

# HEATHEN IN HAWAII

## Rise and Progress of Chinese in the Sandwich Islands.

### FUTURE OF KALAKAUA'S KINGDOM.

#### A Place that Chinamen Love—Their Social and Political Status—Rapid Increase in Number.

The miniature kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands, with its population of 58,000 souls, its army of fifty-seven men, its king and court, its complete and efficient government, its strange mixture of race, its wonderful volcanoes, beautiful scenery and magnificent climate, presents many points of interest to the world at large. None of them are of more importance than the position which the Chinese hold in the country, their rapid increase in number, wealth and position, and the strong probability that they will soon be the controlling power of the kingdom. The census of the Islands is taken every six years. That which was completed December 27, 1878, gives a total population of 57,985, of which 5916 were Chinese, there being 1276 Americans and 883 Britons. To show the way in which the Chinese have increased in number, it is sufficient to state that prior to 1860 there were but 486 of them in the group, in 1872 they numbered 1938, while, as stated above, they had 5916 in 1878. As nearly all who go there come from this port, and as a record is kept here their present number can be fixed with almost absolute certainty. From January 7th to March 1st, 917 of them left the port of San Francisco for Honolulu, and from the latter date to the present time about 1000 have gone, making the total number in the Islands at present 7833, or nearly one-seventh of the entire population. In a little over twelve years 7347 have arrived there, the great majority of them to remain until death. Another remarkable fact in connection with these statistics is the decrease of the native race. In 1860 there was a native population of 58,765; in 1872 they numbered 49,044, while in 1878 there were but 41,088, a decrease of 14,677 in twelve years. The laws of nature, which have decreed the extinction of this once powerful people, are working swiftly and surely, and in a few years more some one will write the obituary of the last of the Hawaiian race, just as that of the "Last of the Tasmanians" has been written. Men are living who can remember the time when Kamehameha, surnamed the Great, could summon thousands of strong-armed warriors to fight his battles, but the heir of his throne could not get hundreds to-day. His lands are

#### IN THE HAND OF THE STRONGER.

And that stronger is the Chinaman. He has found the place suitable to his tastes, he has made it his home, and in a few years it will be his to rule and enjoy. One thing which has tended to render him secure in his claim is the close affiliation he has made with the dying race. Wherever the Chinese have gone, excepting to America, they have married the women of the land, and a half-caste race has sprung up which has taken the language, habits and custom of the father. There are thousands of half-caste Chinese in Australia, the offspring of Mongolian fathers and Anglo-Saxon mothers; there are hundreds of thousands in the Philippine Islands, the Strait settlements and the Malayan archipelago, the offspring of Mongolian fathers and mothers of Malayan origin. The same thing is taking place in the Hawaiian group. A rigidly-enforced law declares that no man and woman shall live together as man and wife, unless they are married. The Americans, English and French have intermarried with the native race, but the Chinese have done so more extensively than any other. The majority of the native women prefer the Chinese for husbands. Their habits are better than those of the natives. They work hard, accumulate property, become shopkeepers, have homes and take care of them. The natives are lazy, shiftless fellows, content with taro patch, mat and poi. The Chinamen look out for the rainy day, the natives do not. Hence the reason of the choice. The Anglo-Saxon takes the cultured tow, the Chinese the mass of the women. While the native marriages are fruitless, or result in the production of a weak progeny, those between native women and foreigners produce a race superior in intellect and physique to the mothers. There are only 235 full-blooded Chinese women in the Kingdom, and these are all wives. Chinese prostitution is unknown. Several high-binders from this city undertook to introduce it, but the better class of the Chinese merchants protested, and produced such a commotion as to cause the abandonment of the system.

#### IN THE SLUMS

Of "Cape Horn," "Pensacola Bay," "The Black Sea," "The Japan Sea," and other disreputable quarters of Honolulu, all of which, by the way, have been named by sailors, no Celestial siren is seen; the women found there are natives without exception. Another curse of the Chinese people—opium—is also absent. A strict law prohibits its importation in any form, and woe betide the man who is caught smuggling it. No fine will be accepted. A sentence of imprisonment in "the prison on the reef" is the only course which follows conviction. The law is followed strictly and justice dealt out impartially. The Chinese merchants favor the exclusion of the drug, though many of their people resort to every device to get it. It is shipped from here, concealed in all kinds of merchandise, and the saloon-waiters, etc., on the Pacific Mail boats and men upon trading vessels bring it from San Francisco, Australia and other places. Attempts are made to send it ashore at every calling of the steamers and vessels, but the Customs officers are vigilant, and the smugglers are often caught and placed on the reef. Opium is in great demand, and fabulous prices are sometimes paid for the possession of small parcels which have escaped the vigilance of the authorities. The general impression is that all Chinese love the drug, yet there are hundreds of them who look upon and refer to it as Gough or Murphy regard and speaks of whisky. When the Chinese first settled at Honolulu is now a matter of discussion. One apparently trustworthy account says that several of them were there when the missionaries first came. At all events, the year 1810 found a few Chinese merchants at home there. Honolulu was a very important port then as it is now. Its situation gives it great advantages as a port of call for all classes of vessels sailing the Pacific. Its harbor has more than once been completely filled with the whaling fleet, so that you could walk all over it from one deck to another." It has been an important rendezvous for men-of-war for years. The Chinese merchants soon secured a share in the lucrative

