By Authority.

Appointments.

JOSEPH P. GRISWOLD Esq., has been appointed *Police Justice* of Honolulu in the room of J. E. Chamberlain Esq., resigned.

R. MOFFITT, Esq., has been appointed *District Justice* for the district of Koolauloa, Oahu.

THE POLYNESIAN.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1855.

☞ It having come to our ears that the *California Chronicle* of the 19th ult., contained a letter said to have been from a gentleman lately residing here, in which the Minister of Foreign Relations was handled without gloves, and the venal *Polynesian* exposed as it deserved to be, we took trouble enough to enquire for the paper, and after two or three days search were so fortunate as to obtain the loan of it. There may be other copies here; if so, it would appear that our friends—that is to say the whole community—have hid them from us in the tenderness of their regard for our feelings. Alluding to an address made by Consul General MILLER to the King, and the last report of the Minister above mentioned to the Legislature, the writer says, "each of these choice productions has been left to influence the community of the Islands, to the prejudice of the people of the United States, without the possibility of a public refutation, and it is therefore that the aid of a California journal is invoked as the only available medium," etc.; adding that "as the San Francisco papers have a general circulation throughout the group, the object thus sought for will be certainly gained," etc. Soft there; not, perhaps, so certainly as he thought, unless we step in to his assistance after all. We have therefore determined on excusing him for giving us the go-by, and this week offer to our readers his communication in all its plenitude. Going to California as one of a persecuted race, an ill-used individual who could obtain no hearing where he came from; pleading to the editors of the *Chronicle* as it were *in forma pauperis*, he showed a knowledge of what takes with the masses, for which we give him credit. Had he in the first instance offered his strictures to us, the writer would have thrown away the best card in his hand, unless we happened to reject them, and he knew the *Polynesian* too well to try the experiment. Even if any other American had sent us if it were only one line on the same subject, and we had refused it admission, R.'s case would have been a better one. But "all were silent till *Rienzi* spoke." The Minister's remarks do not appear to have been similarly construed by any body else. If the gentleman mentioned as the author be so in fact—and we can hardly believe it—we may suppose that the *esprit de corps* had some influence upon him. Like a gallant youth he jumped in to defend against a supposititious injury a veteran in the service, and a man, by the by, whose word goes a good way with the Navy Department at Washington.

That nothing may be wanting on our part, we also insert an editorial article on the same subject, published in the same journal on the same day. And first of all, let us congratulate our readers, as we do ourselves, on the prospect of another paper being started in Honolulu. The tidings have been somewhat long in coming, and therefore should be hailed with joy—that is, if the adage bears reversion, which says "bad news travels quick." We have made a solemn vow never to complain of the paucity of topics, and all that sort of thing; but oh, what a relief it would be to meet with a little opposition! What a comfort sometimes to relinquish the scissors for the dissecting instrument! Then would our pages brighten up, while we luxuriated in being able to

"Feel the stern joy that warriors feel
In foemen worthy of their steel"—"pens" understood.

Our anticipated satisfaction, however, pales before a vile consideration—that of money. We almost fear the gentlemen of California are too worldly-wise to invest their capital in an establishment of equal efficiency with our own, for the interest that they would derive from it. But supposing their materials for printing to be here, another question is, where would they find the materials for grumbling! Perhaps there would not be much of a fight after all.

If, however, in the spirit of self-sacrifice and martyrdom, any over-burdened millionaire should institute such a publication, we are too modest to deny that in all probability its tone would be very different from that which characterizes our sheet. Variety in style is agreeable in literature as elsewhere, and the *Cook's Heart*, (a name that we suggest,) would possibly contain articles as chaste and scholastic as the following items are, which we extract from the *Oregon Statesman* of the 1st Sept. last:

For pure, unadulterated humbug, commend us to the Sandwich Islanders. (And by the term we mean the whites upon the Islands.) They can beat the world and the "rest of mankind," specially referred to and described in Gen. Taylor's message.—They set up a drunken Kanaka and call him "King," "His Majesty," &c., and the newspapers make careful note of his outgoings and incomings, his witty sayings and remarkable doings—containing a column or two a week of such disgusting twaddle and arrant humbuggery, for *foreign* consumption. And when the aforesaid Kanaka chanceth to "shuffle off this mortal coil," from delirium tremens, or general debauchery—when he ceases to toddle about the streets, poking his sable nug into doggeries to see if a bystander will "treat," the newspapers are full of reports of funeral obsequies, a sermon is preached in which the "late king" is lauded without stint, pronounced a wise, powerful and pious ruler, declared to have been heard to say that "God's people were his people," made out to have been an exemplary christian, and despatched to heaven. Nothing however is said about his penchant for whiskey, and kindred peculiarities.

