## COMMERCIAL.

*THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1862.*

THE British bark *Emperor* arrived on Sunday last from Monterey, in distress, leaking. A survey was held on Monday to ascertain her condition, and it was found that the vessel was sound, and that the damage sustained by collision with a floating log, was small. It will, however, be necessary to discharge a part of her cargo, which consists of lumber, so as to allow of the repairs being made. Proposals for $1000 to $1500, required for the vessel, have been called for at the British Consulate.

The first Spring whaler, the *Reindeer*, Capt. Raynor, arrived from Margarita Bay on Tuesday, with a good catch of 1125 brls. She brings a brief report from vessels cruising on the coast, which will be found below. The ship *Arctic*, now nearly due from Boston, will be laid on for oil for New Bedford, and will probably find a full cargo, as all the reports from the coast thus far received, have shown fair success.

The bark *Benjamin Rush* (formerly in the whaling service,) is loading for Victoria, V. I., to sail on Saturday. She takes a cargo of mules, some 90 or more, and also a quantity of sugar and molasses. This expert of mules will prove beneficial to our grazing interests, and if horses could be added to them, our agriculturists would be pleased. We can spare several thousand of these animals, called horses for want of some other name. There are probably not less than 28,000 on this group.

The *R. W. Wood* is laid on for Bremen, and is taking in cargo, but will probably not get away before the latter part of April, as a part of her cargo (oil from the coast fleet,) is yet to arrive.

The *Yankee* is at her berth at Market Wharf, taking in cargo, having engaged 1000 barrels oil from the *Reindeer*.

From San Francisco, we have no later advices than those announced last week.

In domestic produce quiet rules, and trade of every kind is extremely dull. To give quotations when nothing is doing, is a burlesque.

MANILA ROPE.—A firm in Liverpool, manufacturers of hempen and wire rope, now advertise thus:

"The present unusually low price of Manila hemp induces us to bring to notice the economy of using it for rope. Being much lighter than Russian hemp, at the same price per cwt., it would be fully 20 per cent. cheaper, and when spun by machinery is the strongest and most durable rope in use. Tarred Manila answers best for all ropes much exposed to wet, as hawsers, warps," &c.

Manila hemp, according to the Boston *Commercial Bulletin*, (one of the best commercial papers of the day,) is derived from a species of banana tree, indigenous to the forests of Mindanao, one of the largest islands of the Philippine group. The tree is cultivated for its fibre, which is obtained by rotting the trunk of the tree until the woody matter falls away from the fibre, which, with little cleaning, becomes the Manila hemp of commerce. This is collected by the natives into rolls, bundles and small bales, care being taken not to entangle the hemp, shipped in small coasting vessels to Manila, and then screwed into the regular 250 lb. bales of commerce. The bulk of the product is then shipped to the United States or England, other commercial countries using comparatively little of this fibre in their manufactories. Under favorable circumstances the Phillipines will continue a sufficient supply for the ordinary demands of commerce, at rates not much varying from the present, as Americans, being the largest buyers, keep down competition, while care is taken by those in the trade not to let the rates to the producer recede so far as to check production. It is probable that if a new source of supply for this commodity is ever sought, it will be found indigenous to the Caroline and portions of the Solomon's Islands, and in the mountains of the Eastern Archipelago. Perhaps it could be cultivated profitably in Nicaragua and Central America.—*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.*

INDIGO.—The Indigo is a shrub-like plant, two or three feet high, with delicate blue-green leaves, which at the harvest-time, about the month of August, are cut off close to the stem, tied into bundles, and laid in great wooden tubs. Planks are then laid on them, and great stones, to cause a pressure, and then water is poured over them, and after a day or two the liquor begins to ferment. In this process of fermentation lies the principal difficulty, and everything depends on allowing it to continue just the proper time. When the water has acquired a dark green color, it is poured off into other tubs, mixed with lime, and stirred with wooden shovels till a blue deposit separates itself from the water, which is then left to run off. The remaining substance, the Indigo, is then put into linen bags, through which the moisture filters; and as soon as the Indigo is dry and hard, it is broken into pieces and packed up.

### LATEST DATES, received at this Office.

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|---|---|---|---|
| San Francisco | Feb. 26 | London, (papers) | Nov. 25 |
| New York, (papers) | Jan. 21 | " telegraphic | Feb. 14 |
| " " telegraphic | Feb. 25 | Hongkong | Jan. 1 |
| Tahiti | Nov. 1 | Sydney, N. S. W. | Nov. 12 |

### Ships' Mails.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO—per Yankee, next week.
FOR VICTORIA, V. I.—per Benjamin Rush, Saturday.
FOR KONA—per Steamer, Tuesday next.
FOR KAUAI—per Old Fellow, about Saturday.

