

SATURDAY PRESS. VOLUME II, NO. 24. HONOLULU, H. I., SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 1882. WHOLE NUMBER 76.

C. BREWER & CO. HAVE JUST RECEIVED, PER American Bark "Ceylon," From Boston, THE FOLLOWING LIST

Reminiscences of Honolulu—No 23. Admiral de Tromelin's demand for an audience to discuss with the King in his Council grave questions, was refused on the 21st of August, and on the 23d Mr. Wyllie received a long dispatch signed jointly by the Admiral and Dillon, in which, after declaring that the refusal of the audience "cannot be considered otherwise than as a dilatory reply," that "the actual situation in which the person and commerce of the French in the Sandwich Islands are placed do not permit to accept any longer new delays," they required from the Government of His Majesty Ka-mehameha III. a categorical answer to the following demands:

1. The complete and loyal adoption of the Treaty of 1846, as it reads in the French text. 2. The reduction to 50 per cent. ad valorem of the duty upon brandies and spirituous liquors of French origin. 3. Catholic schools to be under the direction of the head of the French mission, and special inspectors not Protestants, and "rigorously equal treatment" of the two sects and their schools. 4. The use of the French language in business between French citizens and the Hawaiian Government.

Damages to the proprietor of the French hotel. As in the case of the ninth demand, the Courts of the country were open for redress, to all persons, to compel the remuneration of damages wrongfully sustained. The foregoing was the substance of the reply to the Government as known to the public; but Mr. Wyllie's dispatch conveying the King's answer was of course very voluminous, occupying several columns in the 'Polygraph' of September 8th. No business was done in Honolulu on that afternoon of August 25th. The demands of the Admiral having been refused, public expectation was on tip-toe to see what was meant by the threat which had been made to "employ the means at their disposal to obtain a complete reparation." In those days, every residence of any size and most of the stores, was surrounded with a palisade-like structure called a "lookout," which afforded a view of the town, the harbor and the roadstead. These were crowded on the occasion referred to, with curious spectators, and so was the beach and wharves. At half-past two, three boats, filled with marines and soldiers, rowed to the beach, each boat carrying a mounted cannon in the bow, put off from the 'Anse-au-Francois,' lying at anchor, and pulling in to the harbor they were joined by two more boats similarly armed and equipped from the 'Gasconne.' Then after a short delay, apparently for conference, all five boats formed nearly in line and made a dash—a charge—at full headway, for the landing, about where Brewer's wharf is now. A line of spectators made up of foreign residents mostly— for the natives had been ordered by Governor Kekuanoa to keep out of the way—was drawn up to witness the debarkation of the invading army. The moment the bows of the boats touched the low coral wall which formed the wharf, a half dozen officers in full uniform, with drawn swords, leaped "gallantly" on shore, quickly followed by the marines, while the majors made haste to land on and mount the field-pieces, ready for action. Then forming in battle array, with drums beating, bayonets bristling, swords flashing, the guns rambling and the tri-color waving, they marched along Queen street to the Fort, followed by the crowd of foreign residents, many of whom took no pains to conceal their feelings of contempt for the whole proceeding, and the actors therein. Arrived at the Fort gates, which were found closed, the officer in command bravely advanced and in a loud voice demanded admittance in the name of "the grand nation." Whereupon the Governor's "boy," who was the only person visible inside, opened the ponderous gates, and the army of occupation marched in, followed by many of the crowd of residents. Halting in the centre of the enclosure, the officer in command looked around inquiringly, and at length observed Governor Kekuanoa alone on the rampart, dressed in uniform, quietly and apparently unconcernedly walking back and forth in front of his office. The officer approached and addressed him in French, to which the Governor responded with a smiling "aolo ike"—"don't understand. At length an interpreter was obtained— a Mr. Ayer, clerk with Panchard & Co.,—when the demand was made by the officer for the formal surrender of the Fort to the armed forces of the French Republic. The Governor replied, "Tell the French that he is already in possession—what more does he want?" The next question was, where were the Hawaiian troops? To which the Governor made answer, that they had gone to their homes in the country. Their arms? They had taken their muskets with them, as was the usual practice. The French officer apparently having no further questions to ask, and looking about from side to side as though considering what to do with his prisoner—the Governor and his foreign friends took their departure, the gates being immediately closed and bolted by the French conquerors.

Thus was accomplished the armed occupation of Hawaiian soil by the French—in direct contravention of the terms of the joint guarantee by England and France. H. L. S. ENTERPRISE Planing Mill, 127 Fort Street, Honolulu. C. J. Hardee, H. F. Bortelmann, Contractors and Builders.

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