Then follows the imposing ceremony of "crowning" another Kanaka, and the announcement by the press that the "new King" attended Dr. Somebody's church, (this was an actual occurrence) with his sister, (a fat, greasy "lady of color" likely) &c., &c., &c., through the chapter of flunkeyism and humbug. All this is known to be pure humbuggery on the Islands, and is only intended for effect and imposition abroad. We wonder somebody don't establish a "kingdom" among the Digger Indians and, putting shirt and breeches upon one of them, "crown" him, and then start a paper to report his remarkable sayings and doings, the importance of the "kingdom" and the "interesting" character of the natives.

The *Chronicle*, like "J. B.," is "sly, sir, sly." Who would have thought, for instance, that any former Minister of this Kingdom would have allowed an argument in favor of the sale of the Hawaiian Islands—a sale involving, to be sure, only ten millions of dollars—to lie for weeks, aye, months in the copy drawer of a foreign newspaper office, without advantage having been taken at the time of the information so exposed. Yet such appears to have been the case. "We know this to be true," says the *Chronicle*, "having held the proposition in our hands for weeks, with the arguments and the signature plain to the eye and mind." There appears, mind you, to have been only one name attached, yet the sentence immediately preceding that quoted states that the "Ministers of His Majesty, or some of them at least, were anxious to pass the Hawaiian Kingdom over to the United States Government." Now we protest against this fusion of the singular and plural numbers, and beg to declare that one swallow does not make a summer. If the *Chronicle* would be magnanimous enough to give to the world the substance of the document, we might be able perhaps to explain thereafter what effect it had on the rest of the ministry and what resulted to the person whose name it bore in consequence of his holding the opinions and using the argument he did.

There is much new information in the article we are now treating of relating to matters on these islands, with which every resident should make himself acquainted. For instance we learn that Mr. WYLLIE has an earldom in view to be obtained from France or England—no matter which, the two countries being allied, and, it would appear from the *Chronicle*, amalgamated too. Also that "for weeks at a time, while the King was expecting a bombardment from the French, the 'Stars and Stripes' lay at the foot of his flag-staff" etc. Also that the press in Honolulu "will, ere long, have another tongue" to apply "even under the nose of the King and his Prime Minister." But the most startling fact of all—and a paper entrusted with state documents that never come to light here ought to be good authority—is, that Mr. WYLLIE, besides being Minister of Foreign Relations and Minister (read Secretary) at War, has actually taken upon himself the office of Minister of Finance, without the first one of us who do not get hold of all the archives having ever suspected anything of the kind.

LATEST NEWS.

Defeat of the Russians on the Tchernaya.

VARNA, 1 P. M., Aug. 16.

The Russians attacked the position on the Tchernaya this morning at daybreak in great force.

The action lasted about three hours, but they were completely repulsed by the French and Sardinians.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Aug. 17.

The following telegraphic message has been received by Lord Panmure:—

VARNA, 1 P. M.—The Russian attack of this morning was under the command of General Liprandi, with from 50,000 to 60,000 men.

Their losses are estimated at between 4,000 and 5,000.

About 400 prisoners have been taken.

The loss on the part of the allies is very small.

VARNA, Aug. 16, 1 30 P. M.

Instead of 400 prisoners, read 4000.

Re-commencement of the bombardment of Sebastopol.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Aug. 17.—Lord Panmure has received the following intelligence from General Simpson, dated Crimea, 16th Aug.:—

"General Pelisser and I have decided on opening fire from the English and French batteries at dawn to-morrow morning.

Later from Sweaborg.

DANTZIC, Thursday, Aug. 16.—The Vulture has arrived with the mails. The Allied squadron had gone to Nargen from Sweaborg on the 13th. Success at Sweaborg was fully concluded. No ships have been severely injured, and the casualties on the English side are—killed, none, two officers and about thirty men wounded. The French loss is equally trifling.

The Grand Duke Constantine.

Advices from Konigsberg state that when the attack on Sweaborg began, the Grand Duke Constantine, informed by telegraph of the event, demanded leave to go out and attack the relaxed fleet before Cronstadt. The Emperor refused.

The Crimea.

A private letter from the French Camp, dated 4th of August, says:—It is expected that a general bombardment will be kept up for six days before storming. The whole of our tremendous batteries will open at once.

France.

The Emperor's Fete passed off satisfactorily in Paris yesterday.

Spain.

MADRID, 14th.—The Government will reply in a moderate, but energetic manner, to the Papal allocation. The statement that Garibaldi and Mazzini had applied for permission to come to Spain is untrue. If they should do so, the government will refuse their application.

Denmark.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 12.—The Danish Chambers assembled yesterday, at noon, in the Palace of Christiansborg, according to the royal summons. They are called together in an extraordinary session, for a special purpose, to consent to the proposal of the Crown to modify the Fundamental Law or Constitution of the Monarchy of the 5th of June, 1849, and to decide whether such modifications shall come into legal operation at the same time as the Ministerial plan of a form of government for the "whole kingdom." There was a full attendance of members. The proceedings, however, were merely formal.

European Times Office, 8 *A. M.*

[BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.]

The defeat of the Russians on the Tchernaya.

