

THE POLYNESIAN.



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J. JARVES, Editor.

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COMMUNICATED.

The Dialect of Samoa, (the Navigator's Islands,) compared with the Malay. By T. Heath, Manono, Samoa. Concluded from page 101.

THE VERB.

Mr. M. treats of the verb as primitive or derivative and transitive or intransitive. The derivative, he says, is either the primitive determined to a transitive or intransitive sense by the application of particles, or it is the verb constituted, by means of those particles, from other parts of speech. The particles used to denote the transitive are either prefixed or annexed, or both. The prefixed particles are men, meng, mem and me, being one and the same particle, varied euphonia causa, according to the letter with which the following word begins. The annexed particles are kan and i.

In Samoa the same rule applies with regard to the formation of derivative verbs, but there is apparently only a partial similarity in the formation of transitive verbs. Many verbs are transitive without any prefix or affix, whereas it would seem, although the writer is not certain, that all transitive verbs in Malay are modified as above stated. If, however, it is meant merely that verbs, which in their naked form would be intransitive, are made transitive by prefixes, then the two dialects would nearly agree. For the prefix fa'a, does in many cases answer this purpose, as mau, fast, faa-mau to fasten; nofo to sit, faa-nofo to place in a sitting posture; sala guilty, faa-sala to condemn; tiga to be in pain, faa-tiga, to give pain. Allowing, however, that the signs of the transitive have a more extensive use in the Malay, yet the examples given of the uses of mem and its varieties exactly answer to many of the uses of faa. So meng-idup-i, to bring to life, from idupan, life, just answers to faa-ola, from ola, and so of many other verbs. They respectively signify to cause, make, &c. In other Polynesian dialects the faa is expressed by faka, ha'a, aka and hoo. It corresponds with the prefix he, (h) in some of the tenses of the hiphil conjugation in Hebrew, the aleph (a) prefix in the corresponding parts of the Chaldee and Syriac.

In Malay the intransitive sense is denoted by ber, bel or be, three forms of one and the same particle, as ber-deri, to stand up. This in Samoa and other dialects has its correspondent in the affirmative particle, ua, as ua tu, stands. In both languages also these particles are prefixed to some verbs not strictly intransitive. But in Samoa some intransitive verbs have also another prefix—ma, as from tala to unloose, ua ma-tala to be unloosed.

VERB SUBSTANTIVE.

The Malay has two of these, ada to be, and jadi to become. So the Samoan has too, answering nearly to ada, and avea, to become. Only jadi has a more extensive use than avea. Ada-lah pada amba, I have, or there is to me; Samoan o loo ia te a'u, same meaning, and same idiom. In the latter it may be also expressed by the ua, ua ia te a'u. Mr. Marsden says ada, as an auxiliary is equivalent with a particle of the present tense; so it is in Samoa. Orang ada makan, Samoa, o loo

a ai tagata, the people are eating. In many Polynesian dialects it has been doubted whether there be a substantive verb. In Samoa, loo is certainly one; and when used as auxiliaries, the sa and ua appears to serve as its past tenses, and the e for its future.

DISTINCTIONS AND RELATIONS OF THE VERB.

Active and passive. In Malay the passive voice is denoted by the inseparable particle ter, prefixed. Here the two languages differ. In Samoa the prefix ua, sometimes answers to the Malay, ter; but the former has also various passive terminations, as ina, ia, tia, sia, mia.

MOODS AND TENSES.

A great part of Mr. Marsden's remarks on the moods and tenses of the Malay apply, equally, to the Samoa. In both, the imperative is expressed, sometimes without any particle, and sometimes by a prefixed particle, and is also sometimes followed by an intensive affix. Malay, duduk, sit down; with an affix, (i) pulang-kan gadei, return the pledge; with the intensive affix lah, langun lah, awake! Samoa nofo! sit down; with an affix, (ia) alu ia, go! with an intensive affix lava, (or contracted, la,) as tau mua la ia! just go straight forward! In both languages, when the pronoun of the second person accompanies the imperative, it follows the verb. In the Samoa, however, this may be reversed by using a contraction of the pronoun.

In the indicative mood there is this difference. The Samoa has often (not always) a particle (te) following the nominative personal pronoun, which the Malay has not. Malay, amba jalan, I walk. The Samoa admits a'u savali, but more frequently has o'u te savali; and so with the other personal pronouns. This does not, however, appear to be the case in several other Polynesian dialects. In Samoa the nominative persons generally precede the verb, though not so other nominatives. In Malay the precedence of the nominative appears to be a general rule. And while in Malay there is no preposition before the accusative, in Samoa there often is (i) and before proper names ia.

The conditional moods, in both languages, are generally formed by distinct words, answering to "if," &c. But the Samoa has one or two conditional particles, as such a one is coming that he may build the canoe, na te fausia le vaa. The compound particle, ina ia, has a similar force.

The optative (except when denoted by such distinct words as, I wish, &c.) is in both dialects very similar to the imperative; in Malay it has the particle de prefixed, in Samoa ia, prefixed or affixed.

I do not discover, in Malay, any particle used with the infinitive, to distinguish it from the indicative. Its position in the sentence seems to be its only distinction. In Samoa the prefix is e.

The tenses, in both languages, consisting of past, present, and future, are expressed by accompanying particles or adverbs. For present, the Malay has such forms as lagi tider, sleeping, sleeping still, the word lagi meaning still on. So the Samoa might express it, ua moe pea, the word pea meaning still; but the ua moe,

or o loo moe, sleeps, is sleeping, is more general.

The past, in Malay, is denoted by telah and corresponding words, signifying "is done." The Samoa has ua, and sa, prefixes for past time. Malay, diya telah, ber layer, he has sailed. Samoa, ia ua folau. The indefinite past time in Malay is also denoted by the prefix de, which answers to the Polynesian ua.

In both languages there is often a passive form given to a verb with an active sense, like the latin factum est a te, for tu fecisti. But many absolutely passive forms in Samoa have an active sense. In both the means of expressing a simple future are defective. In Samoa there is the prefix a for an immediate future; but generally the future is expressed by a suitable qualifying adverb, following the verb, the verb itself being in the same form as the present tense. In Malay there are used "qualifying words of independent meaning not always compatible."

DIFFERENCES IN THE VERBS OF THE TWO DIALECTS.

