

**STIRS THE BLOOD.**

The removal of the American flag and the ordering of the mariners back to the man-of-war Boston, at Honolulu will be very hard for Mr. Cleveland to explain. The flag is not a mere party rag, like a nomination for an office, but represents the nation, its sovereignty, its traditions, its honor and its faith. Has Cleveland allowed it to be dishonored before the world? If so he has committed the sin for which there is no condonation.

We can see no excuse, no apology, no palliation. The act is not that of a statesman, it is not an executive act, but it is an act of usurpation and a humiliation of the nation before the world. The flag was there by the usage of nations, had been recognized and saluted by all the powers of the world there represented. It was there by assent of con-

gress, for no act is of record in either branch even disapproving. The only question ever raised was as to the form of protection or possession it should represent. We fail to see any way out of this action, except one of dishonor to the flag and a wanton disgrace to the nation.