## PORT OF HONOLULU, H. I.

### ARRIVALS.

March 13—Sch Moiwahine, Kuheana, from Nawiliwili, with 172 kegs and 224 mats sugar, 32 tierces and 7 barrels molasses, 6 kegs syrup, 6 kegs butter, 4 mules, 3 pigs, 8 cords wood, and 9 passengers.
14—Sch Warwick, Bull, from Lanai, with 20 sheep and 5 passengers.
15—Sch Kamoi, Shepherd, from Kahului and Lahaina, with 20 bags sugar, 4 bags fungus, lot hides, goat skins, and 19 mules. Passengers—Messrs B F Bolles and son, Kimball, Brandon, and 12 natives on deck.
16—British bark Emperor, Buckminster, 14 days from Monterey, en route for Shanghae. Put in here for repairs.
16—Steamer Kilauea, Berrill, from windward ports, with 20 bales wool, 23 hides, 51 bags coffee, 6 brls potatoes, 2 pkgs honey, 88 kegs sugar, 11 brls molasses, 3 kegs butter, 2 bundles goat skins, 2 bags fungus, 2 boxes plants, 21 head cattle, 2 horses, 16 sheep, 25 hogs, and a large quantity of native freight.
18—Am wh ship Reindeer, Raynor, fm Margarita Bay, 1,125 brls (40 whales,) this season; 100 sp, 2,925 wh, 30,000 bone, voyage; 100 sp 1400 wh, on board—17 months out from New Bedford.

### DEPARTURES.

March 13—Tahitian sch Hornet, Dean, for San Francisco.
15—Sch Moiwahine, Kuheana, for Nawiliwili, Koloa and Waimea.
17—Sch Moikeiki, Napela, for Lahaina and Kahului.
18—Steamer Kilauea, Berrill, for Lahaina, Kona and other windward ports.
18—Sch Warwick, Bull, for Lahaina and Molokai
19—Sch Kamoi, Shepherd, for Lahaina and Kahului.

### MEMORANDA.

☞ Ship *Reindeer*, Raynor, reports—Left Honolulu Dec. 4, and arrived at Margarita Bay on the 26th. Took the first whale on the 5th Jan., but did not fairly commence whaling till the 10th. Found whales most plentiful about the middle of January. Left the Bay February 28, put into Man-o'-War Bay for firewood, and sailed again March 5th. First three days, had light westerly winds, after that strong trades all the way. Arrived at Honolulu March 18, with 1,125 brs. oil this season, having been absent only 3½ months. Reports the following vessels:—In Margarita Bay, March 5, ship Harvest, Manchester, with 1000 brls. oil this season. Heard from, Feb. 22:

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| Bark Harmony, Molteno | 15 whales. |
| Schooner Emma Rooke, Wilbur | 11 " |
| Brig Maria | 5 " |

Ship Congress 24, Stranburg, had taken two whales, and sailed Jan. 15th to cruise and home. He lost his 2d officer and a boat's crew by desertion.

EASTERN MARINE NEWS.

One-eighth of A1½ ship *Flying Scud*, 1,713 tons, built at Damariscotta in 1854, was sold at auction in New York, Dec. 3, for $3,500, cash. She is reported to be one of the fastest clippers afloat.

In New Bedford, Nov. 30th, by auction, one-fourth of ship *Good Return*, of N. B., now at sea, (last reported with 1,250 brls whale oil, 3 years out,) was sold to J. C. Blisdell, of Fall River, for $2,875. Also, one-sixteenth of bark *Peri*, of N. B., now at sea, (last reported with 50 brls sperm oil—1½ years out,) to Wm. Phillips, of N. B., for $90.

Advices from Sydney, N. S. W., state that ship *Sovereign of the Seas* (before reported burnt,) was set on fire by one of the crew. He was placed in irons, a bill being found against him, and committed to await trial before the Supreme Court. The ship was 1227 tons, owned at St. John, N. B.

VESSELS LAUNCHED IN GREAT BRITAIN.—At Carlstyke, by Scott & Co., Oct. 19th, a clipper steamer, named the *Prince Pierre*, in honor of the son of Lucien Bonaparte. The vessel registers about 450 tons, and is owned by a Marseilles firm, by whom she will be employed in the Medit-rranean. She will be furnished with direct acting engines of 150 horse-power by the Greenock Foundry Company. Her consort, the new steamer *Francoise Marie*, built and engined by the same firms, sailed 22d ult., for the south of France.

At Backwall, Oct. 23d, from yard of R. & H. Green, the clipper ship *Highflyer*, built expressly for the China trade. She measures 1,116¼ tons, builders' measurement, and is classed A1 twelve years. She has iron beams, and oak frame strapped diagonally with iron outside the timbers, and is fitted with every modern appliance—iron lower masts, patent topsail yards, Davis' patent messenger windlass, &c., &c. Her dimensions are as follows:—length between perpendiculars, 190¾ feet; keel for tonnage, 168¾; beam extreme, 35¾; beam for tonnage, 35½; beam moulded, 34½; depth of hold, 21¾. She is to be commanded by Capt. Enright, well known in the China trade.