In the Samoan dialect, there is a class of reciprocal verbs, the particles used in whose formation appear in the following examples: alofa, to have compassion, fe-alofani, mutually to compassionate. "O," plural of alu, to go; fe-o-a'i, to interchange visits, or to go backward and forward; tautala to talk, fe-tautalatala-i, mutually to talk, to converse. The only remark observed in Mr. Marsden's Grammar, on this subject, is this: "When a reciprocity of action is meant to be expressed, the verb is repeated in the two forms, that is the simple verb without the particle denoting the transitive sense, and then the verb with that particle, as tolong menolong, to give mutual assistance.

This mention of the repetition of verbs also brings to mind that, while there is no variation in the Malay verb to denote number, in Samoa there is; first by doubling some one or two of the syllables, as savali, to walk, plural savavali, or by lengthening a syllable as (in the same word) savali. A repetition of the action is also denoted by a different duplication, as savalivali.

ADVERBS, PREPOSITIONS, &c.

As these consist of little more than lists of words, it is unnecessary to enter minutely into them. There is considerable similarity not only in the position, but in several of the words themselves. The Malay has also an interrogative particle kah? answering to the Samoa ea? as, Malay, Rajah-kah? Is it the King. Samoa (same question) O le Alii ea?

DIALECTS.

It appears that the differences in the various dialects of the Malay are almost as great as those found in the Polynesian groups. Several of them are remarkable for rejecting the terminations in and ending the word with the preceding vowel. This is worthy of further examination.

COURTLY STYLE.

In the Samoan language there are two distinct dialects. One, the common style, in which the chiefs speak of themselves, and to others, and which the common people use among themselves; the other, the courtly style, which is used by all in speaking to, or concerning, chiefs. In

some cases there are also distinct words for an intermediate class of chiefs. So scrupulously are these distinctions attended to, that it is quite an insult to speak of a chief's head or hand, or face, &c., by their common names, or to speak of his actions in the terms of the ordinary dialect. It appears from Mr. Marsden's Grammar (Introduction,) his History of Sumatra, Raffles' Java, and other authorities, that the same distinctions of vulgar, genteel, and courtly dialects prevail in the Malay and adjacent nations. Dr. Lang, in his "Origin and Migration of the Polynesian Nations," gives it as his opinion, that both the nations and languages of China and Polynesia have sprung from the same ancient and prolific source, and quotes Dr. Leyden's opinion, that, beside the Rukheng language, "There are various others which indicate rank and situation, as in Malayu, Chinese, and the monosyllabic languages in general, which have all of them paid peculiar attention to the language of ceremony in addressing superiors, inferiors and equals."

It may be interesting to prosecute the enquiry, how far, through the media of language and manners, the Malays and Polynesians can be traced to Chinese Tartary as the great officina gentium. In the mean time the affinity of the Polynesian and Malay tribes cannot admit of reasonable doubt. A much more extensive vocabulary of corresponding words, than has yet appeared, might be easily collected, especially from the dialects of the Batta, Lampong and other tribes in Sumatra and elsewhere, which have been least altered by the adoption of Hindu and Arabic terms. In the meantime, if the writer of this have succeeded in his attempt to show that there is nothing in the general structure of the languages in question to detract from their supposed affinity, his object will have been gained.

From the New York Evangelist.

AN APPEAL

From the Executive Committee of the American Temperance Union, to the King of the French in behalf of the Sandwich Islands.

TO HIS MAJESTY LOUIS PHILIPPE, KING OF THE FRENCH.

SIR:—The undersigned, constituting the Executive Officers of the American Temperance Union, an association representing and expressing the views and feelings of more than two millions of the free and enlightened citizens of the United States, beg the liberty of addressing your Majesty on a subject deeply interesting to themselves and to a portion of their fellow-beings in a far distant region of the globe.

It is too well known to your Majesty for the undersigned to enlarge upon it, that, until checked by a recent and extraordinary moral reform, the ravages of intemperance were in these States of a most distressing and alarming character:—destroying the health, industry, private peace and domestic happiness of thousands weakening the power of motives to do right, and strengthening the power of motives to do wrong; causing an annual waste to the nation of an hundred millions of dollars, and forty thousand lives, and threatening the very existence of our civil and religious institutions. Over other nations, less guarded by the restraints of civilization, they were more severe.—The had nearly exterminated the native savage of our forests, and were spreading wide desolation over the feeble tribes of men on the North-west coast of our continent, and on the warm and beautiful islands of the Southern Pacific.

We wish to assure your Majesty that it exceedingly cheered our hearts, to find that

the temperance reform, which had spread a most benign influence over our own country, had reached those distant regions of the globe; that the New-Zealander, the Tahitian and the Sandwich Islander, looking upon intoxicating liquor as their worst enemy, had resolved that they would not bring it to their lips; and that, as European and American navigators would introduce it to their shores and sell it to the weak and unstable, causing a fearful amount of drunkenness, murder and every evil work, some of the native governments had absolutely prohibited all importation and sale. An ordinance to that effect, your Majesty is aware was established by Kamehameha III., King of the Sandwich Islands, on the 23th of August, 1838. In that ordinance it was proclaimed that.

"Whereas great evils have arisen at these islands in consequence of the importation of ardent spirits and the consequence use of the same, and whereas native born citizens, whether with or without authority are no longer permitted to engage in the distillation thereof; and whereas there is abundant evidence that the best interests of the mercantile community, as well as of the nation at large, require the measure, therefore.

"Be it enacted by the King and Chiefs of the Sandwich Islands, in council assembled, That after the first of January, 1839, the importation of rum, brandy, gin, alcohol, and all distilled spirits whatsoever, shall be entirely prohibited to be landed at any port, harbor or any other place on the Sandwich Islands, and that all wines imported shall be subject to a duty of one half dollar per gallon."

This ordinance, it is believed, had for its sole object the preservation of the people from vice, crime, and utter extermination, and was designed to act with the strictest impartiality upon all foreign nations. Its promulgation gave great satisfaction to the native population, to foreign residents, to well principled Captains of ships; and awakened throughout Christendom the hope that the work of civilization would go on unretarded, and that these Islanders, instead of being swept away by drunkenness, would retain an existence among the nations of the earth. An intelligent resident, connected with the foreign shipping at the Islands, expressed the hope, "that all friends of order would lend their aid in favor of regulations so important in all their bearings;" and no less than ten Captains of foreign ships, then at anchor off Lahaina, addressed a letter to the government, expressing the deep interest they felt in the ordinance, and their high approbation of its details. "We shall hereafter," say they "feel increased satisfaction in coming to these Islands to recruit our ships, and shall feel a greater confidence in the stability of your government: We shall take great pleasure in lending our influence, in support of regulations so salutary to our own interests, and so important to the well being of your Islands."