PARIS, Friday.—The Divisions engaged yesterday were those of Generals Herbillon, Carnow, Faunchenx, and Morris. Masses of the Russians (says General Pelissier) were in full retreat from the moment when our reserves, and those of our brave allies, and especially the English cavalry, came up. Our losses (less than the enemy's) are at present unknown. The Sardinians behaved admirably.

The most important item in the news from Turkey is that a strong Russian division is marching on Erzeroum, and that all the disposable Turkish forces in Anatolia are hastening towards the same place.

The *Sun* says Gen. Canrobert has arrived in Paris.

TURIN, Friday.—A despatch has been received from General La Mamora. He says that the French despatches will show whether or not the Piedmontese are worthy to fight beside the French and English. 200 of the Sardinian contingent are *hors de combat*. General Montevecchio is mortally wounded.

Destruction of Sweaborg.—Preparations.

OFF SWEABORG, Aug. 1.—Her Majesty's steamer Cruiser arrived from Edgland.

Aug. 2.—The Admiral proceeded over to Sweaborg in the Merlin, to reconnoitre and lay down buoys.

Aug. 4.—The fleet prepared to weigh, with mortar vessels and gunboats, with the intention of proceeding to Sweaborg, but the weather promising unfavorable, with a sea rising, the order was countermanded, and very fortunately so, that and the following day proving very squally, with heavy rain and a rough sea.

Aug. 5.—Her Majesty's steamer Gorgon arrived from England.

Aug. 6.—The fleet weighed from Nargen at 10 A. M., and with the mortar vessels and gunboats anchored among the small Islands off Sweaborg, about 7,000 yds. distant. The gunboats will anchor the mortar vessels in position at 2500 yards distant from the forts, and then together will open fire on the batteries, government buildings, &c., at daylight tomorrow. Some boats have been sent in to-night (11 1-2 P. M.) to sweep for infernal machines, and under very favorable circumstances, the weather being misty and overcast. We have experienced a great change in the weather these last few days, the temperature being much lower, with heavy rain, and we feel that the transient summer of this inhospitable clime is at an end. The French purpose erecting a mortar battery on a small island here to play on the town, and they have provided themselves with sand bags, fascines, &c. from Nargen; but it is feared that their position on the island will be untenable. The mortar vessels are to be supplied with extra marine artillerymen as reliefs when required, and it is supposed the bombardment, when commenced, will continue all night and several successive days, though as yet the plan of operations is a mere surmise. The rocket boats are all prepared for service to-night.

FLEET BEFORE SWEABORG, Aug. 6.

English.—Duke of Wellington, Exmouth, Edinburgh, Pembroke, Cornwallis, Hastings, Euryalus, Arrogant, Magicienne, Cossac, Vulture, Cruiser, Merlin, Geyser, Dragon, Lightning, Locust, Belleisle, (hospital ship), Æolus (ammunition ship), a merchant collier filled with spare shells for supplying mortar vessels, 15 gunboats, 16 mortar vessels.

French.—Tourville (flag ship) and tender, Austerlitz, six gunboats, five mortar vessels. The French mortar vessels are schooner-rigged, and armed with two ten-inch mortars.

Aug. 7.—The great affair of the season is expected to come off to-night. Considerable excitement has prevailed in the portion of the fleet at Nargen, and disagreeable feelings amongst the crews of ships which are not to be present. It is, however, suspected a mortar boat and gun boat affair will be all; and no doubt, from the excellent practice of the mortars, we may anticipate a certain amount of destruction; but beyond the mortars and gunboats we have as yet nothing but six liners and four steamers, and whatever damage is done, we have no considerable number of troops or marines to follow up good results. The French much desire to attack the town of Helsingfors. As they wisely suggest, Sweaborg is the most glorious way, but Helsingfors the most satisfactory result, and I trust to see it in flames. The Cronstadt fleet, the Riga cruisers, and the Gulf of Bothnia ships, are left intact, and no concentration of the forces has taken place. The Calcutta is left at Nargen.

The Bombardment.

DANZIC, Tuesday, Aug. 14, 11 A. M.

The bombardment of Sweaborg commenced at six o'clock last Thursday morning, and continued until daylight on Saturday.

The town itself is burnt to the ground,—not one house left.

The dockyards are completely destroyed.

All the earthworks and batteries are knocked to pieces.

Six magazines blew up.

In fact Sweaborg exists no more.

On our side there are very few casualties.

This news was brought by the French Steamer Pelican.

Official despatches from Admiral Dundas.

Sweaborg was attacked by the mortar vessels and gunboats of the allied squadrons on the morning of the 9th instant; the firing ceased only this morning.

Heavy explosions and very destructive fires were produced in a few hours.

Nearly all the principal buildings on "Vargoe" and many more on "Svartoe," including those of the arsenal and dock yards, are burnt.

Few casualties occurred, and no lives lost in the allied fleet.

From Admiral Penaud.

