

AMONG THE LEPERS OF FAR AWAY HAWAII

The Hawaiians are musicians as well as orators, writes Joseph Dutton, of Kalawayo, Molokai, in the Messenger. Their voices seem suited to a certain weird kind of melody, and the natives will sing or play the same tune over and over for hours at a stretch, with hardly a change in the key. The autoharp is a favorite instrument, and they have also the guitar, violin, mandolin and banjo.

It is no hard task to amuse these child-like people. A picture book will keep them interested for hours and they will tell over the pages and gabble and gabble, sometimes excitedly, but always good-naturedly. They are quick to discern the meaning of the pictures, for, as I said before, they are clever enough, the younger ones getting along rapidly at school.

When they have their photographs taken they like to have their treasures included, too. So, one of these pictures shows a native and his valued alarm clock beside him, and another photograph perpetuates his rival as the happy possessor of two alarm clocks.

The Hawaiian is kind in all the family relations and loves his children. But he exercises little restraint over his offspring, so that the child is more often the master. The full-blooded Hawaiian race is gradually dying out. Whatever record these people may have can hardly be great, and fifty years after they are gone few Hawaiian names will be remembered. It has often been said that the natives are all children, and so they are in many respects, good-natured children, generally speaking. And so in summing up his character, the main trait, whether in his family life or his newly achieved political life and in his general mental attitude, is his childlikeness.

Before finishing this slight sketch I must say a word about my office in the leper settlement with its bathroom, its drug-shop, its shoe-shop and its veranda. It is this veranda which is the appointed place for almost every kind of noise, from the playing of their various musical instruments to their most boisterous games. As the autoharp is their favorite instrument I always keep two or three on hand and a plentiful supply of strings—and I have also a photograph with a number of records; and it is here on my veranda that every Sunday night they have their concert. Tunes that catch their fancy they pick up quickly and soon are playing them on their autoharp or other stringed instrument. It is from here, too, that the illustrated papers and magazines with which I am furnished by the book dealers in Honolulu take their start on their regular daily rounds, and it is here they are returned to me, as I said before, a good deal the worse for wear. But before distributing printed matter I overhaul it thoroughly, cutting out such features as might prove objectionable.

I have now lived in the leper settlement, comprising a family of 1,000 souls, and in daily contact with a branch of this family of from 100 to 150 members, for nineteen years, and yet during all this time I have had no serious difficulty with any of them, which, perhaps, speaks better for them than for me, for I have not always been patient and forbearing. In character and disposition I am not altogether what they like, nevertheless as time goes on, their confidence in me seems to increase and my hold upon them to grow stronger. It took some years before these pleasant relations were brought about (perhaps as I am getting on towards the evening of life the sharp corners of my nature may be wearing smoother), but the long and close association has shown them that my main object is to do them good, and I think I may say now that they like me. If however, the present conditions should be broken up, I doubt if they would have much recollection of them or me, for the Hawaiian, being only a child, soon forgets his friends.

THE REBIRTH OF GAELIC

That Erse, or Irish Gaelic, is not a dead language was twice proved at Sunday's meeting in Carnegie Hall; for Ireland by Dr. Douglas Hyde's citation of 3,000 schools where it is being taught; for New York when Dr. Hyde spoke in Gaelic to the evident understanding of a portion of the audience.

And why not? English will remain the language of commerce, but there is something more than trade in life, and no invention of a universal language like Volapuk or Esperanto can alter the fact that pride of race and pride of tongue go together. There are more Irishmen in the world than Scandinavians, but no one expects the Norse-

men to lose their tongue or to merge the differences that distinguish Norwegians, Swedish and Danish. The Jewish race, about as numerous as the Irish, are even more widely scattered, but its learned men do not forget their ancient speech.

Among races fortunate enough to rule in their old homes the language revivals in recent years have been notable. Industrial development and political freedom in Hungary have accompanied a great revival of Magyar letters. Greece is a little nation, most of whose people have gone elsewhere. A hundred years ago more Albanian than Greek was spoken, but freedom has led to a revival of Greek in speech and letters. Anyone who can read a Greek newspaper in New York can read Herodotus.