BURNT.—The beautiful packet ship *Harvey Birch*, Captain Nelson, from Havre in ballast, bound to New York, was fallen in with by the rebel steamer *Nashville* on the 19th Dec., which hove to, took off her crew, 27 in number, put them all but her captain in irons, and then set her on fire. She remained by her until she was burned to the water's edge. She subsequently landed her prisoners at Southampton, (England,) leaving them in the care of the American Consul. The *Harvey Birch* was a noble vessel of 1,482 tons register, with three decks, valued at $70,000, and was probably insured in New York for that amount, though we are not informed whether she was insured against the depredations of privateers. Messrs. J. H. Brewer & Co. owned her.

### VESSELS IN PORT—MARCH 20.

Russian steam corvette Calavala, Davidoff.
Am bark Yankee, Claxton.
Haw. bark R. W. Wood, Geerken.
Haw. bark Benjamin Rush, Chadwick.
British bark Emperor, Buckminster.
Am brigt Josephine, Stone.
Am Miss. brig Morning Star, Gelett.
Am wh ship Reindeer, Raynor.

### PASSENGERS.

Per KILAUEA, March 16th—From *Hawaii*: F Spencer and daughter, Mr Dalton. From *Maui*: Mrs W D Alexander and child, 2 Misses Alexander, Miss Bixby, Miss J Makee, Messrs A D Cartwright, W Burnham, Halleck, and Kauwai—13 cabin and 106 deck passengers.

For WINDWARD PORTS—per Kilauea, March 18—E A S Wood, Miss Fidelia Lyons, H N Landford, S Halleck, Chas Wallace, W H Kauwai—6 cabin and about 100 deck passengers.

### MARRIED.

HOLT—HANAKAULANI—March 15, in Honolulu, by Rev. E. W. Clark, Owen J. Holt to Hannkaulani, both of this place.

### DIED.

SILVIA—On board whaleship Reindeer, Feb. 28, of disease of the heart, Antone Silvia, seaman. He was a native of Cape de Verde Islands.


THE PACIFIC
# Commercial Advertiser.

*THURSDAY, MARCH 20.*


THE royal proclamation, convening the Legislature for its biennial session, is before our readers, and it is well to turn the public attention to matters which must soon come before that body for discussion; not least among which is the adjustment of our national expenditures to the limits of our curtailed revenue. It is patent to all that *some* reductions must be made, and the legislature ought to take advantage of this fact to make a general reduction in *every branch*, reducing especially the salaries of employees to the rates paid in 1850. The appropriation bill of that year, if taken as a guide, would reduce the amount called for for salaries *more than one-third*, while as efficient officers, in every department of the public service, can be secured at those rates as at the princely sums now paid.

In the *Polynesian* of the 1st of March, we find a communication on the proposed reductions in salaries, of a character rather above the productions usually met with in that sheet, and which is all the more worthy of attention as it is understood to have emanated from the finance office, and may be thus taken as an index of the policy of the Government. As we have before said, we shall always cordially cooperate and assist in any measures which have in view the real benefit of the people, no matter from what source they originate, and therefore insert most of the article, though somewhat lengthy:

MR. EDITOR:—As the time is rapidly approaching for the session of the Legislature, and as neither you nor the *Advertiser* appear to have the least inkling of the amount or direction in which the Government intends to proceed in its propositions to the Legislature for reduction of the national expenditures; and as public discussions of public questions help amazingly to expedite business and mature opinions when the times comes for their transaction and delivery, I beg your permission to submit a view of the amounts and the direction in which not a few of the best friends of this country, its People, Government and King, think that a reduction may properly be made without injuring or jeopardizing any essential interest. I will not detain your readers by pointing out what portions of the Civil Code will require altering or repairing, for if the Legislature agrees upon the main question, there will be little difficulty in arranging existing statutes. I will therefore take the last session's appropriations bill before me and make my remarks as occasion may require.

We find, then, that the last Legislature appropriated $735,482 40 for the two years ending 31st March, 1862, or $367,741 20 for each year, as an average. Now, let us turn to the details as follows:

THE CIVIL LIST (leaving out the exceptional expenditure of $3,000) was fixed at $24,550 per annum. Observing that this sum comprises the expenses of the entire Royal Household, including even H. R. H. Prince Kamehameha, who performs the duties and draws no salary as Minister of the Interior, and knowing in some measure the many and constant calls upon the benevolence and ever-ready charity of their Majesties, that sum is certainly small enough.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.—The sum of $128,235 67, or $64,117 83 was per annum appropriated by the last Legislature.

Were I on the Finance Committee of the Legislature, while I would retain the full salary of the Chief Clerk, on whom most of the labor falls, and Second Clerk, as they now are, I would dispense with the Third Clerk and his salary of $800 a year.