PARIS, Tuesday, Aug. 14.—The following despatch was posted up at the Bourse to-day.

"DANTZIC, Aug. 14.

"Admiral Penaud to the Minister of Marine.

"On board the Tourville, Aug. 11, 1855.

"The bombardment of Sweaborg by the allied squadrons has been attended with complete success.

"An immense conflagration, which lasted for 45 hours, has destroyed nearly all the storehouses and magazines of the arsenal, which is a complette ruin.

"Various powder magazines and stores of projectiles blew up.

"The enemy has receives a terrible blow and suffers an enormous loss.

"Our loss is insignificant in men, and nothing whatever in material.

"The crews are in a state of enthusiasm."

Letter from the Sandwich Islands.

Sandwich Island Diplomacy—Mr. Wyllie's Attack upon Capt. Jones and the American Answered, and their Conduct Vindicated.

It is a very untoward circumstance that the Americans residing at the Hawaiian Islands, are without a press to advocate their interests, or to defend themselves and their institutions from the assaults that are made upon them from time to time. Hence there has been no reply to the libellous address of Consul General Miller to the King, or to the equally obnoxious Report of the Hawaiian Minister of Foreign Relations, for the present year.

Each of these choice productions has been left to influence the community at the Islands, to the prejudice of the people of the United States, without the possibility of a public refutation, and it is therefore that the aid of a California journal is invoked as the only available medium through which such refutation can be successfully represented. And as the San Francisco papers have a general circulation throughout the group, the object thus sought for will be certainly gained, although, perhaps, at the expense of the patience of California readers.

It is not the intention of this article to criticise the blundering style, the childish vanity, the unpardonable egotism, or the wearisome length of this *unique* Report of the Minister of Foreign Relations. The rich variety of topics upon which it treats, from the "definition" of the term "*sponsio*," to the "history of the Hanseatic league, so far back as the 13th century;" its formidable citation of learned authorities, from *Cornelius Van Bynkershoeck*," downward—familiar names, of course, to the Hawaiian Parliament; its important announcement to the "Nobles and Representatives," that the King's Charge at Lima is a "man of society, a man of the world," its reference to "public functionaries of other States, as the personal friends of the Minister," and a host of other stuff besides, are all peculiarities which stamp this document as a rare state paper, happily, in these matter of fact days, without a parallel.

Having the self denial to decline a more particular notice of these inviting and characteristic paragraphs, a further exercise of wholesome restraint will conquer all temptation to examine, minutely, the one hundred and sixty pages of the appendix, which is, if possible, a more extraordinary medley than the Report itself.

Human life is certainly too brief to follow up such a voluminous writer—whose blood must certainly contain an admixture of ink—who thinks nothing of "preparing statements of grievances, one hundred and twenty feet long!" and who boasts of "transmitting copies thereof to the British, French and American governments," evidently with the conviction that they would be read. But it would be highly uncharitable not to indulge the hope that the Minister's fortune has not suffered loss from "the sums he has advanced from *his* private funds, and from out of his own pocket," whether for the "support of foreign missions, or for percussion caps!" Equally unkind would it be to suppress the wish that the Minister's health has not been injuriously affected "from the want of a single holiday in ten years!"

With this much consideration for the exalted personage, it is now in order to notice his unfounded and offensive attack upon the Government of the United States, in the person of Capt. Jones of the American Navy, as contained in the opening and leading portion of his Report.

The Minister of Foreign Relations, under the flimsy pretext of "exhibiting the policy of his late Majesty towards other nations, and of showing the great difficulties he had to contend with" goes back to the treaty made by Captain Jones, in 1826, and with a sneer at the bravery, humanity and fair dealing of that officer, accuses him,

"Of having taken the law into his own hands, and enforced without either *trial* or proof, the payment of *alleged* claims, brought by American merchants against the Government of the Islands to the amount of $500,000, which claims were denied by the chiefs."

In the same breath, the Minister stigmatizes Captain Jones with having had the meanness and the duplicity "of framing an article in his treaty with the view of preventing other commanders of foreign ships of war from following his example in the matter of taking the law into his own hands, to enforce alleged and untried claims."

The Minister then appends an exact copy of the severe regulations adopted by the chiefs for the payment of these fictitious claims," and finally winds up his detailed history of the affair with the pathetic reflection, at the expense of the United States: "such are the hard penalties which superior civilization exacts of inferior—such the rule of christianity applied to paganism where no treaty exists between the parties;" and with this rather contradictory admission; "yet these harsh exactions left no hostile feeling among the Hawaiians, either towards Captain Jones or to the United States."

The Minister of Foreign Relations may have felt perfectly secure in submitting this account of Capt. Jones' proceedings to the Hawaiian parliament and public, after the lapse of nearly twenty-nine years; and doubtless had his own honest motives in the matter. But the course of time does not always bury the truth beyond the possibility of resurrection, and in this instance the truth is yet above ground. The facts of the case are these:

The claims in question were preferred by Americans for goods and vessels sold by them to the authorities of the Sandwich Islands.

