HAWAII.

Mr. Stevens to Mr. Blaine,

No. 16.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, Honolulu, February 5, 1891. (Received February 26.)

Sir: Eight days prior to its reception at this legation, the Department of State had received the sad intelligence of the death of His Majesty King Kalakaua, in San Francisco, and of the attending circumstances. The Charleston, Admiral George Brown in command, arrived here on the morning of the 29th with his remains, causing a deep impression among the native and foreign population. In the afternoon of the same day, commencing at precisely 5 o'clock, the body was taken from the Charleston and transferred to the royal palace, the hearse being followed by the Hawaiian ministers, members of the diplomatic corps, American and English naval officers, escorted by a body of marines and sailors from the Charleston, the Mohican, and the English naval vessel Nymphé, and an immense concourse of citizens. This display of honor was admirably conducted, largely under the direction of Admiral Brown, the chief portion of the military escort being American.

By a note from the minister of foreign affairs on the evening of the 29th I was officially informed that the remains of the King would lie in state from 11 a. m. to 11:15 of the 30th, for the observation of the diplomatic corps, and in company with Mrs. Stevens I improved the opportunity in an appropriate manner.

In the afternoon of January 29, prior to the removal of the royal remains from the Charleston, the new sovereign was proclaimed, of which fact I was duly informed by the following communication:

FOREIGN OFFICE, Honolulu, January 29, 1891.

Sir: I have the honor to inform your excellency that on this day Her Royal Highness Princess Lilinokalani, regent, was publicly proclaimed as successor to His late Majesty Kalakaua, deceased, as Queen of the Hawaiian Islands, in accordance with the twenty-second article of the constitution, under the style and title of Lilinokalani.

I have, etc.,

John A. Cummins, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The remains of the deceased King will remain in state at the royal palace until the 15th instant, when the final funeral obsequies will take place. The present ministers, perhaps, will continue in office until the meeting of the legislature in 1892, the Queen not having the power to change them without the previous action of that body. This sudden and unexpected change of sovereigns has been made without commotion and with no extraordinary excitement.

I am, etc.,

John L. Stevens.
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, Honolulu, February 9, 1891. (Received February 26.)

SIR: Herewith inclosed I transmit to the Department of State a copy of resolutions adopted at a public meeting of a large number of influential native-born citizens of the Hawaiian Islands, relative to the death and its attending circumstances of the late King Kalakaua. I also inclose a copy of my remarks addressed to the committee who called at this legation and placed the said resolutions in my hands.

I am, etc.,

JOHN L. STEVENS.

[Inclosure in No. 18.]

Resolutions adopted by meeting of Hawaiian citizens.

 Whereas the unbounded courtesy and kind attentions extended to His late Majesty King Kalakaua, in his recent visit to California, by the United States Government, the State of California, the city of San Francisco, as well as citizens and residents in San Francisco, and by Rear-Admiral George Brown and the officers and men of the United States flagship Charleston, have placed the Hawaiian nation under a debt of gratitude to the United States and to citizens of said country and to said Rear-Admiral Brown, his officers, and men: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Hawaiian people recognize with the deepest gratitude the great courtesy of the United States Government and of officials and citizens of the State of California, in the courtesies extended to His late Majesty the King upon the occasion of his recent visit to California, where he met his most untimely death; and be it further

Resolved, That we recognize a like debt of gratitude to Rear-Admiral Brown, of the United States flagship Charleston, and to his officers and men in their more than courteous treatment and care of His late Majesty King Kalakaua, both in going to California and in their tender care and attention during his illness and in returning his remains to our midst; and be it further

Resolved, That an engrossed copy hereof be presented to his excellency John L. Stevens, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States in Honolulu, for transmission to Washington; that a like copy be sent to the governor of California, another to the mayor of the city of San Francisco, and another be presented to Rear-Admiral Brown on behalf of His late Majesty's grateful subjects and friends.

Honolulu, H. I., 5th February, A. D. 1891.

PAUL P. KAMOA,
W. L. HOLOKOHIKI,
S. K. KANE,
J. KALU KABOOKANO,
JOHN L. A. KAULUWU,
JOHN F. COLBURN,
MARK P. ROBINSON,
SAMUEL PARKER,
WM. GODWIN,
E. C. MACFARLANE,
WM. R. CASTLE,
ALEX. YOUNG,
C. O. BERGEN,
PAUL R. TSENBORG,
F. M. SWANZY,
JOHN W. KALVA,
A. ROSA,

Committee.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

[Genclosure 2 in No. 18.]

Remarks of Minister Stevens.

GENTLEMEN: It is with no ordinary emotions that I meet you under the afflicting circumstances which call you to this legation. I recognize in your committee the honored representatives of a large and influential portion of the native citizens of Hawaii, all equally interested in the welfare of their country. As the American minister at this capital I receive the resolutions which you place in my hands as the expression of the warm and sincere feelings cherished by the citizens of Hawaii for the citizens and Government of the United States. The manner in which these sentiments are called forth, and the attending circumstances of your late sovereign's death, can not fail to strengthen permanently the fraternal and friendly relations between this island Kingdom and the American nation, which are united by the triple bonds of moral sympathy, of near neighborhood, and of common interests.

It will be my duty as well as my pleasure to transmit copies of your resolutions to the President of the United States, to the governor of California, and to the mayor of San Francisco.

Mr. Stevens to Mr. Blaine.

No. 19.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, Honolulu, February 16, 1891. (Received March 5.)