It might be a mooted point with the Legislature whether, while retaining the honorary titles of Governors of the various islands, with their social preeminence and civil prerogatives, their salaries may not be appropriately withdrawn, and their few actual official functions performed by some other office or offices already existing, such as, for instance, the Circuit Judges on Hawaii, Maui and Kauai, and the Minister of the Interior on Oahu. The united salaries of the Governors amount to $6,000, and those of their Clerks to $2,500. Should the Circuit Judgeships of Hilo and Maui be invested with the Gubernatorial official functions, a raise in their salaries to $2,000 each would, in my opinion, be appropriate. The Circuit Judge on Kauai ought to be sufficiently well paid with his present salary, considering the extent and population of that island; and $250 or $300 might be added to the salary of the Chief Clerk of the Interior, as compensation for any additional labor accruing from the island of Oahu—we shall have then a saving of $6,500 a year in the items of Governors and their Clerks.

The idea of making the Governors honorary dignitaries, serving without pay, is not new in the legislation of this country; for if I remember right, in 1851 or '52, a proposition was made to appoint Lieutenant Governors, performing the functions of the Gubernatorial incumbents; and, I think, that the idea would not be unfavorably looked upon in high quarters. But should the Legislature think differently, I can fully appreciate and respect its motives, and am quite willing to retain the emoluments of the present incumbents during their lifetime.

Of the two offices, "Marshal" and "Sheriff of Oahu," public opinion is more and more convinced that their respective functions could, without injury to the public service, be merged in one, and either the Marshal do the Sheriff's duty as well, or the Sheriff the Marshal's. While I would keep the appropriation called "Police, Oahu," at its late figure or nearly so, thus enabling it to replace a sufficient number of its constabulary to meet the present objection to their small number, I think that about $5,000 a year might be saved on thus merging the two offices. It would remain for the Legislature to arrange that junction with present laws. But as, under such an arrangement, the Marshal or High Sheri, or whatever he may be called, will undoubtedly have his hands quite full, it would be but proper to relieve him of the responsibility of the Oahu State Prison by making the Intendant of that establishment directly appointed by, and responsible to, the Minister of the Interior. Whatever reductions may be made in the appropriations called "Police, Maui, Hawaii and Kauai," I have no doubt will be suggested by the Minister of the Interior, though for my part I do not think that much can be taken from them without impairing their efficiency.

There is an appropriation of $1,000 a year for "Clerk of Honolulu Market." I have no doubt that the Deputy Sheriff in Honolulu, or some other competent policeman could, without detriment to his own duties, attend to the business devolving on that office, and consider himself well paid with $400 additional to his present pay.

The "Postmaster of Honolulu" receives under the late appropriation $2,500 a year, and his clerk $1,000. I know many, fully as competent, who would be glad to perform the duties at $2,000 a year, with an allowance of $500 for occasional assistance, if needed, when foreign mails arrive.

"Stationery, Incidentals, Vaccine, Coroners and Health Commission" expenses being all of an uncertain nature, no more would be expended than the circumstances would require, whatever the amount appropriated would be.

THE GOVERNMENT PRESS having been disposed of by lease, the contract would be the measure of the reduction in that branch. $11,600 was the appropriation for the "Government Press" by the last Legislature, per annum. By contracting for the work and the lease of the establishment the Government will save perhaps $8,000.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—The appropriation is $9,000 a year.

I am aware that there are many who think that this Department might be merged as a Bureau or a Secretaryship under the general presidency of the Minister of the Interior or of Finance. I do not exactly agree with those reasoners. While it is all very true that as a government we should study simplicity and economy, yet as long as there is a Sovereign Court in this country, with an independent status and foreign relations, changing with the aspect and condition of other powers as much as of our own, I think it necessary for this Government, I think it due to others, that the Foreign Office should not be the step-child of any other Department. On the contrary, I can see no very valid reason why the Minister of Foreign Affairs may not also preside over some other branch, Bureau, Department or Board of the Government, without additional pay, if deemed competent by His Majesty, and a saving in the expenses can thereby be effected. But I do think that the Minister's own salary may be reduced to $3,500, and that of his clerk to $2,000 a year, and that $1,000 might be saved from the appropriations for "postage," "stationery" and "translations;" making in all a saving of $2,000 in that Department.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.—From the last appropriation, of $81,652 26 deduct $2,152 25 exceptional expenses and 32,000 pay of Assessors and Tax Collectors, which, being a per centage upon the gross receipts, would provide for themselves, and might be reduced to much smaller proportions were the Minister at liberty to make his own arrangements below a certain per centage, beyond which the Legislature would not sustain him—and we have a yearly average expenditure for that Department of $23,750.

The opinion of the public is about equally divided on one item touching this Department. While some advocate that the salary of the Minister should be drawn in, and the presidency over the Department be held by the Minister of the Interior or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, while the Registrar of Public Accounts should be the working, responsible man in the office, with possibly a small increase in his salary, others merely contend for a change of persons with possibly a small reduction in the salary. I confess that, as economy and the most rigorous saving should be the policy of the Legislature, and not the gratifying of party sentiments or the promotion of party interests, I am inclined to adopt the first proposition, which would make a saving of, say, $3,500 instead of possibly $1,000 per year.

