocks are advancing in price, while investments are daily being made. We may look for flush times again. Had Bryan been elected there would have been an immediate fall.

It is about time that some of the Chinese hack drivers had their badges taken away. They are a menace to the limbs of foot passengers and a danger to other hacks. A cleaning out of some of them and also of such white hackmen as are incompetent would be a popular move.

**CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS.**

One would have thought that with all the publicity and argument which has been made with regard to burial permits such cases as were reported in last night's Star would have been impossible. Yet here are two cases, and one cannot say how many more burials have taken place without permits.

In one case a man was buried in Makiki cemetery and four days later the matter was reported to the Health authorities. In another case a man was buried in Nuuanu cemetery, and it was not till six days after that the Board of Health was notified of the fact of the death. How often this kind of thing has been done, no one can say, and it would be difficult for any one to find out unless the officials would tell, and that they are not likely to do.

At the beginning of last year it was a common thing for the Board of Health's mortuary report to appear with any where from half a dozen to a dozen cases boldly stated "cause of death unknown." A strong campaign finally brought this disgrace to an end. At that time a man would arrive at the Board of Health and ask for a permit for burial of so and so, died this morning. "What did he die of?" would be the next question, he didn't know. "Was any doctor in attendance?" No. "Was the deceased hot?" If the answer was "yes," the Board of Health official put down fever; if he could not get any information the cause of death went down as "unknown." And this kind of thing went on for years in spite of strong protests. The value of the mortuary statistics published may be judged from this.

But this has been changed, we have had during the past year and a half many investigations into death which have occurred suddenly and the findings in some cases have resulted in prosecution. But the desire to shuffle bodies into the ground seems ingrained and now the Superintendents of the cemeteries have taken a hand, bury bodies first and report the death afterwards, when it is impossible to give more than a guess at the cause of death. A man might have been suffering from some dangerous contagious disease and there would be no knowledge of the fact until it had taken hold of the community. We have suffered too much from contagious diseases to take any unnecessary risks in this direction. Whether they be taken by Superintendents of cemeteries, by the Attorney-General, or by the executive officer of the Board of Health.

But not only have the Superintendents of cemeteries been guilty of what may be called criminal negligence, the executive officer of the Board of Health has acted in a most extraordinary manner in issuing a permit for burial for the body of old man Silva, the florist, as the facts given at the inquest seem to develop.

The death of Silva was unattended. In fact the old man died alone. The executive officer of the Board of Health saw the body and issued a burial certificate which was irregular in its form, satisfying himself about the cause of death upon a private inquiry most carelessly conducted, when the case certainly merited a judicial inquiry. The man was buried and there would have been an end to it, if—

The "if" in this case consisted in the fact of three men, friends of Silva, who attended to the body being put into the coffin, dying suddenly within a few hours of one another. The symptoms were similar and were suspicious enough to call for inquiry. Examination of the house showed that there were bottles of poisonous liquor on the premises, and that the men had drunk of it. Chemical analysis showed that the poison was hellebore.

Now the evidence given at the inquest begins to point to the fact that the old man may himself have been poisoned. Had an inquest on Silva's body been held the chances are the lives of the three men who died from drinking the stuff after his death would have been saved. A grave responsibility therefore rests upon the executive officer of the Board of Health, who issued a permit for burial without making a proper investigation, which by law he should have called upon the coroner to make.

In this connection it may be well to recall the deaths of a mysterious character which occurred in Palolo valley a

few months ago. The Star at that time suggested that some vegetable poison had been used by the people either unwittingly, or supplied by some one for sinister purposes. That there are poisonous herbs in our woods is well known. That they have been used to remove people has been guessed at. The ease with which a body can be put into the ground has always been pointed out as an incentive to crime. The belief of The Star that crime was committed in Palolo valley is strengthened by the accidental poisonings in the Silva case. After this lesson our Health authorities may be more vigilant for a time, but unless kept up to the mark they will sink into apathy again.

**PLAGUE NORTH AND SOUTH.**

Though plague has finally been conquered in Sydney, it still keeps up in Brisbane, and cases are reported from San Francisco. The cases of plague in San Francisco are peculiar. One section of the community vigorously maintains that there never was any plague in San Francisco and that the whole declaration that there was plague was only to make a raid on the city treasury. At the same time this very same section was ready to believe all kinds of exaggerated stories about plague down here.

On the other hand the Board of Health and many doctors insisted that plague was present and their opinion was backed by bacteriologic examinations which were made, and their opinion strengthened by the fact of these recent cases cropping up. In point of fact there is no doubt but that San Francisco has had cases of plague all along and there is also very reasonable ground to suppose that several if not many cases have been carefully hidden.