#### BUSINESS OF THE PORT.

As years went on that share increased, and to-day it is the "lion's share." They had no popular prejudices to combat. They stood equal with all foreigners, and the result was that they obtained a firm foothold. The tidal wave of Chinese immigration came, and men murmured when they saw its inevitable results; but Chinamen were part and parcel of the place, and complaints were of no avail. To-day they occupy the most prominent position next to the native race, and in the near future they will be the ruling class. Those who came first were men of ability, able and willing to engage in commerce. They built fine residences, educated their children and became a power in the land. When they began to come in hundreds from this city, a cry was raised against them; but it was too late. They so in hundreds every month from this port, as it is difficult for them to sail direct from China. It is an important fact in connection with the Chinese question, and one not generally known, that the English authorities at Hongkong, the key port of the Celestial Empire, throw every obstacle they possibly can in the way of the Chinese who desire to settle in any other place than English Crown colonies, especially to Honolulu or San Francisco. The *Overland China Mail*, published at Hongkong, on the 6th of May last, says in its leading editorial:

We have on more than one occasion remarked upon the unreasonable hostility shown by Hongkong authorities to emigration from this or any port in China to Honolulu. The case of the German bark *Jacoline* was the latest illustration of this tendency to obstruct all emigration save that to British possessions, and in this instance it appears to us that His Excellency the Governor (H. P. Heanessey) strained his discretionary power to the very utmost. It will be remembered that, under instructions from the Governor, a clearance was refused to the *Jacoline*, so that she could not proceed to Whampoa, her agents having been much too open and straightforward in expressing their intention to take immigrants to Honolulu.

#### All of this has a direct bearing upon

#### THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Not only as regards Honolulu, but also as respects America and Australia, and will, no doubt, be a surprise to many in the latter countries. Despite all this, the Chinese have captured the islands and are pouring in. Not at their own expense, but mainly at that of the sugar-planters, whom they will soon displace. A Chinese firm already own one of the largest plantations on the island, and are willing and able to purchase others. The most of the Mongolians are found in Honolulu, which has a population of 15,000 souls, of which the Chinese element, including their native wives, constitutes fully one-third. They are engaged in all branches of industry, principally trade. They do the laundry work for the city without competition. They are the domestic servants. As in San Francisco, so in Honolulu—the citizens board to a great extent in restaurants, of which there are a large number, and all of which, with two exceptions, belong to and are managed by Chinese. There are a large number of them employed in shoemaking and the manufacture of cigars. The manufacture of clothing for all classes furnishes remunerative employment to many. Several operate extensively as wholesale merchants. Horses are owned in large numbers in the city and country, and the saddles, bridles, etc., are made by the Chinese. They have a number of mills owned and managed by themselves. In fact there is not a branch of

#### MANUFACTURING

Industry demanded in the country to which they have not successfully applied themselves. It has been an open field, the natives doing no mechanical work whatever steadily. In the country the Chinese are working either as sugar plantation hands or

small storekeepers. Socially they stand on a level with the other inhabitants, moving in all circles to which their various property or educational qualifications entitle them to enter. They possess the right of franchise, in fact all rights that other citizens possess. The land is their home; they have their cradles and their graves there, and are identified in every way with the place. In the Police Court a Chinese official advises the Court, not only upon cases affecting the Chinese, but other nationalities. In the Fort-street church, the most aristocratic in the land, a Chinese usher shows the worshippers to their pews. In the theater and circus they buy and occupy whatever seats they require. They are not policemen nor politicians, not because they cannot be if they desire, but their inclination does not lead them toward these paths. China Company No. 2 is a large volunteer fire organization composed exclusively of Chinese, who own one hand-engine and a steam fire-engine, which they imported from this country. On occasions of fire they turn out quickly and work as efficiently as any of the other companies. In all things, however, they retain their nationality. Though settlers in a strange land they give up nothing, absorb everything. Retaining their language, dress, habits and manners, they show the true traits of the nation they belong to. They abandon no trait or characteristic, and increasing rapidly, while the natives disappear as rapidly, they will soon establish a small Chinese empire of their own.