Americanizing the Hawaiian Islands

Influences That Have Been Working for Nearly One Hundred Years in That Direction -The Results.

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islands began about a hundred dred years ago, when Opukahaia the hearts of some New England-Opukahaia was engaged as a seaman by a Captain Brintnall, and carried far, far from his island ome, far from his gods and his eople, clear to the shores of lew England. Those old-time Havalians probably had the magic their escendants possess, for it is a matter of history that the native boy made many friends, who were inspired by him to know more of the land and peole he represented.

Other island boys were brought to the ospitable land of America, and in 1817 there was a band of five attending a chool at Cornwall, Conn. Poor Opukahaia died at the school in 1818, but the friends he had made still remembered what he had told them of the land of his birth.

A year later a little company of American missionaries, with three of the boys from the Cornwall school, set sail for Hawaii. How they were received, how they, and their children after them, nade their home there, is too well known to need explanation. As this article is to deal with the Americanizing rather than the evangelizing of the islands, though the two are closely connected, we shall say nothing about the latter, but simply allude to the coming of the missionaries as the step which resulted in America's present possession of Ha-

About the same time the missionaries et foot on Hawaii the whaler and the rader added their quota to make up he native's stock of knowledge conburden of the white man-to twist Kip-

MERICANIZING the Hawaiian , fringed bananas, help make the tropical beauty.

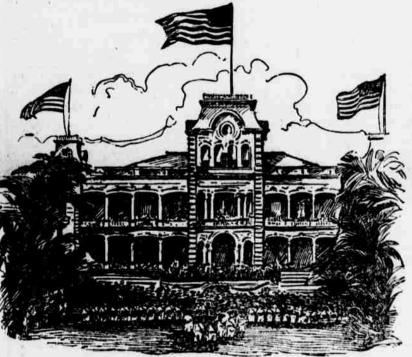
Just now, when lands ruled by Spanish methods and men are before our minds, perhaps it be not out of place to compare contrasting results, though we must concede conditions to be different in Hawaii and Cuba, a differquee in the native and in the climate. Down in the South seas, with the same race, however, the Spanish rule has been most disastrous, as witness in the Carolines. Admitting diverse condi-



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING IN HONOLULU.

tions, let us say nothing of causes but confine our attention to results.

As a recent sharp-eyed observer has remarked in regard to Hawaii, one cannot help being struck with the paternal relation of the white man to the native. The former recognizes the latter to be simple and childish, and often goes out of his way to guide him and help fit him for practical affairs We hear many slurs cast on success? serning the white man. Of a truth, the | ful men in the islands, hear it is by sharp practice they have gotten posing's words-was rather heavy on the session of the land. Of course there



RAISING THE AMERICAN FLAG, AUGUST 12, 1898.

sative at this time. One element was rrying to moderate his heathcnish in-julgences, trying to give him some idea of law and order; the other was constantly inviting the aborigine to celebrate with him the fact "there is no law this side Cape Horn." The war between the haeoles (whites) for the pos-session of the Hawaiian was a lengthy one; but decency prevailed, and to-day there is no safer, pleasanter land to live in than this one, "where the old men and the children can sleep in the high-ways unmolested." English influence, of course, must be

reckoned in with the American in the regeneration of the country, but the American is certainly the dominant one. The majority of the teachers in one. The majority of the teachers in the schools are American, and the boys and girls are growing up with American ideals; the text books are American; the language, barring "tram car," "beastly," and a few other words, is American. On the walls of the school rooms hang pictures of American heroes, on the tables of the reading-rooms are piled American papers and magazines. The percentage of illiteracy among those of liawaiian blood is very small; they are fond of reading newspapers and keep tolerably well-in-formed concerning the world's doings. One cause for the quick advance of Hawaii is that the climate is not enervating. In Cuba and Puerto Rico there are days when the laborer is forced to quit work for several hours on account of the blazing sunshine. When the white man can do nothing but lie in his hammock and smoke. In Hawaii, all day long, six days in the week-save on the holidays the plodding Chinaman, the stout-calved Japanese, the plump, merry Jap women, the thin, energetic Portuguese, the tanned white luna (overseer), work out of doors, the tradewind tempering the heat of the sun and

making work possible and pleasant. And yet Hawaii is the most tropical, the most given to arouse enthusiasm in the heart of the traveler searching for the beautiful spots of the earth. The trade-wind with its rough, warm touch, the brilliant waters, the tall, old cocoas, the graceful young palms, the giant ferns, the glorious bloasoming trees whose petals fall and make the pavements burn with red and gold, the hibiscus hedges, the thousands of cups of night blooming cerens thrown on gray lava rocks, the darkly green man-go trees, the feathery algerobas, the

has been some of that, but I believe in Hawaii there is a large body of honest men whose success is due to their industry and their foresight. I know personally a millionaire planter who gave up considerable of his time to the management of the estate of an old native friend of his. Some people-there are always such aboutsaid he sooner or later would reap the snefit, but I think it was pure kindliness and friendliness that constituted the planter's motive. I must acknowledge there is not always perfect trust between the native and the white man, but affirm there are many cases that prove the native depends on and has faith in his stronger neighbor.

The native never was a slave, and perhaps that accounts for the differ-



A NATIVE HUT.

ence in attitude towards him and towards the negro. The white and the brown man sit at the same table, their children may attend the same school. Perhaps in no country inhabited by the paleface is the color line drawn less sharply. Perhaps in no country is there less abject poverty.

In Hawaii there are rich and poor, but the barefoot, calico-robed wahine (native woman) holds her head as high as any lady in the land; the president and the boatboy are good comrades. Many own carriages, but no footmen in livery are seen. As to dress, anyone can make a fairly brave show in organdie and white duck. A modest cottage adorned with ferns and palms looks about as well as the more pretentious mansion near by. And so there need not exist much envy and heartburning and hatred in a land where there is so little oppression, so

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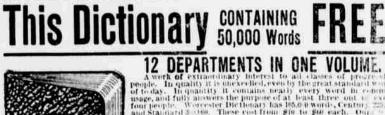
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