Amid so much that was cheering in relation to these Islands, we have been filled with the deepest solicitude in America, on learning that, on the 17th of July, 1839, a treaty was imposed upon Kamehameha III. by C. Laplace, the officer commanding your Majesty's frigate *L'Artemise*, by which this ordinance can no longer be enforced in relation to brandies and wines imported from France. We cannot but fear the treaty, thus imposed, will open again the flood gates of intemperance on this rescued nation, and though the ordinance may continue in force against other powers, yet through the breach thus made, every species of intoxicating drink of the most destructive character, will be poured upon them by American and European navigators, producing the most disastrous consequences.

We can assure your Majesty that this article in the treaty has excited deep emotion in the breasts of the philanthropic in the United States; and that we cannot believe that your Majesty, if made acquainted with all the circumstances, will insist upon its enforcement.—We are persuaded that the ordinance of the King and Council is of the utmost importance, not only to the Islanders, but to the whole commercial world, so far as they are concerned in the navigation of those seas;—that while it is required to keep those feeble people from utter extermination, its strict enforcement will greatly contribute to the thrift and enterprise of the Islanders, and their ability to carry on a valuable commerce with foreign nations. And we cannot but believe that your Majesty will feel that all nations are deeply interested in main-

taining the independent and impartial character of those governments as they come into existence. We shall rejoice to see the ordinance most rigidly enforced against our own countrymen who may be disposed to violate it; and our hope is that your Majesty, on a due consideration of the subject, will with every other Christian power, consent to its continuance and even treat with severity those who wantonly disregard it.

Through our American Minister at your Majesty's Court and our personal friend, General Cass, we beg leave to present these our reflections, with the assurance of our most profound respect.

We are your Majesty's
Obedient servants,

EDWARD C. DELAVAN,
THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN,
JOHN TAPPAN,
JOHN W. LEAVITT,
JOHN T. NORTON,
CHRISTIAN KEENER,
JOHN MARSH, Sec.

Ex. Com.
of the Am.
Temp.
Un.

New-York, U. S. A. March 10th, 1840.

CAPTAIN ROSS'S EXPEDITION.

Letters have been received from the Antarctic Expedition, dated St. Helena; the beginning of February. Lieut. Lefroy, of the Royal Artillery, who is to conduct the magnetic observatory on that island, has been landed with his instruments and assistants, and occupied Napoleon Bonaparte's house at Longwood, which has been assigned as his residence, and in the neighborhood of which his observatory is to be built. From St. Helena, Captain Ross proceeds to the Cape of Good Hope, to establish Lieutenant Eardley Wilmet, R. N., and his party, in a similar observatory, where corresponding observations are to be made during the three years in which the expedition will remain in the southern hemisphere. We understand that, by adopting proper precautions, the officers succeeded in making magnetic observations at sea with as much precision as on land, the two ships sometimes telegraphing to each other the same minute of dip. The importance of this success towards the prosecution of the objects of the voyage will be estimated, when it is considered how large a portion of the southern hemisphere is covered by the sea. Captain Ross obtained soundings in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, far distant from any land, with a line of 2,500 fathoms,* being far the greatest depth that has ever been reached by a sounding line.—*London Literary Gazette.* * Nearly three miles.

We understand that Captain Ross has received instructions to proceed to these islands, after his return from his southern expedition, for the purpose of ascending Mauna Loa, to the summit of which he is to take all the necessary instruments for establishing an observatory.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 1840.

The general influence resulting from the contact of civilization with barbarism has been the principal topic of our previous essays. We shall now refer to the past and present condition of some of the Polynesian groups, in order more fully to illustrate our meaning. At New Zealand, we still find the worst features of barbarism, as well as the greatest advance in civilization of any of the southern Islands. Many tribes retain their primitive habits, but they are such only as are the farthest removed from foreign influence; while those in the vicinity of the settlements have not only discontinued their savage rites, but have adopted the customs of the whites. Their wars are far less frequent and bloody, cannibalism has very generally ceased, and their enterprise is now directed towards the acquisition of property. The settlers employ them to cultivate their lands and as body servants, while many drive a lucrative trade, by supplying the markets and shipping from the produce of their farms; some become sailors; others are employed as artisans. The money which they derive from these services is spent for articles of foreign manufacture. The external forms of Christianity are recognized, and they are about being united under one general government. Yet New Zealand affords one of

the worst pictures of the influence of foreigners; for those who first settled there, were generally of the most abandoned character; convicts escaped from New South Wales, runaways from vessels, and others of equally unequivocal caste. These men brought all their vices with them, and spent their time and earnings in scenes of the grossest debauchery. Some indeed may have compared in villainy and crime with the debased savages around them. Nevertheless, that their general influence tended to produce a favorable change in their barbarous associates, is evident from the fact, that men of better character were soon attracted thither, and bringing their families became denizens of the country, where but a short period before it would have been unsafe to land. Many benevolent persons declaim with much earnestness against the settlement of whites on lands held by savages, and draw a lamentable picture of the condition of the native tribes in case of such an event. They conjure up scenes of past felicity and innocence, when the children of the soil, untrammelled by the artificial restraints of civilization, roamed in unrestrained freedom over the land, and all was mirth and gladness. Their readers have presented to them a scene of Arcadian bliss. This, they contrast with the toil and drudgery of laboring for the whites, of their entire denationalization, loss of language, and rapid passing away from the soil where repose the bones of their ancestors. All this powerfully appeals to our sympathies, and without further reflection we should come to the conclusion that the contact of the two races brought nothing but misery, disease and death to the weaker. How far this is the case, we propose to examine before we leave the subject, but for the present we shall confine ourselves to the question of colonization. That the whites found the savages a cruel and sensual race, we have already shown. The great mass of the people being mere slaves, and always at war to gratify the base passions of their chiefs, could have but little attachment to the soil, and nothing of the spirit of patriotism. Fear, with them was the most cogent motive, and almost the only principle which entered into their government or religion. Any change would be an improvement, and we find that after an amicable intercourse has been once opened with the whites, they are eager to enter their service. The chiefs would at first freely alienate their lands to acquire foreign luxuries, or the means of adding to their power, through the superior knowledge of their visitors. Thus the first exchanges of lands, goods and services, were simply acts of trade, by which both parties were benefitted. As the whites increased, the chiefs would naturally become more jealous, and the body of the people would reap many benefits from their intercourse, and lose much of the debasing subservience, so natural to despotism. But it is needless to trace the progress of all the changes which result from the system to which we refer. The effect is simply this: the natives are benefitted just so much in proportion as the settlers are superior to them in virtue and intelligence. A few of the rulers might regret the days of violence and tyranny, when their breath was law, but this could spring only from a spirit of reprehensible selfishness. At those islands in the Pacific at the present day, where whites are numerous, or the intercourse with them has been frequent, we find good order established, laws and governments suitable to the condition of the people, by which the rights of trade and property are respected, commerce and agriculture flourishing, the Christian religion recognized, in short, the elements of incipient prosperity. Now permit me to inquire, who would change this spectacle for that which formerly every where prevailed—even though every island in the Pacific might be densely populated by the aborigines. We allow that had bet-