Continuing the appropriation of $3,000 a year to the Collector-General, it is well-known, however, that, taking the year round, there is not business enough in the Custom House to keep one man occupied during business hours, let alone three. The Clerk has been discontinued, but I think that the Deputy Collector could be spared, and should, at any one time, business crowd in upon the Collector, a small sum held at his disposition to hire an amanuensis for the time being would be all sufficient. The salaries of Deputy and Clerk make $3,700 a year. $1,000 a year for Assistants and Guards, when needed, I think would suffice, unless commerce took a most sudden and extraordinary development. The Collector and Harbor Master's salary at Lahaina might be retained; but I see no reason, through press of business or otherwise, why he could not be his own surveyor, and be allowed a nominal appropriation of $200 or $300 a year for an assistant whenever a straggling merchantman might visit that port.

The stationery and incidentals for the Custom House need no longer exceed $500 per annum, nor the same items for Tax Collectors and Assessors and Incidentals of Department the sum of $700 per annum.

We will thus have a saving in this Department in the ordinary expenses of at least $9,100.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR.—Deducting the exceptional amount of $4,628 15, the yearly appropriation is $21,000.

I confess that I am not much versed in military matters, but, without going into details, there can be no doubt that, without materially interfering with any views for the better and more efficient organization of the military, its expenses may be reduced say $6,000.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.—Deducting $5,000 exceptional expenses, the appropriation is $16,200 per year, in addition to the school tax, which averages over $30,000 yearly, but is not paid into the Treasury.

Should no radical changes be effected in this Department, as you and others have advocated, I do not see that, on the base that these things now are, any marked reduction should be made, unless reducing the Clerks salary $500, which amount was predicated upon his being the editor of the *Hae Hawaii*. I would most strenuously insist, however, that the school tax be paid into the Treasury, and the school masters' salaries be paid quarterly by drafts from that office, instead of that amount being locked up in the hands of other parties for the greater portion of the year.

DEPARTMENT OF LAW.—Yearly appropriation $44,212 50.

In running over the various items of that Department, I would deduct $700 from the Second Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and tax the salary of the Chief Justice 20 per cent. The Circuit Judges, on Oahu salaries might be withdrawn say $1,600. Also that of Interpreter and Clerk of the Police Court of Honolulu say $800. I hardly think that the fees should be made to pay the district justices by fees, etc., though the experiment should be free whenever and wherever the Supreme Court might deem it prudent and likely to be attended with a good result. The District Judge of Honolulu, however, is no longer needed, and his salary of $500 may be drawn in. The District Attorneys draw a joint salary of $5,200 a year. I would dismiss them all, and appoint an Attorney General, with headquarters at Honolulu, and a salary of $3,000 a year, whose duty should be to conduct all more serious suits, on any of the islands, and assist or advise the Sheriffs in the prosecution of suits of less importance.

BUREAU OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.—Out of an appropriation averaging $55,170 75 yearly, I only notice $26,000 a year as permanent expenses; and if no further dredging or enlargement of the Esplanade is to be undertaken for the next two years, some $8,000 or $10,000 of that even may be spared. Remains the usual petty appropriations for roads and bridges, etc., all over the country, amounting to nearly $30,000 a year. I believe that $25,000 a year can be made to meet all most necessary expenses within this Bureau—at least until better times shall warrant a greater outlay, and thus the expenditure of about $30,000 a year may be avoided.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE.—For this chapter a yearly average sum of $74,227 was appropriated. But the appropriation includes $8,000 a year for the "water fund," which is supposed to take care of itself without additional help from the general Government and as it also includes $35,000 a year for "outstanding Exchequer Bills," which however may or should be renewed, provision only being made for the interest, and furthermore the expenses of the Legislature should not in conscience exceed $6,000 this year, there would be only $56,058 miscellaneous expenditures to be provided for, for the two next years, or a saving from the nominal amount of the last appropriation bill of $92,400. I am well aware that several items in that chapter of the bill would not have to be paid again during the next two years, but as other demands would probably arise, I have retained the aggregate of the other items unaltered.

Let us now recapitulate, and it will be seen that the actual expenses to be paid from the legitimate receipts of the Treasury may be reduced from the nominal amount of the last appropriation by some $122,000, or make the annual sum to be provided for, as a matter of necessity, average about $245,511.

We get then the following reductions in the—

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| Interior Department | $13,800 |
| Government Press | 8,000 |
| Department Foreign Affairs | 2,000 |
| " Finance | 9,100 |
| " War | 6,000 |
| " Public Instruction | 500 |
| " Law | 6,500 |
| Bureau Public Improvements | 20,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 46,000 |

or $122,000 per annum. Perhaps some more radical reformer may reduce it still further. I think however that they can not go much below my figures without either crippling the public service, or finding themselves in the predicament of the man who trimmed his stick at both ends, until there was no stick at all left to lean upon.