The language of the non-Slavic Roumanians or "Roumi," is little changed from the Latin of Hadrian's legions. And stranger of all, there is a little Greek colony buried in Southern Italy which still uses its ancient tongue, though it can have had no immigration for centuries.

It is hard to kill a language. Travel will not do it, else Switzerland would not be divided between the users of German, French and Italian. Oppression will not do it, else Polish and the Armenian dialects would disappear. Prosperity will do it sooner than adversity, but nothing easily.—New York World.

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THE NECESSITY OF A SCALE ON THE FARM

We believe that most farmers realize the necessity of owning a good reliable scale. Selling and buying so much by weight he must realize that a little inaccuracy in his dealer's scales means considerable loss to him. We don't believe prosperity makes him so reckless of his own interests that he cares not whether the grain buyer cheats him or gives him full value, but the average farmer figures that he cannot afford to buy a farm scale when the crop is light or the prices low. Under either condition the necessity of a farm scale is plainly evident. When prosperity smiles on the farmer a little inaccuracy in his dealer's scales means a big loss, and when light crops and low prices prevail, though loss is less, all told, he can less afford to lose the amount.

One of his contemporaries has figured out the cost to farmers of slight errors in the weighing of grain and stock. It shows that a scale need not be very much off balance to make a big loss for the farmer, and gives the following illustrations:—

"Suppose a certain farmer sells thirty hogs weighing 200 pounds each, receiving for these five cents per pound. If the scales are out of the way 1-20 it will mean a loss to him of \$15.00 on the lot. This same farmer sells 2000 bushels of wheat at 75c. per bushel. If the scales are out 1-40 it will mean a loss to him of \$37.50. Now the above examples are by no means gross exaggerations, and it will be seen from the above figures that the total loss incurred would be \$52.50, enough to purchase a good set of scales to guard against all future loss. It is never an equitable proposition to measure farm produce when selling it. Hay measured in the stack is only so much guess work, although the most infallible rule is used. The same is true of grain. Sometimes oats will overrun one-fourth in weight, and the farmer who sells by measure is simply losing one bushel in every four."

These other reasons are given by our contemporary why a farmer should own a scale:—

"The careful, progressive farmer wants to know which portion of his farm produces the best quality of grain. This can never be told by measure, but only through weight. The feeder of stock is also very desirous to know just what progress his animals are making as a result of his efforts. With a set of farm scales they can be weighed regularly, thus accurately determining the gain proportional to the amount of feed. If the results with one kind of feed are not satisfactory he can forthwith change the feed and note the result—with scales on the farm this is

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not difficult, but it is almost impossible without them. At any rate it is guess work pure and simple."

Of course, the scale must be an accurate, reliable one. We see that a firm in Chatham, Ont., is advertising a farm scale which is guaranteed by the Canadian Government. It is made in three styles which are convertible into useful trucks. The firm sell them on very easy terms, in fact, so easy that what the scale will save a farmer should pay for it in the time. We are sure it would pay any farmer to investigate the offer this firm makes. A postcard with your name and address on it sent to The Manson Campbell Co., Limited, Dept.—, Chatham, will bring full particulars.

EMINENT PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGIAN ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The campaign of Catholic writers and the Catholic press in favor of the Catholic system of education is bearing its fruits. The intelligent and unprejudiced non-Catholic thinkers are studying the problem of education from the Catholic viewpoint and are gradually but surely becoming converts to the same.

The latest to accept the Catholic position is Dr. Hodge, of the Princeton Presbyterian theological seminary. Only recently he said that "every intelligent Protestant ought to know by this time, in the light of the terrible Socialistic revolutions which are threatened, that the danger to our country in this age is infinitely more from scepticism than from superstition. In view of the entire situation, shall we not, all of us who really believe in God, give thanks to Him that He has preserved the Catholic Church in America to-day true to that theory of education upon which our fathers founded their public schools, and from which they have been so madly perverted? The system of public schools must be held, in their sphere, true to the claims of Christianity, or they must go, with all other enemies of Christ, to the wall."

Well and truly said, Dr. Hodge. Catholics have been proclaiming facts for years to unwilling ears. Only too often and too long their reward has

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