ter causes been brought to operate upon them, more would have been accomplished. That much of this revolution has been brought about through force and bloodshed. That ambition, licentiousness and avarice have swayed the minds of many. But still such are the effects, and we must take our draw inferences from any fanciful theory, however powerfully it may appeal to our philanthropic desires. There is something melancholy in witnessing the gradual disappearance of a race of men from the face of the earth, and in beholding their hearths and altars occupied by another. Yet it seems the fiat of the Creator, that by death, all shall live. By storms and lightning, by the earthquake's shock the avalanche and all the terrible machinery of the Almighty's arm, as well as the constant recurrence of seasons, the quiet growth of vegetation, and renewal of life, the physical world is kept in order for man's abode. Pestilence, war, and famine are no less powerful agents, under His guidance for the moral world. Who shall question the designs of Providence, or attempt to improve them? If we but view the human race simply as Christianity teaches us, as one family, and not permit our sympathies to be confined by boundary lines, treaties, and all the artificial distinctions which separate men on earth, we shall see at a glance, that this gradual extinction and blending of races, follows laws as immutable, as necessary as those which regulate the physical world. That the more intelligence, virtue and physical hardihood the more power, all will admit, and consequently the weaker will inevitably succumb to the stronger. Death itself is but a result of the law, and however much the benevolence of man might wish it annulled, this law is established by Omnipotence. In no way is this truth more forcibly brought to our perception, than in the destinies of nations. Separate the distinction of color and language from our minds and we view them all as one people, and their gradual mingling and passing away as a mere succession of generations. And this is their true state. On a certain island we find one portion of the human family sunk into the lowest depths of degradation; on another the highest in intellect and advancement. They come in contact. Those of the former who are capable of receiving the cultivation of the latter, become assimilated to and amalgamate with them, and consequently all the power, wealth and government passes into their hands. Those of the latter who are too vile and indolent to improve from the better example before them, gradually decay, and are swallowed up in the mass of the former. As soon as the change is completed we have a better and more numerous race of men, civilized and enlightened, to inhabit the island where all was heathenism before. Should another race, still superior to this, follow the same results would ensue. All this we believe to be in strict accordance with the plan of universal benevolence by which the world is governed, and that the operation of such causes are as inevitable as they are permanent.

FRENCH WHALE FISHERY IN THE PACIFIC

The following article is from a Paris paper of Nov. 20.

Captain Dupetit Thouars, commander of the Venus frigate, lately returned from his station to the South Seas, for the protection of the French whale-fishery, has addressed a long report to the Minister of the Marine, containing the results of his experience as to the actual condition of this fishery, and the improvements to be introduced into it. It is to the following effect:

The Captain goes into great detail as to the equipment of the vessels, which he commends should never go beyond 350 to 450 tons, and should be specially constructed for the purpose. The captains of whalers he strongly recommends, should not be expected to go out in the harpooning boats, but should always remain on board the vessels; and the practice of having two cap-

ains, one for the vessel, the other for superintending the actual operations of the fishery, should be abolished as destructive of discipline among the crews.

The under officers of the vessel, on the other hand, he considers, should be active men, well acquainted with all the manual details of the service. Capt. Dupetit Thouars complains loudly against the system so very prevalent among American whale fisheries, of allowing the sailors to get into debt ashore, and of the owners giving security, or advancing the money for them at a rate of interest, often amounting to 40 or 50 per cent; a practice destructive of all habits of prudence among the men.

The principal rendezvous for the whale ships Captain d'Urville states to be the Sandwich Islands, Otaheite, and New Zealand; at the former of these stations sometimes 60 French whalers are assembled together, at the second 20, at the third 40. At all these places when the whalers are in, the most unbounded licentiousness and disorder prevail among the crews, and call imperiously for the establishment of Consuls or other authorised agents on the spot.

Capt. d'Urville strongly urges the necessity of sending out agents of this kind without delay, and more particularly to the Bay of Islands in New Zealand, where a British resident who performs the functions of "a constable and police magistrate" has been long settled. England and the United States, the Captain adds, had several vessels of war, during the course of each year, to visit these fisheries, whereas France sends only one occasionally; he, therefore, recommends government to adopt more efficient measures of this kind.

We publish the above extract, in order to rectify the errors which it contains. How important a mistake should be made as to the number of French whalers touching at these islands, it is impossible to imagine. Sixty whalers of all nations assembled here at one time, must have been a very rare occurrence, if indeed such ever was the case. One French whaler touched at this port in 1837, three in 1838, and none since. One other touched at Lahaina, and last year one at Waimea, Kauai—in all six whalers in four years. This year, one merchantman touched on her way to Manila—a total of seven French vessels in four years. Within the same period 251 American vessels and 57 English of all classes arrived at Honolulu. The report also states that several men-of-war from England and the United States annually "visit these fisheries." Until this year a national ship of the latter had never appeared in many harbors much frequented by American shipping, and it will probably be years before others follow. Four French men-of-war have visited Oahu since June, 1837, three of which touched also at Tahiti. Seven English have appeared within the same period, and seven from the United States, five of which were attached to the Exploring Squadron. From these facts it is readily seen that the French commerce is far more efficiently protected in these seas, than that of any other nation. The statement of French shipping at Tahiti and New Zealand appears likewise to be exaggerated, though we have no data for ascertaining the precise amount.