To meet these $245,511 expenses, I find that the regular ordinary Government receipts, so far as I can ascertain from published records of the years 1860 and 1861, exclusive of the "water rates," and "miscellaneous receipts," would be about $264,000, leaving a possible balance of from $10,000 to $20,000 in hand. But that this is not hardly enough to provide for any emergency that may arise, is evident, without leaving anything wherewith to extinguish the public debt. There would doubtless be some inconvenience at first in paring down the various establishments, but no good is ever arrived at without commensurate exertion. But some of the recaptured sparrows flying about is past, and the Government must now catch the birds before they pluck them, or put itself upon short allowance for a season. I can not, however, advise any increase either in the duties or the taxes, direct or indirect. The former have reached their maximum, and it would not be prudent to increase the latter in a season of commercial contraction or industrial changes. It is then of necessity that the Government must look the situation in the face and resign itself to forego many things which in more prosperous times might never have created a discussion.

The sentiments expressed in the above exhibit, would, if carried out, meet public approbation. The reductions correspond in the main with the suggestions thrown out in this paper of October 3d, which the government organ then ridiculed, but which the ministry have found worthy of attention, and will have to carry out. The communication indicates a step in the right direction, but too much reliance should not be placed on it, inasmuch as the ministry have on former occasions had the same opportunity of carrying out popular reforms, but failed in so doing.

If the system of compensation according to the amount of labor performed, is adopted, there is no necessity of paying any clerk in the government service over $2,000 per annum, which is a higher price than is paid in any other similar service.

Regarding the Marshal's and Sheriffs' pay, as well as that of the police, were the old system of fees revived, it would work a saving to the government treasury, though it might not be entirely free from abuse and censure.

The sum paid for a clerk for the market has always been considered as so much miss J Makee, and it is to be hoped that it will be stopped, while the ground now occupied as a fish-market, can be made to bring in an income of one or two thousand dollars a year, if leased.

The salary of the Postmaster was formerly $1200, then raised to $1500, now $2500, and we see no reason why the very reduced service now required cannot be done for the smaller sum, with perhaps two or three hundred for a lad as a clerk. The pay is out of all proportion for the service rendered.

The necessary Government printing has, under the decrease of its general wants, been largely reduced, and no reason exists why the entire printing should amount even to the sum now paid. The quantity of blanks required is not one half what it was several years ago.

The suggestions made regarding the Foreign, Finance, War, and Education Departments are in the main good, and if carried out, would be a great improvement. The rule of reductions in salaries should apply equally to each department.

In the Law Department, a suggestion is thrown out for taxing the salary of the Chief Justice 20 per cent. Any special legislation, as this would unquestionably be, intended to tax this or that one *because* he is rich or has a large income, is clearly unconstitutional. The *constitution* declares also that the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court shall *not be decreased* during their lifetime, and so long as that clause remains, there is no alternative but to submit to the payment of the present salaries, which all must admit are larger than the revenue of the government can afford.

We question whether *one* District-attorney will be found to serve the public cause for all the group, unless he is a smarter and more active lawyer than any now employed. But if the object is to effect the *removal* of the present officers, the mode suggested is undoubtedly the most effective. Certain it is, that the Government at present gets very inefficient service for the price paid in this branch, and few officers in the employ of Government get more for the small work done.

The Circuit and District Courts are simply constitutional excrescences, and were there some mode of lopping them off, or reducing the salaries to mere nominal sums, the public service would not suffer.

Passing on to Public Improvements, it is impolitic to suggest the abandonment or even reduction of the amount ordinarily called for in this branch of public service. Our public improvements constitute the capital stock of the Kingdom; if these are nourished, increased and rendered more serviceable, the credit of the nation is raised, and the usefulness and service of the Government augmented. On the other hand, if all improvements are stopped—our roads, bridges, wharves and harbors left to wreck and ruin—the name of the Government, as well as the public convenience, service and revenue, suffer.

Just at this time there are two important public necessities—one is a GOVERNMENT BUILDING for the public offices, and the other is a PALACE. We place the Government Building first, as it is the one most needed. The occupancy of the rookery where the offices are now located, *is a disgrace to the nation*. And so long as it continues to be thus located in premises which every rain floods, and the Government continues to pay some fourteen or fifteen hundred dollars for accommodations which could not command three hundred from any other source, so long will the public credit continue to wane. We would not encourage extravagance or show, but when a clear *necessity* exists for new and commodious quarters, we must urge it. We called on the last legislature to vote an appropriation, but the ministerial interest in the present premises outweighed our voice, and the consequence is that after every rain, we hear of the rats and vermin infesting the rooms, the public records damaged with wet, and the employees down with fevers or standing in deadly fear of consumption; while the public records are all exposed to utter annihilation from fire at any moment. We respectfully urge this matter on the Legislature and call for an appropriation of $25,000 to $30,000, to be devoted to the speedy erection of a Government Building.

