

to him are herewith furnished for your guidance. Your endeavours must be to impress them with the belief that they cannot commit these acts with impunity.

It is impossible to point out the mode by which you may most readily succeed in these views; but it is believed, that the capture of the principal chiefs would readily obtain the persons who have committed this crime, and, I doubt not, Opotuno himself.

Hostile steps are to be avoided as much as possible; and it is desirable that this service should be performed without risking the lives of those under your command.

On Strong's Island there are very many rascals, who are continually plundering unarmed vessels. Any measures you may be able to pursue to rid our commerce and whale-fishery from this evil, will be sanctioned by me.

I enclose you the journal of Captain Dowsett, of the schooner *Victoria*, who was some time since left on the *Pescadores*. The accompanying letters will give you all the information extant about them and the schooner *Waverley*, sent on a shelling voyage, and believed now, from information received, to be lying at Strong's Island. Any information relative to her actual fate, or that of her crew, and that of Captains Dowsett, Scott, and Cathcart, will be satisfactory to their friends.

Guns were fired on the American schooner *Honduras*, at Strong's Island, supposed by foreigners. You will investigate this matter, and spike any guns that may be in the hands of foreigners. The natives are said to be very friendly.

It is generally supposed that the vessel was cut off by a set of desperadoes, who are now on Strong's Island, and who are a pest to every vessel touching there. You will adopt such measures as the case may seem to you to warrant. I need not say to you that it is desirable that all and every kind of information respecting this group will be looked for. I am, &c.,

CAPTAIN WM. L. HUDSON,
U. S. Ship *Peacock*.

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

IX.

U. S. Ship *Vincennes*,
At Sea, December 7th, 1840.

TO HIS MAJESTY KAMEHAMEHA III.,
King of the Sandwich Islands.

I have the honour to inform your Majesty, that, desiring to leave the port of Honolulu on the 3d of December, and having notified the