We are happy to state that as far as Oahu is concerned, that "unbounded licentiousness and disorder" have not prevailed among either the crews of French vessels or those of any other nations when in this port, and even were they so disposed, the police of the country is abundantly able to prevent it.

From the Journal of Commerce.
YANKEE ENTERPRISE.

I was glad to see in your paper, a notice of the launching of two steam boats in England, for navigating the coasts of Chili, Peru, &c. Perhaps your readers would be pleased to learn that those two boats, the Chile and Peru, are to be followed by two others built of iron. The object is to form a line of boats from Valparaiso in Chile, to Panama, in Ecuador, touching at Coquimbo in Chile, Yquiquo in Bolivia, Arica and Calama in Peru, and Guayaquil in Ecuador. The undertaking is an immense one, and when started it was supposed all the fuel would have to go from England, but now

it is hoped the Chilean coal will answer.—I will add that the whole undertaking has been projected (and in these hard times too,) subscriptions have been obtained, boats built, contracts secured with the British Government for carrying the Mail, sole privilege of navigating the coasts of Chile, Peru, and Bolivia by steam, has been obtained from those Governments by a countryman of our own, a true indefatigable Yankee, Mr. Wm. Wheelwright, of Newburyport, Mass. formerly U. S. Consul at Guayaquil. Yours,
A SUBSCRIBER

Lahaina, Dec. 4, 1840.

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

SIR,—I send you a small biscuit, made from Hawaiian wheat, which was grown in Kula, a somewhat extensive district of high land in the interior of this island, (Maui.) Several bushels have been raised this year, and I am encouraged to hope that the people will devote considerable attention to its culture hereafter. They have sold what they have raised, much to their satisfaction; and speak of it as being a profitable crop, if they can find a sure market, which of course they will not fail to do. There are several thousand acres of wild land in the above mentioned district now lying useless, and which would undoubtedly give a good crop of wheat. If the accounts received from the natives are correct, it yields as well as it does in the State of New York.

It grows in the same region as the celebrated Maui potatoes, and would probably flourish well in any good soil on the Sandwich Islands, which is of the height of 2,000 feet above the level of the sea.

I also send a specimen of the dry flour.

Yours, truly,

A Friend of Improvement.

The bread proved very sweet and palatable, and to our own taste quite as good as that made of flour from the United States. The grain was coarser, and not quite as white, but a good mill would probably remedy these deficiencies. For ourselves we should be glad of a barrel of it, and hope that sufficient encouragement will be given to its culture as to make it an object for some one to import all the necessary apparatus for grinding, bolting, &c., from America. Flour raised here could be sold at many dollars less per barrel than that imported.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SUGAR GROWERS.

Abstract of a letter received from a merchant in Sydney, 1840.

Mr. Williams, the United States Consul, lately shewed me a box of samples of Sugar, sent here from Oahu for his opinion, and to furnish information as to their suitability for this market, and they were really beautiful, surpassing infinitely any Sugar received here from Mauritius or elsewhere.

Extract from a letter dated Bombay, Oct. 30, 1839.

We too, in India, are making great exertions to improve our Cotton, grow Silk and Sugar. The two latter have never yet been exported from this side of India, but our late Governor, Sir R. Grant, who was a great utilitarian, took much interest in improving the resources of the land. The finest Sugar I have ever seen in Bombay, was imported from the Sandwich Islands, but there has been none sent since that I have been able to discover.

This letter was written a few days after leaving Cabool in Afghanistan, was carried to Bombay, thence to Calcutta, to Singapore, Manila, Kamschatka, New Archangel, California, was thence on its way to Mexico, when it was put on board (at sea) a vessel bound to this port, thus demonstrating the difficulties of communication between this and other ports, which will hardly be believed twenty years hence.

We are indebted to the Rev. Mr. Maigret for the following account of Gambier's Island, or as it is called by the natives Mangareva. It was written originally by one of his pupils, and by him translated into French, from which we have given it roughly into English, endeavoring to preserve the idiom. It gives their history until the present time, and is also interesting as a specimen of composition from one who but a few years since belonged to one of the most savage tribes of Polynesia.

HISTORY OF THE KINGS OF MANGAREVA.

The first of the list is Ceatumoana,
2nd Atea,
3rd Keketea,
4th Koa,
5th Pepeiru,
6th Aongotope,
7th Koeia,
8th Caratai,
9th Anua,
10th Coronga, of whom the father was unknown,
11th Popi,
12th Anghiapopi,
13th Koa,
14th Camakeu,
15th Aeitapu,
16th Mahanga,
17th Apeiti,
18th Meihara,
19th Pokau,
20th Kookeu,
21st Makorotau,
22nd Cemanghi,
23rd Ceakarikitea,
24th Ceoa,
25th Mateoa,
26th Ceikatoara,
27th Maputeoa.

Here ends their list.

All the inhabitants of this land descended from Ceatumoana. He had no father; or at least perhaps he was an alien.

10th. Coronga was a common man, but he married the daughter of Anua, and by that means became noble. Ceanghi said to Anua, look upon me favorably; to whom will belong Carovai, with its lofty heights. Anua answered, to Auanga your sister. Ceanghi replied, I thought it would be for Cemanghiakue. Ceanghi said again to Anua, to whom will belong Anga-ti-Mangareva? Anua replied, for Aikitea. Then Ceanghi cried, Aikitea, Anga-ta-Mangareva will fall to your division. Caravai with its many heights is destined to be for Auanga, but I believed that it would be for Cemanghiakue.

Popi was eldest son of Coronga. They could not seize the supreme authority, which remained in the hands of the people, on account of dissensions. Coronga had no food. He went to fish to procure some. He bought some of Uma, as he had much fish. They made a great exchange, and Uma was frightened about it. He saved himself on a lake, and fled to a stranger. Who caused him to disappear? It was Coronga. He escaped to the open sea, on account of the great purchase of his rival.

