

in his opinion nothing can justify it, nor any act done in a moment of intoxication palliate the offence which is alike disgraceful to the individual, the navy, and the country.

He trusts that the examples now before the squadron will have a tendency to prevent the commission of like crimes, and will have an effect to induce those who witness the punishment to be inflicted, for offences committed while under the influence of intoxicating spirits, to refrain from the excessive use of them for the future.

In consequence of the long confinement of Ward, his sentence is hereby mitigated to thirty-six lashes, to be inflicted as I shall hereafter direct, agreeably to the sentence of the court.

The case of Riley is viewed by the commander-in-chief as extremely aggravated, he having violated the laws for the government of the navy by quarrelling and getting drunk; but the commander likewise considers his long confinement and the manner in which he obtained the spirits as some reason why the whole extent of the punishment should not be awarded. He therefore so far mitigates his punishment that he shall receive but fifty lashes; and that part of the sentence dismissing him from the service, is hereby remitted.

In noticing this case, the commander-in-chief has felt some surprise at several circumstances which were brought to light in the course of the testimony; and regrets that he feels compelled to exercise authority, reposed in him by the government, on an officer who is every way capable of doing his duty well and faithfully.

The circumstances alluded to above have reference to the conduct of Acting-Master's Mate, A. M. Cisney, of the United States ship Peacock, for violating the rules and regulations by giving the crew grog. His appointment is hereby annulled, and he is ordered to be dismissed from the naval service of the United States.

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Honolulu, October 28th, 1840.

GENERAL ORDER.

THE naval court-martial now in session, having sentenced Michael Ward, John Riley, and Peter Sweeny, and the sentences having been approved by me, except so far as they are mitigated in the two first cases, will be carried into effect in the following manner.

Michael Ward will be punished with one dozen lashes on his bare back with the cat-o'-nine-tails, alongside each of the three vessels of the squadron now in port.