

was abandoned by the owners and those who had chartered her. Her colours were hauled down by the French, and burnt in the street by the *British consul*, and a large amount of damages was claimed from the government, on the plea that she had been forcibly seized.

This transaction had hardly occurred, when the French frigate *Venus*, Captain Du Petit Thouars, and H. B. M. ship *Sulphur*, Captain Belcher, arrived. The two consuls did all in their power to make it appear that a gross violation of the rights of their respective citizens had been committed. The scenes which followed were disgraceful; for instance, the English consul so far forgot himself as to shake his fist in the face of Kinau, a female, second in rank to the king; and Captain Belcher did the same to the Rev. Mr. Bingham, the head of the American mission, whom he threatened to hang at the yardarm. The only offence of the reverend gentleman was his having acted as interpreter, and being supposed to exercise an influence over the government. Although this threat was no more than idle bravado, it produced much excitement.

A treaty was made with the French, and new articles were added to the Russell treaty. Both commanders promised that the Catholic missionaries should depart at the earliest opportunity, and should not *preach or attempt to propagate their religion*. Under the French treaty, however, it was afterwards claimed that the missionaries had the right of teaching their tenets, although both the officers had thus formally acknowledged that no such right could exist against the consent and without the permission of the Hawaiian government.

Some months after these transactions, the provisor of the Bishop of Nicopolis, with some assistants, arrived at Oahu, when permission to land was refused him, and the vessel was not permitted to enter the port, until the owner had given bond that the priests should not be landed. These priests, together with those already under a stipulation to embark as soon as they could procure a passage, purchased a schooner, in which they sailed for the island of Ascension, in the Caroline Group.

The king and chiefs now thought it necessary, for the purpose of securing themselves against any future annoyance, to enact a law making it penal for any one to teach or propagate the Romish faith. Under this law some of the natives were fined and otherwise punished. Every possible endeavour was made to throw the odium of this law on the American mission, and it was asserted that its enactment had been procured through their influence over the king and chiefs. The falsehood of this charge became apparent when, eighteen months after-