Capau declared war against Coronga. He had succeeded against Uma. He sent his chiefs, at the head of whom was Ciako, to watch Coronga. Coronga was killed by Ciako, who brought the fish to land. The fish were from Paua. Coronga had brought them from Coronga for his grandson. Coronga was taken. He was concealed in a coro of Paua. The fish and he filled the coro. He was carried to the king. The distribution was made at the house of the executioner. The executioner sought Coronga to eat him, but he did not eat him. Cukipo, his son sought him in his turn, found him and buried him, and thus his flesh was not eaten. Koa and Matane having learned it, declared war, and came to blows with Mahara, who was conquered by Koa. The authority that now governs us came from him. Mahara was entirely vanquished. Capau fearing the anger of Koa, fled to the stranger. Koa was thus redoubtable. He and Matane sought a warrior, and they found their man in Aunghitigou. The authority of Koa descended to Camakeu, and from him to Aeitapu. Aeitapu was the victim of the wickedness of a man called Matupane. He killed Aeitapu from jealousy and ambition. The king was robbed by Matupane, and perished by his hands.

Under the reign of Apeiti there were many combats. Troubles and dissensions were at their height. Apeiti said to the people, if you see the people of Caku come here to Angauru, do not give them any quarter. If those of Angauru go to Caku, they are not spared. It was impossible to travel, on account of the contentions. Wars have always been very common at Mangareva. Formerly they fought much; formerly they eat each other. There was a time when they fought without cessation.

Under the reign of Apeiti, the people of Caku were conquered. Cupou was the chief. The authority of all the chiefs then passed altogether to Apeiti.

Under the reign of Makorotau and Cemanghi-tu-tavake, the people being jealous wished to share the authority. In effect,

the power was taken away from the legitimate king. Ceitatuon chased Cemanghi-tu-tavake, who escaped by sea. The crown passed to Ceitatu, while the king Cemanghi-tu-tavake fled to the stranger. But the reign of Ceitatu was of short duration. He was conquered suddenly.

To be continued.

MARINE NEWS.

PORT OF HONOLULU.

ARRIVED.

Dec. 8th, Br. Brig Clementine, Kauai.

SAILED.

Dec. 9th, Am. Ship Alciope, Clapp, for Boston.

" 9th, Br. Brig Julia, Campbell, for Tahiti.

PASSENGERS.

In the Alciope, Capt. J. O. Carter, lady and children, Miss M. Warren, Mr. J. P. Couthouy, Mr. Rendols.

Merchandise received per Brig Thomas Perkins, from New York, for sale by PEIRCE & BREWER.

2 cases Brown Drills.—1 case Choppa Hdkfs.—1 case Plaid Hdkfs.—2 cases assorted Prints.—72 doz. Whitby Brown Table Cloths.—1 bale Burlaps.—2 bales Ticks. 1 bale Sail Twine.—1 case White Cambrics. 20 bales Brown Sheetings.—5 bales Brown Shirting 30 in.—5 bales Brown Shirting, 27 in.—9 cases Bleached Sheetings, 38 in.—5 cases Bleached Shirting, 32 in.—1 case assorted Hosiery.—1 case assorted Combs. 1 case Umbrellas and Parasols.—40 quarter casks Pale Sherry.—50 baskets Nectar Champagne.—15 casks London Porter.—40 quarter casks of Sicily Madeira.—120 cases Claret.—19 barrels Burgundy Port.—26 boxes Syrups, Sarsaparilla and Strawberry. 1 bale Filberts.—20 boxes Olives.—8 boxes Capers.—2 casks Currants.—1 hhd. Hams. 190 boxes Bloom Raisins.—6000 lbs. Rice. 2 half barrels Nutmegs.—20 dozen Sweet Oil.—90 bbls. Flour.—2 hlds. Loaf Sugar. 60 half bbls. Water Crackers.—5,600 lbs. Pilot Bread.—5,500 Navy Bread.—2,400 lbs. Fine Navy Bread.—100 boxes Soap.—10 bags Shot.—Ox bows, Corn Mills, Axo Helves, Rakes, Pumps.—2,400 feet Oak Plank and Boards.—222 oars, 14 to 22 feet. 12 doz. Ink.—70 gallons Spirits of Turpentine.—34 boxes Window Glass.—Litharge, Chrome Yellow.—40 doz. Tumblers.—1 cask Venetian Red.—69 canisters Paint Oil, each 5 gallons.—25 sides Sole Leather.—4 cases Boots.—Invoice of books; late publications. Honolulu, Dec. 3, 1840.

B. Pitman & Son,

Have for sale on reasonable terms, viz., English and American Prints. Gingham. Printed Muslins. White, Brown and Blue Cotton Drill. White and Brown Linen Drill. Bleached and Unbleached Cottons. Cambric, plain and Figured. Swiss Muslin. Lace Edgings. Insertings. Fancy Gauze Hdkfs. and Scarfs. White Veils. Garniture. Silk. Satin. Velvet and Belt Ribbons. Wound Wire. Furniture Chints. Hamilton Stripes. Bonnet Wreaths and Flowers. Ladies and Gentlemen's Hosiery. Gloves. Satin Neck Stocks. Nankeens. Pongee Colored Hdkfs. Grass Cloth. Cotton Hdkfs. Needles. Pins. Spool Cotton. Thread. Buttons. Suspenders. Ready Made Clothing. Wick yarn, &c., &c.

GROCERIES.

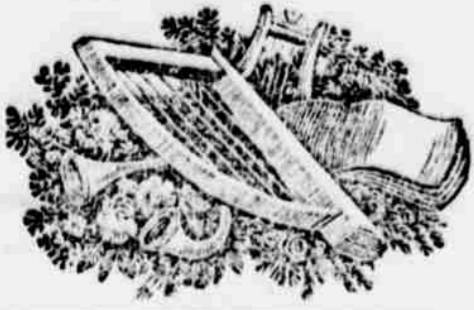
Molasses. Sugar. Lamp Oil. Tea. Flour. Meal. Dried Apples. Raisins. Citron. Prunes. Tamarinds. Pickles. Vinegar. Nutmegs. Mace. Allspice. Cinnamon. Cloves. Ginger. Sage. Pepper. Mustard. Honey. Tobacco. Cigars. Pipes. Snuff. Soap. Sallad Oil. Olives. Lemon Syrup. Porter. Pale Ale. Stoughton's Elixer. Wines, &c.

SUNDRIES.