A PALACE for the Royal family is needed, and if any mode can be devised by which it can be erected during the coming biennial term, the necessary funds should be voted. It becomes every nation to seek the personal comfort of its sovereign and his family, and to provide for them a residence suited to the dignity of their position, that they may command the respect due to them as rulers. The bare fact that His MAJESTY has signified his wish that an appropriation be voted for this object, ought to be a sufficient reason why it should be voted at the earliest moment practicable.

Regarding the details of reducing the salaries of the Government officers, there will be a diversity of opinion, but a reduction of not less than $100,000 can readily be made, without detriment to the public service. There are many officers and employees, whose pay does not appear in the appropriation bill, such as the officers of the *Pele*, road supervisors, water works, physician for prostitutes, assessor and tax officers, &c., &c., some of which are unnecessary, while the *salaries* or pay of others can be reduced one half.

The following schedule, embracing some of the salaries which it is proposed to reduce, has been placed in our hands by one who will have some influence with the Legislature. We do not coincide in all the changes proposed, but the reductions embraced amount to over $100,000, and as it may be of some service to those interested, we insert it:

| | Old Approp. | New Salary. | Annual Saving. |
|---|---|---|---|
| DEPARTMENT INTERIOR.—Chief Clerk | $2,500 | $2,000 | $500 |
| 2d clerk | 1,500 | 1,200 | 300 |
| 3d " | 800 | abolish | 800 |
| Four Governors—make honorary offices without pay | — | — | 6,000 |
| Marshal | 3,500 | fees | 3,500 |
| Sheriff of Oahu | 3,000 | abolish | 3,000 |
| " of Maui | 1,500 | 1,000 | 500 |
| " of Hawaii | 1,500 | 800 | 700 |
| " of Kauai | 1,000 | 600 | 400 |
| Jailor Oahu Prison | 1,500 | 1,000 | 500 |
| Clerk Honolulu Fish Market | — | abolish | 1,000 |
| Stationery for Departments | 500 | 250 | 250 |
| Postmaster Honolulu | 2,500 | 1,500 | 1,000 |
| Clerk for do | 1,000 | 300 | 700 |
| Mail-Carrier fund | — | reduce | 500 |
| Vaccine appropriation, discontinue, and work to be done in connection with the Queen's Hospital | — | — | 1,000 |
| GOVERNMENT PRESS.—(Subject to lease) | 11,600 | 2,500 | 9,100 |
| DEPARTMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS | 9,100 | 7,000 | 2,100 |
| FINANCE DEPARTMENT.—Register's salary to remain as at present. | | | |
| Collector-General | 3,000 | 2,500 | 500 |
| Deputy Collector | 2,500 | abolish | 2,500 |
| Clerk, same as at present; other salaries and expenses reduce | — | — | 2,000 |
| Collector at Lahaina | 2,000 | abolish | 2,000 |
| Surveyor at " | 750 | abolish | 750 |
| The above offices and duties to be performed by the Sheriff or District Attorney. | | | |
| Custom-house stationery | 1,000 | 200 | 800 |
| Assessors and Tax-Collectors | 16,000 | 6,000 | 10,000 |
| WAR DEPARTMENT | 23,264 | 10,000 | 13,264 |
| PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | 18,700 | 10,000 | 8,700 |
| DEPARTMENT OF LAW.—Chief Justice | 5,000 | 4,000 | 1,000 |
| 1st Associate Justice | 4,000 | 3,000 | 1,000 |
| 2d " " make an honorary office without pay | — | — | 2,000 |
| Salaries of Circuit and District Judges, to be reduced to the scale of the appriation bill of 1850. | | | |
| Clerk of the Supreme Court | 2,500 | 2,000 | 500 |
| 2d clerk " " | 1,200 | 1,000 | 200 |
| Clerks of other Districts, each $100 | — | 300 | 600 |
| District Attorney, Oahu | 2,000 | 1,500 | 500 |
| " " Maui | 1,500 | 1,500 | 500 |
| " " Hawaii | 1,200 | 1,000 | 200 |
| " " Kauai | 500 | 250 | 250 |
| The expenses of holding court and incidentals may be somewhat curtailed. | | | |
| Law Library | discontinue | | 250 |
| PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.—Superintendent | 2,500 | 2,000 | 500 |
| Clerk for Superintendent | — | abolish | 250 |
| Road Supervisors | 4,000 | 3,000 | 1,000 |

MEMO.—The reductions made above embrace mainly salaries. Under the head of "Public Improvements" and "Miscellaneous Expenditures" are many items not requiring reappropriation, and others that may be greatly reduced.

STRAWBERRIES.—The season for this delicious fruit has returned, and as usual Mr. Holstein is on hand ready to supply families in large or small quantities. See his notice.

PATRIOTIC.—On the receipt at Lahaina last week, of the news of the capture of Fort Donelson, Consul Long, assisted by others, fired a national salute in honor of the success of the Union cause.