The amount claimed was contested.

Parties interested could not agree.

Captain Jones came to Honolulu to arrange the difficulty, and established the most cordial and friendly relations between the chiefs and himself.

A meeting of accommodation was held, at which Captain Jones, the American Consul, himself a large claimant, and others, were present.

The whole matter was discussed; the amount claimed reduced from $720,000 to $500,000, the sum "acknowledged by the chiefs to be really due," through the good offices of Captain Jones, who did not gain thereby the good will of his mercantile countrymen.

In support of the vital portions of this statement of the question, the declaration of the highest living Hawaiian authority, is as follows:

"I was present at the adjustment of the claims of the American merchants during the visit of Capt. Jones in 1826. The amount claimed was about 90,000 piculs of sandal wood, (value $720,000.) A part of this had been paid, and the chiefs only allowed what was really due! The American Consul was very angry, but Capt. Jones was very mild, and acted the part of a friend." Honolulu, August, 1855.

And the caption of the edict which lays the tax, (as quoted by the Minister) declares, "that the authorities of the Sandwich Islands adopt and enforce these regulations for the purpose of discharging their debts due to citizens of the United States."

The journal of an American resident, other surviving Americans, and the accompanying extracts from Missionary letters of the day, substantiate the unimpeachable evidence.

Elisha Loomis, writer to the Mission, to Mr. Richards, 2d Nov., 1826: "I am now engaged translating a treaty between the United States and the Islands, which it is hoped may be agreed to. Capt. Jones is very friendly!"

H. Bingham, L. Chamberlain, S. Ruggles, to Capt. Jones, Jan. 4th, 1827.

"It has afforded us pleasure to aid your enquiries respecting the state and progress of the nation, and to second your endeavors for the mutual good of this country and of our own, which you have had in view, and which we believe your measures have been well adapted to promote!"

"May he by whose kind providence you have been sent to this land, reward and bless you, for your many kind offices to us, and to the chiefs and people, for whom we labor; and who, we trust, will long remember with satisfaction your honorable and friendly intercourse with them."

Will the Minister of Foreign Relations venture to say that the views and feelings of the Mission at that day, were not identical with those of the chiefs and Regent? Will he assert, that those strong expressions of Mr. Bingham, might not have borne just as truly the signature of Kaahumanu and the other chiefs who were parties to the treaty? Will he have the hardihood to insist that Capt. Jones did "take the law into his own hands, and coerce the payment of alleged and untried grievances," just eight days before the date of Mr. Bingham's letter? Will he pretend to believe, that if Capt. Jones had been unfriendly to the chiefs, and made himself the partizan of the merchants, the letter of Mr. Bingham would have been written?

The fifth article of the treaty reads as follows:

"Citizens of the United States, whether resident or transient, engaged in commerce or trading to the Sandwich Islands, shall be inviolably protected in their lawful pursuits; and shall be allowed to sue for and recover by judgment all claims against the subjects of his Majesty, the King, according to strict principles of equity, and the acknowledged practice of civilized nations."

This is certainly perfectly fair in every word and line, and cannot by any sophistry be made to bear any other interpretation than the simple meaning so evident upon its face.

Four days after this treaty was signed, the payment of the disputed claims was secured; Capt. Jones thus setting the example of observing his own Article V, by having the question settled in Council, the only form of a court known at that day among these people.

What is to be slid now of the invidious insinuation of the Minister of Foreign Relations, "that Capt. Jones may have framed Article V with the humane intention of preventing other commanders of foreign ships of war from following his example, by taking the law into their own hands, in support of alleged and untried grievances of their countrymen."

What influence could either or all of the articles of Captain Jones' treaty, whatever may have been his intentions in framing it, exert upon commanders of foreign ships of war, other than American?

But supposing for a moment that Captain Jones was actuated by the motives so kindly attributed to him, in this instance, by the Minister of Foreign Relations, will the Minister not allow that the "brave Captain" would have had good reason to be grievously disappointed at the utter failure of his Art. V to restrain the aggressive propensities of future commanders—not American, but British and French—when they came to "coerce treaties and to redress alleged grievances?"

One little instance—and only one—of the many aggressions that have been perpetrated upon the Hawaiian Government by British and French men-of-war, can be noticed here; and for the purpose in view, the two following notes of this same Minister of Foreign Relations to the British Consul-General, will suffice:

"I have it in command from His Majesty to state to you that neither he nor any of his chiefs believe that Mr. Charlton's title (to a valuable tract of land in Honolulu) is, or ever was, a good one; nor could it be sustained before any jury or tribunal in this country, where only the facts can be ascertained."—August 14th, 1845.