Boots and Shoes. Writing Ink. Shoe Blacking. Arrow Root. Epsom Salts. Bench Planes. Brace and Bitts. Chisels. Fish Hooks. Combs. Sauce and Fry Pans. Iron Squares. Screws. Nails. Axe Handles. Axes. Adzes. Hatchets. Writing Paper. Blank Books. Quills. Corks, &c.

Generally on hand a good assortment of Crockery, Glass, and Tin Ware. Honolulu, Dec. 5, 1840. ff.

POETRY.



From the Laurel.
THE AMERICAN FLAG.

BY J. R. DRAKE.

When Freedom from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldrick of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings of the morning light;
Then from his mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land!

Majestic monarch of the cloud!
Who rear'st aloft thy regal form,
To hear the tempest trumping loud,
And see the lightning-lances driven,
When stride the warriors of the storm,
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven!
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given
To guard the banner of the free,
To hover in the sulphur smoke,
To ward away the battle-stroke,
And bid its blendings shine afar,
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,
The harbinger of victory!

Flag of the brave! Thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high!
When speaks the signal trumpet-tone,
And the long line comes gleaming on,
(Ere yet the life-blood, warm and wet,
Has dimmed the glistening bayonet.)
Each soldier's eye shall brightly turn
To where thy meteor glories burn,
And, as his springing steps advance,
Catch war and vengeance from the glance!
And when the cannon-mouthings loud,
Heave in wild wreathes the battle-shroud,
And gory sabres rise and fall,
Like shoots of flame on midnight's pall,—
There shall thy victor glances glow,
And covering foes shall sink beneath
Each gallant arm that strikes below,
That lovely messenger of death!

Flag of the seas! on ocean's wave,
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave,
When death, careering on the gale,
Sweeps darkly round the bellied sail,
And frighted waves rush wildly back
Before the broadside's reeling rack,—
The dying wanderer of the sea
Shall look, at once, to heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly,
In triumph, o'er his closing eye.

Flag of the free heart's only home!
By angel hands to valour given,—
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven!
Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe that stands before us!
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

THOMAS CUMMINS.

Has on hand and for sale, American, English and French Prints—White, Blue and brown Cotton Drills—Linen Drills—Buffalo Cloth—Bleached and Unbleached Cottons—Hamilton Flannel—English Chintz—Chally Dresses—Pelerine and Scarfs—Black, Green and White Veils—Fine Cambric Muslins—Check—Tape—Muslins—Sprig and Mull Muslins—Bishop Lawns—Ladies' Silk Gloves—Black Crape—Pink Crape—Petticoat Robes—Silk Cord—Men and women's Hosiery—India Rubber Suspenders—Cotton Suspenders—Worsted Suspenders—Bed Tickling—Men & Women's Shoes—Calico and Striped Shirts—Ready-made Clothing—Silk Handkerchiefs—China Nankeens.

HARD WARE.

Pocket Knives; Spring Balances, Knives and Forks; Scissors; Pins and Needles; Gimbets; Padlocks; Percussion Caps, and Sad Irons; Braces and Bits;

Soup Ladles; Gauges; Chisels; Hooks, and Hinges; Files; Iron and Brass Butt Hinges; Cast Steel Hand Saws; Iron Back Saws; Compass Saws; Cut and Wrought Nails; Cut and Wrought Tacks; Hat Pins; Cast Iron Furnaces; Latches; Butts; Sail Needles; Cross-cut and Pit Saw Files; Door, Chest and Armor Locks; Shovels; Sauce Pans; Try Pans; Razors; Spoke Shavers; Hammers; Wood Saws; Jewsharps; Drawing Knives; Iron Squares; Adzes; Britannia Table & Tea Spoons; Axe Handles; Curtain Rings; Hoes; Currier's Knives; Bonnet and Brass Wire.

PAINTS.

Verdigris; Chrome Yellow and Yellow Ochre; Litharge; Spirits Turpentine; Paint Brushes; Lamp Black; Ground Log Wood, and Copperas.

STATIONERY.

Plain Letter Paper, Foolscap; Playing Cards; Quills; Blue and Black Ink; Inkstands, Penknives; and small Blank Books.

Sundries.

Coffee; Olives; Cigars and Tobacco; Stoughton's Bitters; Pepper; Currants and Almonds; Dried apples; Champagne; Cider; London Porter; Hams; Cheese; Pickles; Ginger; Prunes; Peppermint; Swain's Panacea; Molasses Gates.

Assorted Crockery Ware; Glass Lamps, Tumblers, &c. &c. tf.

For Valparaiso and Tahiti.

The Bark **DON QUIXOTE**, J. PATY, Master, will sail for the above Ports soon (after making one trip to the Windward Islands) for freight or passage please apply to **HENRY PATY & Co.** November 19, 1840. tf.

To Sell or Let.

The Dwelling House and Premises, owned by Mr. E. SULLIVAN, and pleasantly situated next to those of the Rev. John Diell, in a retired part of the town. Attached to them is a stable, good adobie cook-house, two grass houses, an excellent well of water, &c. All in good repair. Possession given immediately. For terms apply to the owner. **E. SULLIVAN.** Honolulu, Nov. 23, 1840.

SALT.

100 barrels of Salt for sale by **B. PITMAN & SON.** Sept. 19. tf.

HENRY PATY & CO.,

Have for sale,

10 barrels American Beef, superior quality.
10 bar. Am. Flour, sup. qual. (Gallego Br.)
50 barrels California Beans.
20 baskets Champagne.
600 sheets Sheathing Copper, 16 and 24 oz. July 25. tf.

B. PITMAN & SON,

Have for sale,

25 boxes Souchong Tea.
20 boxes Hyson Tea.
10 boxes Hyson Skin.
15 doz. Raspberry Wine.
12 " Stoughton's Elixir.
10 " Lemon Syrup.
200 Ohia Rafters.
5 M. ft. Koa Lumber.
25 M. Koa Shingles.
September 12, 1840. tf.

HENRY PATY & Co.,

Have for Sale on the most reasona-

ble terms, for cash, approved credit, or barter, a great variety of merchandise, including.

DRY GOODS.

