

Finding Aid

to

**Dr. Jared K. Smith Murder as reported in the Pacific Commercial Advertiser  
1897-1898**

Kauai Historical Society

Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii

**MS 77**

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**Title:** Dr. Jared K. Smith Murder as reported in the Pacific Commercial Advertiser

**Extent:** 19 sheets of the Pacific Commercial Advertiser, each 16 in. X 22 in. white on black

**Abstract:**

These newspapers contain articles on the murder of Dr. Jared K. Smith and the subsequent trial and sentencing of Kapea Kaahea and others.

**Acquisition information:** These newspapers were found in collection in January of 2021.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions.

**History:**

Dr. Jared K. Smith of Koloa, Kauai was shot and killed on Sept. 24, 1897. He was at his home in Koloa at the time. The man accused of the crime was Kapea Kaahea. Since Smith was both a physician and the Republic of Hawaii's Board of Health agent for Kauai he was obligated to report instances of leprosy (Hansen's Disease) to the Board. The practice by the Board was to isolate those with the disease in the leper colony at Kalaupapa, Molokai where the afflicted would live out the rest of their lives. A young woman recently seen by Smith was diagnosed with the disease. It was said that Dr. Smith was shot to prevent his reporting the girl's condition to the Board.

**Container List**

Oversz. Photo Drawer in folder marked 2xxx.018.001 to .020

**Kauai Historical Society Accession Number:** 2xxx.018.001 to .020

**Processed in:** Feb. 19, 2021 by Ramona Kincaid.