That plague is not so dangerous in cities in the north temperate and south temperate zones, as it is in the tropics seems to be established. The argument against this statement is usually based on the ravages of the plague in London in the seventeenth century. But one must consider the sanitary condition of London at that date. There were no sewers. The streets were a festering mass of filth. A hundred years later they were as bad, and so were the streets of many capitals in Europe. There were not even cesspools. All the slops of the houses were thrown from the windows into the street, and as many of these were narrow and the dwellings overhung in the upper stories the sun, when there was any, never penetrated to the foul kennels which were practically the open sewers of a great city. An idea of city manners may be gathered from some of Hogarth's pictures and plates, and picked out of old descriptions. With filth like this, no matter what the climate, the wonder is not that the plague committed fearful ravages but that it did not become endemic.

The modern cities of the Western world have cleaned themselves very thoroughly, they have light and air in their streets they have breathing spaces of squares and parks, they have excellent drainage and so forth. The result is that though diseases like plague may be introduced, they do not have a chance to flourish.

The reason that tropical cities form a good foothold for plague is that they are not kept properly clean. Nearly all tropical cities have an Asiatic population or, in tropical America an Indian population. Such populations have no idea of hygiene, and would rather live in filth than not. Cleanly in their persons, they are utterly uncleanly in their abodes. We had such a population in our old Chinatown, and unless the Board of Health is very careful and very stringent, we shall have a similar condition of things. The safety of Honolulu from plague, from cholera or from any other epidemic lies in cleanliness. If the city is kept clean, a sporadic case might be landed here, and would do no more damage than occurs from similar cases in the port of London or Liverpool or Glasgow, all of which cities have a large oriental trade.

Cleanliness in all parts of the city but particularly in the thickly populated parts will do more for its immunity from epidemics than all the quarantines that ever were kept. Quarantines never are properly kept. In one way or another they are violated. The doctors themselves violate their own provisions in many cases. But cleanliness, good drainage, good water, the best trade wind, and the glorious sun of the tropics ought to keep Honolulu the healthiest city in the world. That it is not is the fault of people, not of climate and situation.

Some people seem glad that there is a possibility that the actual control of the public lands of the territory may be taken away from the territory.

The Wilcox man fully developed the Wilcox idea. Until the House of Representatives, however, decides upon his credentials he is the delegate chosen by the majority of voters and we must make the best of him. If Delegate-elect Wilcox cannot do us much good, he certainly cannot do us much harm.

Judge Humphreys' court affords matters of considerable interest to the public, not only the cases which come up but the incidents which occur. When there is nothing else of an exciting character a visit to the little judge's court furnishes both information and amusement.

If the Emperor Kwang Hsu gets under the influence of the Chinese Reformers arrangements with the Western powers may be much more satisfactorily negotiated. The trouble in China is the ruling class of Manchu Princes, at the head of which is the Empress Dowager. If there had been no reaction in 1898, the present condition of affairs might never have occurred.

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Thursday,  
 November  
 29, 1900

Should be long remembered by all good citizens.

Continued prosperity for Hawaii, should bring joy to us all, for every one is a participator.

You may want some extras for your Thanksgiving Dinner Table this year. Let us mention a few specialties that we have displayed in our Thanksgiving Window: Turkey Platters, Carvers, Poultry Shears, Crystal Carver Rests, Corn Holders, Celery Trays, Salad Helpers, Game Sets, Champagne Coolers, Bouillon Cups, Table Ornaments, Roemers, Banquet Lamps, Nut Bowls, Wine Sets, Table Cutlery, Table Silver, Fancy Plates, Bon Bon Dishes, Candelabra.

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### A FEW TESTIMONIALS.

Council Bluffs, Iowa. (Letter No. 1, May 21, 1897.) Gentlemen: If the Blickensberger has the merits you claim for it, it ought to sell like "hot cakes." If people can get a machine for \$40.00 that does the work of the hundred dollar machine, there ought not to be much hesitation in getting one. (Signed) NEW NONPAREIL CO., By VICTOR E. BENDER, Secretary and Manager. (Letter No. 2, June 1, 1897.) Gentlemen: Send one Blickensberger No. 5, at once by first express. NEW NONPAREIL CO., By VICTOR E. BENDER, Secretary and Manager. (Letter No. 3, Oct. 30, 1897.) Gentlemen: Can you send us six more No. 5's on the same terms as other machines? If we can so arrange with you, we'd like the agency here. Your machine seems to be attracting considerable attention here, and we are sure we can do you good. NEW NONPAREIL CO., By VICTOR E. BENDER, Secretary and Manager. (Letter No. 4, Feb. 14, 1900.) You have not asked for a testimonial from us, but we desire to give you assurance of the entire satisfaction which the typewriters have given us. We have used them for three years, and find them "hardy and long lived," easily operated, quickly adjusted, portable and convenient. The Blickensberger beats them all for amount of service it gives for the money involved. Yours truly, NEW NONPAREIL CO., By VICTOR E. BENDER, Secretary and Manager.