☞ We insert the following communication without the slightest reluctance, for it has always been a rule with us to open our columns to any replies to us or to communications which appear in them, whether reflecting on our own words or those of others, if written in the same spirit as the remarks which may have called them forth. The labor of editing a newspaper is a peculiar one, which few can realize, and many of the articles are written with great haste, embodying often sentences or words which revision or a moment's reflection would have changed. Had the sentence with which our correspondent takes umbrage been re-read, after having been written, or had it even been revised carefully in the proof, it might have been modified to read "and it is not wise policy for England to go to war with America," &c., which, while it robbed the expression of its fancied harshness, yet conveys the idea which we know was held by a portion of her own people, and uttered by the English paper referred to in our last, (the extract, we think, was credited to Willmer & Smith's *Liverpool Times*.) And no one knows better than our correspondent that the comments made on the news received, are generally a digest of it, *as found in foreign papers*, rather than the individual sentiments of the person who may chance to write them; though in some instances, where the reports are meager, as in that referred to in the next paragraph, there is room for exercise of judgment in assigning motives or arriving at conclusions.

Respecting the *Trent* affair, when the news of it was first received here, we characterized it as a bold affair, justified only by the laws of *might*; and when a report of the release came, we were the first to admit its correctness, basing our judgment on the supremacy of the laws of *right*, though as is well-known the California papers received by that arrival all denounced the report as a *canard*, while three-fourths of our community were incredulous on the subject. To say that we justified the seizure of the Rebel Commissioners is not founded in fact, nor were we "surprised" at the surrender when made.

*To the Editor of the Commercial Advertiser:*

SIR:—In your last issue, in the article headed "A secession flag hauled down," you say, "we are sure that no liberal-minded Englishman will ever take offense at what we may say." I find, on referring to your leading article of March 8, that what you did say was this:

"The Emperor Napoleon, who is really the master spirit of Europe, has spoken and said 'Peace, be still,' and England dare not go to war with America without at least the moral support and approval of France."

Perhaps I am not a liberal-minded Englishman, for I confess that I felt at least that if I or the other British residents of Honolulu were not offended by the above paragraph, it was not because the taunt conveyed in it was not peculiarly well-calculated for that object. As long as human nature remains as it has been, the expression "you dare not" will always be one of the most provoking that can be uttered, whether it be used between little boys just out of their petticoats, between grown men, or between nations.

Still, for my own part, I have no particular objection to your saying that England dare not go to war with America, *if you think so*, as freedom of speech both in the press and on the street has long been held as dear to every Englishman as it appears to be to you, (and as, it is to be hoped, it will remain to every American); all I claim is, the same freedom of speech that you enjoy, and the right now to inquire whether there is any truth whatever in your assertion, or whether there is even the slightest ground for such an imputation.

Were the facts regarding the position England took in the Mason and Slidell affair less notorious, I might have been content to let your remarks pass, as a labored refutation, however true, could not have told with much force on your countrymen or mine, or on the community generally, for whose edification your leaders are supposed to be prepared. It so happens, however, that the whole of the events connected with it, are so recent, so notorious, and so unequivocal, that they have only to be alluded to, to present of themselves a thorough and complete refutation of your assertions. So opposite indeed are the facts, that they place your version of the affair in a truly comical light.

Simply, then, two passengers were forcibly and illegally taken from a British mail steamer on the open sea, by the Commander of a United States ship-of-war. The government and people of Great Britain after learning and discussing the matter, came to the conclusion, with a unanimity seldom exceeded, that if the act were sustained by the American Government and not apologized for, there was no possibility of avoiding war. The British Government politely but firmly demanded the surrender of the passengers. In the mean time the American newspapers which arrived in England teemed with articles justifying the act, and not only so, but in all kinds of ways adding insult to injury. The English naturally concluded that they would probably have to fight, and prepared accordingly for war, sending troops to Canada and ships to the North American Station, and anxiously awaited the answer of the American Government. They were hence rather surprised, and the majority pleased to find, that Seward gave up the passengers on the demand of the British Minister, that they were received on board a British man-of-war, and brought on to England.

Now I will venture to say that no British newspaper will so far forget itself, or be so ungenerous as to assert that the Americans "*dare not*" do otherwise than give up those men. They know and the British people know that the Americans as a nation, and generally as individuals,

"Dare do all that may become a man,—
"Who dares do more is none."

They will perceive that it was an act of true courage in the American Government to do what was right, in the face of a noisy, blustering and unscrupulous but popular press; and they will hope and believe, that the government must have felt themselves supported in their action by the reflecting and respectable portion of American citizens.

It was no doubt mortifying to the rabble in the Northern States, and to the press that had pandered to their weaknesses, to have to "back down" so suddenly after so much bluster; and allow me to say, Sir, judging from the style of your remarks, that you appear to have shared in their mortification, if you did not join in their bluster, and that you have cast about to discover by what "*cock and bull story*," and by what bitter insin