"His Majesty desires me to say that the acknowledgment of 23d February, 1843, was not a free acknowledgment, but one forced by the peremptory demands of Lord George Paulet, to be complied with, under penalty of an immediate attack upon the town, as officially announced by Capt. Paulet himself to Capt. Long and to the French Consul. His Majesty, to avert that threatened attack, replied to Capt. Paulet that he should comply with his demands, under protest. His Majesty cannot conceive, under these circumstances, how you can consider his acknowledgment of Mr. Charlton's title to the land a free acknowledgment. All the chiefs know that it was not a free acknowledgment."—August 16th, 1845.

Has the Minister of Foreign Relations ever had occasion, during "the ten years of his service without a single holiday," to address such a letter to any functionary in regard to the proceedings of American commanders of ships of war? Had either of his predecessors in office such occasion?

On the contrary, it is quite susceptible of undeniable proof, that from the first visit of an American man of war to the Islands, up to the last, not one single act of aggression against the ruling authorities of the Islands has ever been attempted or committed by an American commander; not one act of personal disrespect to the King or chiefs ever shown by an officer of the Navy of the United States; not one threat of "turning guns against the town" in support of "alleged claims," or "to force the King to sign a land title that his Majesty repudiated," ever made by any American commander. In short, it is well known that the most courteous and friendly attentions to the King and chiefs have always been extended by American ships of war anchoring at the Islands.

If the Minister of Foreign Relations had been sincere in his expressed desire "of wishing to show the difficulties with which his Hawaiian Majesty has had to contend," he would have made his selections of illustrations from the list of British and French commanders who have been the disturbers of the peace of the Hawaiian Kingdom. He might have been embarrassed in his choice of instances, from Lord Edward Russel, who coerced the King into signing a treaty, and Captain Belcher, who shook his fist in the face of Kinau, the mother of the present King, at a public audience, for which rude insult the youthful Prince declined to return his visit at London—to Lord George Paulet, who filibustered Kamehameha III into signing a fraudulent deed for land, and who deprived the King of his sovereignty "in redress of alleged and untried grievances of his countrymen!"

It is unnecessary to specify the French commanders, who have made hostile demonstrations at Honolulu, and held the King uneasy for his crown, as it is matter of history that it has been from the officers of these two monarchial Governments that *all* the assaults upon the independence of the Islands have come.

These inconvenient antecedents in the annals of Hawaii not being exactly of the nature to suit the purpose of the Minister in his attempt to traduce the Government and people of the United States, he merely mentions a few of them in the most guarded terms; suppresses all notice of others, and has the charity to offer excuses for some of the worst.

But, when misrepresenting Capt. Jones in the most shameless manner, the Minister can revive and publish a long obsolete edict, to make the Islanders of this day believe that their fathers had been the miserable victims of the American merchants and of the harsh tyranny of the commander of an American ship of war. Now, neither the American merchants, nor Capt. Jones, nor the Government of the United States, had any connection with the manner of raising revenue at the Islands. If the chiefs bought goods, and ordered their subjects to collect sandal wood to pay for them, it was altogether their own affair. But from the terms of the edict, it is very apparent that the tax could not have been oppressive; on the contrary, it was liberal, and was welcomed by the people.

It provides that "every man, except those too infirm or too old, is to go to the mountains, cut half a picul (66 2-3 lbs.) of sandal wood, and deliver it to the Governor of his district, within nine months. Failing the sandal wood, four dollars is the equivalent."

"Every woman over 13 to pay a mat, or tapa 6 feet by 12, or one dollar."

"Every person cutting half a picul of sandal wood for the tax, is allowed to cut the same quantity for himself, to sell on his own account to whomsoever he may think proper."

The bulk of the tax was paid in sandal wood. This precious commodity was the property of the chiefs, as mines of gold and silver are of the Government in other countries. And so well pleased were the people with this authority to cut $500,000 worth of it on their own account, "that many came to buy axes as soon as the proclamation had been made."—*Journal of a Resident.*

The making of mats or tapa is one of the highest and most agreeable occupations of the women of the Islands, as, to this day, going to the mountains to cut any kind of wood is the labor the men most delight in. After doing the work on a dairy farm, about the cattle, until 10 o'clock, the natives will go cheerfully into the mountain, and for the remainder of the day's work cut twenty posts or rails at the bottom of deep ravines, and back them up to the ridge, ready for the carts; and this for 25 cents a day!

Now, considering that the chiefs over their own signatures acknowledge their debt to the merchants of $500,000; considering that they were greatly obliged to the friendly offices of Capt. Jones in having the matter amicably settled; considering that they taxed their people to pay their debts after their own fashion; and considering that the people were not oppressed by the tax, perhaps the Minister of Foreign Relations will perceive *why* it was that, "notwithstanding all this, the Hawaiians entertained no hostile feelings towards Captain Jones, or the U. S. Government."

By this time, the Commissioner of the United States will have addressed the Minister of Foreign Relations for an explanation of this matter, and the evidence in the case, upon which the Minister founded his attack, *must come out*, if any such evidence is in existence. But should the Minister perpetrate in his defence, another "paper 120 feet in length," and expend thereon all the deceitful dissimulation at his command, he will not be able to prove that white is black, or in other words, to maintain the calumnious accusation of his Report against that republican officer who so early won, and who never forfeited, the esteem and the friendship of the late King and chiefs.

