

of which Honolulu is the capital, containing a population of 6,500. "The history of these Islands is so intimately connected with the history of Missionary labors there, that all events which have an important bearing upon the interests and prospects of the Islands, are looked upon with interest by every friend of the missionary enterprise. The recent proceedings of the French Admiral and French Consul at the Islands have such a bearing, and cannot be regarded with indifference, either by the Christian or philanthropist."

On that account, we think it important to make our readers as thoroughly acquainted with the nature of the quarrel, as our limited space will permit. And in order to show the wrong that the French Government is about to inflict upon the Hawaiian Government, we give the

### *Treaty Stipulations.*

In 1843 the following engagement was entered into between the Governments of France and Great Britain, and duly ratified.

Her Majesty, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty, the King of the French, taking into consideration the existence in the Sandwich Islands of a Government capable of providing for the regularity of its relations with foreign nations, have thought it right to engage, reciprocally, to consider the Sandwich Islands as an independent State, and never to take possession, neither directly or under the title of protectorate, or under any other form, of the territory of which they are composed.

On the 26th of March, 1846, a treaty was entered into between the French and Hawaiian Governments, the sixth article of which is as follows:—

French merchandise, or goods recognized as coming from the French dominions, shall not be prohibited, nor shall they be subject to an import duty higher than five per cent. *ad valorem*. Wines, brandies, and other spirituous liquors are, however, excepted from this stipulation, and shall be liable to such reasonable duty as the Hawaiian Government may think fit to lay upon them; provided always that the amount of duty shall not be so high as absolutely to prohibit the importation of the said articles.

The Hawaiian Government was desirous of prohibiting entirely the introduction of spirituous liquors into the Islands; but this the Governments of two great Christian nations would not suffer to be done. Spirits, and all the con-

sequent evils of intemperance, the Government was compelled to admit; but it imposed a duty of five dollars a gallon. It would thus appear that the high duty on spirits is the pretended cause of the trouble, but a letter from the Islands remarks, "The true state of the case is, the Romish priests and the French Consul, who seem to go hand in hand, have been charged that Romanism, the honored religion of France, should gain so little respect and influence at the Sandwich Islands. After all the efforts of the priests, backed up repeatedly by the civil arm of France, their cause is not yet held in honor; proselytes are few, and from among the lower class of people. Instead of using the only legitimate means to raise their drooping cause, they resort, in the true spirit of popery, to the civil arm.

The Consul being unable, by threats and annoyances to bring the Hawaiian Government to accede to all his wishes, and adjust difficulties on his own terms, the French Admiral came to his assistance, with two vessels of war. In the meantime, as long ago as April last, a Special Commissioner had been appointed by the King of the Islands, as his Envoy to the United States, Great Britain and France, with a view, specially, to the adjustment of these very difficulties. But for the action of the French Government at home, the Admiral and Consul had no disposition to wait. On the 22d of August they insisted upon an immediate answer to certain questions which they put in writing, to which the Hawaiian Government made a respectful but firm reply, refusing to comply with the demands made, but offering to submit the matter in dispute to the friendly mediation and adjustment of some neutral power, to whose decision they were willing to abide, and thus concludes:—

With this answer and proposition, solemnly conveyed to you in the King's name, it will be for the Admiral and Consul of France to answer to their own Government, to their consciences, and to the world, for the use they may make of the large force at their disposal. The King has ordered that no resistance whatever shall be made to such force.

### *Force resorted to.*

To this communication the Admiral replied, almost immediately, that the answer to the "ultimatum" not appearing to him sufficient, he must give course to coercive measures; and on the same afternoon, August 25th, the