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### NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

MEETING NOTICE. Kamehameha Lodge of Perfection Page 5. NOTICE. Dr. J. H. Raymond Page 5. MISCELLANEOUS. Pearson & Potter Co. Page 8. W. W. Dimond & Co. Page 4.

### NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

Bits of Paragraphs that Give Condensed Notes of the Day.

Dr. J. H. Raymond has resumed practice. Kamehameha Lodge of Perfection will meet this evening. How to save \$50. Consult the ad of Pearson & Potter Co., Ltd. W. W. Dimond & Company are showing special goods for Thanksgiving. "First view" of the Kiloahua Art League will occur next Monday evening. A meeting of the Kamehameha Alumni Association will be held at 7:30 this evening. Mrs. Gunn's dance postponed from last Friday, will take place tomorrow evening. Mr. A. Peters, a new arrival, has been admitted to practice law in the courts of the Territory. An Association football club will be formed by pupils of Iolani college next Tuesday evening. The Miner case occupied the entire time of Judge Humphreys in the Circuit court this morning. The funeral of Mrs. Con. Sterling took place from her late residence at 10 o'clock this morning. A concert will be given by the band on the grounds of the Hawaiian hotel at the usual hour this evening. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lewers have issued invitations to an at home on Friday evening to meet Miss Bagley. Mrs. J. D. Marquez has charge of the musical program to be given next Thursday for the benefit of the Portuguese Mission school. Mr. and Mrs. George F. Renton celebrate their crystal wedding at Ewa Tuesday evening. A large number of friends were entertained. Friday afternoon the reception committee of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. will meet to arrange a joint reception to be held on December 1. Judge Estez adjourned his court this morning to next Monday morning. The United States district term at Hilo will convene in January. There will not be a term until next April. At least two barrels of the salt beef sent to the leper settlement in the last shipment were bad. How much more is damaged will not be known until Mr. Reynolds arrives at Kalaupapa next week. There will be a practice game of indoor football at the Y. M. C. A. at 5 o'clock this afternoon to prepare for the big game between the Board of Directors and Committeemen next Saturday evening. In the suit of W. F. C. Hassen vs. W. H. Pain, et al., assumpsit, most of the defendants have led answers alleging ambiguity and other irregularities in the proceedings and pleading to the jurisdiction of the court. W. W. Thayer, the new lawyer who has opened offices in Kaahumanu street tackled his first business this morning. Mr. Thayer is a graduate of the University of Michigan and practiced law before coming to Honolulu.

### FILED DEMURRERS.

Fanny Strauch and Paoakalani, defendants in the ejectment suit of E. M. Nakuina have each filed a demurrer today to the complaint. Paoakalani upon the ground that he has no interest in the premises described and Fanny Strauch, upon the grounds of a faulty complaint.

### AH TIM FREE.

Ah Tim, the Chinese hackdriver, was found not guilty of heedless driving this morning by Judge Wilcox. He was arrested by S. Decker at King and Bethel streets. His horse had stepped on a newsboy's foot. The evidence showed that the boy had jumped from a car and run into the hack horse. Ah Tim is the man who ran down Horace Crabbe. He got a fine of \$250 the last time he was before Judge Wilcox.

### OF WHICH FAITH.

The woman who lately died in Bellevue Hospital, New York city, as a pauper, and was found to have over \$2,200 to her credit in savings banks, is now the subject of a religious dispute. Rector Bostwick of Cavalry (Episcopal) Church, who had been befriending her, arranged for her burial in Mount Olivet cemetery, but Rev. Mr. O'Byrne of the Carmelite Church, persuaded the undertaker to delay the funeral, because he had at the woman's request administered the last rites and sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church, and held that the body must be buried in consecrated ground. So the question is where Susan Fallon shall be buried, and what faith the officiating priest shall be. Miss Fallon at 85 years of age should have known what her faith was, and the evidence is that she asked for a priest and accepted Mr. O'Byrne's offices. Yet she had been for a long time a parishioner of a Cavalry Church and taken that parish's money. Her first cousin in Oswego says she was a Protestant, confirmed in the Protestant Episcopal church. Cases are not uncommon among such recipients of charity, who in their last hours revert to the Roman Catholic communion.—Springfield Republican.

Notwithstanding the fears of the insurance agents, it is generally believed that Chief Swenie knows a fire when he sees one.—Chicago Record.

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