A communication, which appears on the first page of the *Chronicle* of to-day, takes hold of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of His Majesty, Kamehameha IV., and handles him as he deserves for his unreasonably severe anti-American tendencies and publications. Probably seven-eights of the foreign capital and inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands are Americans. American missionaries, American commerce, American dollars, labor, energy, perseverance and enterprise, American whalers, seamen and influence, have changed the cannibals of the Sandwich Islands, the decendants of those who first worshipped Capt. Cook as a god, and then murdered him and eat his heart into something like civilized beings. And had it not been for American statesmen and the ships which backed them, the last king of the Sandwich Islands would have died a subject, if not a slave, of Queen Victoria, or Napoleon III. For we are not aware that he, or his successor Kamehameha IV. had or has anything in possession more formidable than the Queen Pomare, the Dey of Algiers, the Nabobs and Rajahs of India, the fierce sheiks, the New Zealanders, the Hottentots, or the Bushmen. Yet all these have felt what the English, or French idea of progress and protection means. We are not aware also, that the kings, the people or the court of Hawaii possess any such mental superiority, or admirable quality of any other kind, which in itself is so superior to those possessed by the people just mentioned, that the tender mercies of monarchical Europe should have spared them while they have not spared the others.

The fact is that all the security and independence possessed at this day by the Hawaiian king, government and people, beyond what their insignificance gives them, are due entirely to American influence. And so fully has this fact been appreciated, that the late king was for years anxious to transfer his sovereignty to the United States. He declared that could he leave his kingdom he would go to Washington and in person make the transfer, if it could not otherwise be done. His life was one of annoyances, principally originating with the governments for whose interests Mr. Wyllie is now so earnestly working; and the only solace and safety he had was what he derived from American sympathy and the guns of our men of war.

For weeks at a time, while the king was expecting a bombardment from the French, the "Stars and Stripes" lay at the foot of his flag-staff, ready to supersede his own national flag the moment the first gun was fired. So near were we to having the protectorship of the Islands thrust upon us. It may be all very well for the Minister of Foreign Relations, War, and Finance, to exert himself now in favor of monarchy, England and France, and against our own people, government and institutions. Mr. Wyllie is a monarchist, and it is quite natural that he should think he may attain wealth, position, ay, a peerage, through annexation—or rather absorption—of the Hawaiian Islands by France or England. But it was not so once with some of the Ministers. When the ten millions paid Texas, and the fifteen millions paid Mexico for California were fresh in the minds of men, the ministers of his Majesty, or some of them at least, were anxious to pass the Hawaiian Kingdom over to the United States Government for the former named sum, ten millions of dollars. We know this to be true, having held the proposition in our hands for weeks, with the arguments and the signature plain to the eye and mind. Since the prospect of the ten millions has faded, the policy naturally enough fades with it. But Mr. Wyllie may rest certain that the American people will be heard and their interests and rights respected, even under the nose of the king and his prime minister, and that the press now the mere creature of Mr. Wyllie's purposes, will ere long have another tongue in Honolulu by which the foreign majority there may be able to maintain their own rights and the honor of the American name.—*Cal. Chronicle, Sept. 19th.*

[From the Troy Daily Times.]

A well merited compliment.

We notice in the Boston papers, that a New England University conferred the honorary degree of of L. L. D. upon the Hon. William L. Lee, a graduate of the Institution, and at present Chief Justice of the Sandwich Islands, and Envoy Extraordinary to the country. Mr. Lee was formerly of this city, and is we doubt not, his numerous friends here and elsewhere, will be gratified at this high testimonial to a high scholar and gifted statesman.

Correspondence

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Lahaina, Oct. 22d 1855.

To the Editor of the Polynesian:

SIR, on the night of Thursday the 18th inst., our little town was alarmed by the rumor that Mr. Anthony Lake had been killed suddenly, and Mr. Oriel Harris, so badly hurt, as to be insensible. I immediately visited the spot, where the body had been found, and made all the enquires usual in such cases, and, in the morning, Drs. Hutchison and Bow visited the place and examined the body, and from their report and other evidence there can be no doubt that the deceased came to his death in the following manner:

Both Lake (the deceased) and Harris had been at a Luau, and returning, the deceased mounted Harris's horse which by the way, was rather a spirited one, and Harris mounted behind him, and they started off at great speed. This was the last seen of them, till they were found about 20 minutes later, Lake dead, and Harris so badly injured, as to be out of his senses. It appears that there was a large breadfruit tree, standing close to the road, one of the limbs forming an elbow, which was just high enough to come in contact with the head of a man on horseback. And against this this tree they rode at full speed, the limb coming in contact, with the left temple of the deceased, and breaking nearly the whole left side of the scull, thus producing almost instant death.