Silk, — Cambrics, — Gingham, — Drillings, — Tickings, — Osnaburghs, — Merino, Cheneille, Thibet and Cotton Shawls, — Silk, Merino, and Cotton Handkfs—Tuscan Bonnets—Silk, Satin, Velvet and Gauze Bonnet and Belt Ribbons—White and Green Veils—Wound Wire, — Rattans, — Bonnet Wreaths and Flowers, — Tabs, — Gold and Silver Wheat—Lace and Muslin Wro't Capes and Pelerines—Scarfs—Ladies Cravats,—French Net—Blond Lace—Insertion—Open work and Common Ladies Hose—Elastics—Picnic and Cotton Gloves—Petticoat Robes—Silk, Satin and Bombazine Neck Stocks—Hooks and Eyes,—Needles—Pins—Emery Cushions—Spool Cotton—Buttons—Thread—Ready-made Clothing, Suspenders.

HARDWARE.

Axes—Hatchets—Hand, Back and Key-Hole Saws—Files—Rasps—Knives and Forks—Sheath, Pocket, Pen and Dirk Knives—Scissors—Butts and Screws—Door, Chest Mortice and Pad Locks—Bolts—Sad Iron—Japan'd Lamps—Plated, German Silver, Britannia and Iron Tea and Table Spoons—Jewsharps—Brass nails—Cut Tacks—Percussion Caps—Stirrups and Bits—Rat Traps—Gun Flints—Stew Pans,—Shot—Spikes. Slide Rules.

MEDICINES, &c.

Extract Sarsaparilla—Extract Buche—Epsom Salts—Calcined Magnesia—Opodeldoc—Oil Spruce—Essences—Cephalic and Maccaboy Snuff—Stoughton's Elixir.

PROVISIONS.

Flour—Beef,—Ship Bread—Cod Fish—Mackerel—Tea—Sugar—California Beans—Pickles—Salad Oil—Vinegar—Arrow Root—Corn—Potatoes.

FURNITURE.

1 Pr. Splendid Hair Cloth Sofas—2 Side Boards—1 Bureau—1 Double Wash Stand—2 Single Wash Stands—1 Card Table—6 Doz. Wood Seat Chairs.

SUNDRIES.

1 Elegant Waggon and Harness—600 Sheets Sheathing Copper—2 M. Am. Boards—8 M. Am. Shingles—3 M. Birch Boards and Joists—12 Baskets Champagne—10 Cases Boots and Shoes—20 Doz. Lemon Syrup—20 Doz. Stoughton's Elixir—6 Caboozes—Paint—Oil—Chrome—Lamp Black—Paint Brushes—Indelible Ink Writing Ink—Sherry Wine—Riding Whips—Bass Viol, Violin and Guitar Strings—Silver Watches—Gold Breast Pins—Harmonicons—Signal Horns—Umbrellas—Men's and Boy's Blk. and Drab Hats—1 Set Heavy heaving-down lBocks—Bags—Twine—Brooms—Rope—California Soap—Letter and Bill Paper—Blank Books—Tobacco—Axe Helves.

ALSO,

Just published, and for sale, by H. P. & Co. the New Mexican Tariff and Port Regulations.

Cash paid, as above, for Bills of Exchange on the United States, England, France or Russia. Honolulu, May 28, 1840. tf

E. ESPENER,

Has just received per Barque Forager, direct from London, the following articles, which he is now retailing at the most reasonable prices:—

Best wide and narrow Prints. Printed Muslins. Ladies' and Gentlemen's fine cotton Hose. Black and China silk Hose, and Gloves. Patent leather Dress Shoes. Strong calf leather Walking Shoes, and Boots. Fine 10-4 damask Table Linen.

Fine 4-4 Bird's-eye Diaper. Fine Irish Linen. Fine Long Cloth. Striped Shirts. Fancy striped Shirts. Red and blue flannel Shirts. Ready made Cloth Clothing. Fancy Summer Trowsers. Sailor's Shirts. ing and Cloth Trowsers. Fearnought's Pea Jackets. A good assortment of Hard Ware. Double Gloucester Cheese. Coffee. Orange Nectar. Superior Port and Sherry, from one of the first houses in London.

ALSO,

Fowling-pieces. Muskets. Fine sporting Gun-powder. Manila Hats. Manila Cigars. Manila Cigar Cases. Gingham Hair and Tooth Brushes. Bridles. Halters. Stirrups and Leathers. Girths &c. &c. &c. Aug. 29. tf.

NOTICE.

B. & H. JACKSON, Blacksmiths, have taken a Shop on the premises of Messrs. E. & H. Grimes, where they intend carrying on Blacksmithing in all its branches, and hope by strict attention to their business, to receive a share of public patronage.

B. & H. JACKSON.

Honolulu, Oct. 31, 1840. 6w.

B. PITMAN & SON,

Have just received and for sale, 5 quarter casks Sherry Wine. 2 quarter casks Sicily Madeira. 10 baskets Champagne. 6 baskets Olive Oil. 1 cask Loaf Sugar. 1 cask Currants. 1 case Prunes. 6000 cakes California Soap. Dec. 5, 1840. tf.

NOTICE.

All persons indebted to the estate of **JOHN WILLIAMS**, late of Waimea Kauai, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment; and all persons who have claims upon the estate of said Williams, are likewise requested to present the same for adjustment at this place.

SAMUEL WHITNEY, Exec.

Waimea, Kauai, Nov. 6, 1840. 6w.

SUGAR MILLS

With Wooden Rollers, for sale at low price, by **LADD & Co.** Honolulu, Nov. 23. tf.

PEIRCE & BREWER,

Commission Merchants,

Honolulu, Island of Oahu.

HAVE Constantly on hand and for sale on liberal terms, Merchandise imported from the United States, England, Chili, and China, and adapted to the trade of the

NORTH PACIFIC.

They offer to purchase the production of the Sandwich Islands, and of California; and Bills of Exchange on England, France, Russia and the United States.

SAM AND MOW, BAKERS FROM CANTON.

Good people all—walk in and buy. Of Sam & Mow, good cake and bread hard or soft, for land or sea. "Celestial" made; come buy of we. June 15. tf

Terms of the POLYNESIAN.

SUBSCRIPTION. Eight Dollars per annum, payable in advance; half year, Five Dollars; quarter, Three Dollars; single copies, 25 cents. ADVERTISING. \$2, 25 for three insertions of one square; forty cents for each continuation; more than half and less than a square, \$1, 75 for first three insertions, and 30 cents for each after insertion. Half square, \$1, 25 for first three insertions, and 20 cents for each succeeding insertion. Terms of yearly advertising made known on application to the editor.