The blow was so severe on Harris, as to separate the collar bone from the shoulder blade, but he bids fair to recover in a few days, though his hurt is severe.

Some of the hair of the deceased was found adhering to the bark of the tree next morning. I trouble you with these few lines, that you may not have fifty different versions of the affair, as is too often the case when such accidents happen.

I am very respectfully yours.
P. H. TREADWAY,
Sheriff of Maui.

[The following extracts from a private letter have been kindly handed to us.]

HILO, Oct. 13 1855.

MY DEAR SIR:—Hawaii still burns. The great furnace on Mauna Loa is in full blast. For 63 days the molten flood has rolled down the mountain without abatement. Our Hawaiian atmosphere is loaded with smoke and gases, through which the sun shines with dingy and yellow rays.

The amount of lava disgorged from this awful magazine is enormous. The higher regions of the mountain are flooded with vast tracts of smoking lava, while the streams which have flowed down the side of the mountain spread over a surface of several miles in breadth. The *main stream*, including all its windings, must be more than 50 miles long, with an average breadth of 3 miles.

This is still flowing direct for our bay, and is supposed to be within 10 miles of us. It is eating its way slowly through the deep forest and the dense jungle in our rear, and its terminus *must be* the sea, unless the great summit fountain should soon cease to disgorge.

On the 2d inst. Mr. M'Culley and myself set off to explore the eruption, taking the bed of our stream, the Wailuku river, as our path. We reached the terminal crater in four and a half days, tracing up the fiery stream from the upper skirt of the forest to the summit of the mountain. In the woods we could not follow it, on account of the dense jungle.

The burning stream now runs all the way in a covered duct, so that it can be seen only at its vents which let off the gas. These are truly fearful. We looked down many of them and saw the fiery current rushing under us, in some places at the rate of forty knots. We returned via Kilauea and were absent ten days. What we saw and heard and felt, cannot be described.

* * * * *

Should the lava continue to approach us, I intend after a little rest to make a party and cut through the jungle to the end of the stream. I need not say that Hilo is wakeful and inquisitive just now. We apprehend no personal danger, but should the fiery ruin enter our bay, wealth will "take wings like an eagle."

Oct 15.—A native visited the lava stream yesterday. Distance about 12 miles, advancing with sure and solemn progress towards us. All Hilo is thoughtful. We shall send up daily parties to watch the progress of this devouring flood.

Your's, &c.
T. COAN.

Mails.

The mail for San Francisco, the United States and Europe will be dispatched by the clipper bark *Yankee*, on Wednesday next, Oct. 31st.

For LAHAINA—by the *Ka Moi* this day.

For HILO and KAWAIHAE—by the *Manuokawai* on Monday or Tuesday.

For KAUAI—about Wednesday next.

☞ The mail of Sept. 20, from New York may be expected by the 30th inst. should the trades continue fresh.

☞ On Monday, at 5 o'clock, P.M., the weather promising fair, His MAJESTY re-embarked on board the "Maria," and left for Kauai, accompanied by the same chiefs and suite in general that returned with him from his trip to the windward. His absence will probably comprise a period of two weeks from the time of sailing.

☞ We are glad to observe that on Monday next a complimentary benefit will be given to Mr. T. C. GREEN, a performer whose speedy departure for the Atlantic States is to be regretted by our play-going community. Not only as a commedian, but as the impersonator of characters in which energy and pathos are called into play, he has given evidence of a talent which will be remembered and missed. In the part of *Havresac*, in "Napoleon's Old Guard"—which he will play on the occasion—he is particularly good. Miss GRAVES, (not LOUISE, although she will be there too) will, on that auspicious evening, make her first appearance upon any stage—and, altogether, we look for a very pleasant night.

☞ Our acknowledgments are due to Messrs. R Coady & Co., Agents of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, for files of late papers. Also to G. B. Post & Co., and J. W. Sullivan of San Francisco, for similar favors.

Passengers.

Per barque Yankee, A. G. Jones, C. J. Lovett, N. L. Ingols, W. Scott, T. T. Doughterty, J. Feary and wife, Mrs. Force, Master Benedict, W. C. Parke, W. P. Dow, A. Potter, Mrs. Bradshaw, and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Campbell and 3 children, C. J. Wellington, Mr. Lee and 4 children, W. Armstrong, Messrs. Peoples, Codons, Deane, Wyatt, Hinckley, Hornhousen, Sinegan, Leman, Warner, Rospett, Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Austin, Miss Virginia, Miss Annerean, Mr. and Mrs. Snyder, and two children, Messrs. Bell, Barrett, Hogan, Mackie, Francis, Roundtree, Alexander, and eight Hawaiians.

Per sch. Forward, J. Brown, J. Gardner, W. Markman, and one in the steerage.

Per sch. Pfiel, S. Linsey.

MARINE JOURNAL.

PORT OF HONOLULU.

Arrived.

Oct. 24.—Am. sh. Arab, Grinn