SIR: The Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu, an important commercial body, wishing to express thanks to the United States Government and to the people of California for the honors and kindness shown to the late King Kalakaua in his visit, illness, and death, has adopted resolutions, an engrossed copy of which is here inclosed, which is forwarded to the Department of State agreeably to request.

I am, etc.,

JOHN L. STEVENS.

[Inclosure in No. 19.]

Resolutions unanimously passed by the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce.

Whereas the Hawaiian nation is under the highest obligation to the United States Government, to the State of California, to the corporation of San Francisco, and to the citizens of said State and city for their truly royal welcome and entertainment of His Majesty King Kalakaua, and for the distinguished feelings of friendship and esteem exhibited toward him and the Hawaiian people in their tender and sympathetic care of the King during his recent illness, and in the funeral obsequies held in San Francisco, and in returning His Majesty's remains to his home; and

Whereas a like obligation has been incurred to Rear-Admiral George Brown and his staff and to the officers and crew of the U. S. S. Charleston for their unfailing care and attention to the King in his recent visit to California, and in the return of his remains to Hawaii: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce joins with all others in this country in expressions of the most cordial thanks to the United States Government, to the State of California, to the corporation of San Francisco, and to the citizens of said State and city for their courteous attentions to His Majesty the King during his recent visit and for the like respectful and tender care of the dead King's remains; and

Resolved, That we likewise tender to Rear-Admiral George Brown and his staff and to the officers and crew of the U. S. S. Charleston the heartfelt thanks of this association for the courteous attentions paid to His Majesty during his visit to the Pacific coast and in the honorable attentions paid to his remains upon their return to the land of his birth.

Resolved, That an engrossed copy of the above preamble and resolutions be forwarded to the Secretary of State of the United States, to the governor of the State

Resolved, That the above preamble and resolutions be spread upon the records of this Chamber of Commerce, and that the same be published in the newspapers of this place.

Honolulu, February 4, 1891.

F. A. Schaeffer,
Vice-President.
J. B. Atherton,
Secretary.

Mr Blaine to Mr Stevens.

No. 15.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 28, 1891.

SIR: I have received your No. 16, of the 5th instant, relating to the death of King Kalakaua and the accession of Queen Liliuokalani; and your No. 18, of the 9th instant, transmitting a resolution of Hawaiian citizens expressive of their gratitude to the Government of the United States, the governor of California, and the mayor of San Francisco, and through them to the people they represent, for courtesies extended to the late King during his recent visit to California, and of their thanks to Rear-Admiral Brown and the officers and men under his command on the United States flagship Charleston for the attentive entertainment of His late Majesty on his way to this country, and the solicitude and care with which his remains were returned to Honolulu on board that ship.

This Government is gratified to be apprised of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Liliuokalani, surrounded and sustained as she is by the sympathy and good will of her people, and I hasten to express on its behalf, not congratulations and good wishes alone, but the confident expectation that the high duties devolved upon her by the act of Providence will be wisely and beneficently discharged.

By his visits to this country, where he was always assured of a sincere and cordial welcome, the person of the late King had become familiar to many of the people; and his approachableness, the simplicity and amiability of his manner, and the kindliness of his disposition had rendered him the object of their friendly regard, and aroused the desire on their part to testify their sentiments by such hospitalities as they might offer with propriety. It is therefore not necessary to emphasize the fact that his death among them became the cause of something more than a merely formal expression of sorrow, or that he will be long and pleasantly borne in remembrance.

The many years of friendship between His late Majesty and the Government of the United States, and the neighborhood and common interests of the Hawaiian and American peoples, made it peculiarly fitting that the last honors should be paid to him and his body be returned to his people by officers and men of the American Navy and on board an American ship of war.

Your address to the committee of Hawaiian citizens, at whose hands you received the copy of resolutions transmitted by you, is approved.

I am, etc.,

JAMES G. BLAINE.
Mr. Stevens to Mr. Blaine.

No. 21.]

Legation of the United States,
Honolulu, March 26, 1891. (Received April 20.)

SIR: Your instruction No. 15, of February 28, was received at this legation March 15. The chief portion thereof—all that related to the late King Kalakaua and to Her Majesty the Queen—was duly communicated to the minister of foreign affairs, with the request that it should be read or otherwise made known to her, in a note dated March 17, to which I have received a response, a full copy of which is herewith enclosed.

I am, etc.,

John L. Stevens.

[Inlosure in No. 21.]

Mr. Parker to Mr. Stevens.

Department of Foreign Affairs,
Honolulu, March 24, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency’s dispatch of the 17th instant, announcing that you had received from your Government a communication, through the Secretary of State, Hon. James G. Blaine, relative to the death of King Kalakaua and the accession of Queen Liliuokalani, and the resolutions of various bodies of Hawaiian citizens expressive of gratitude for the kindness shown by the Government and people of the United States to His late Majesty, and favoring me with a copy of the chief portion of said communication for Her Majesty’s consideration.

In reply I beg to state that I have had the honor of conveying to Her Majesty the Queen a copy of the honorable Secretary’s communication and have received her commands to acknowledge its receipt. Her Majesty is inexpressibly touched with the sincere sentiments of friendship for her departed brother and late sovereign, for the Hawaiian nation, and for herself, so feelingly expressed by the Secretary of State for the Government of the United States. The duties of the high position Her Majesty has been called upon to assume will, under the guidance of the Supreme Ruler, be discharged with the sole aim of benefiting her people, and in thus obtaining and endeavoring to maintain the esteem and friendship of all nations, but more especially of the Government represented by your excellency, whose friendship has been tried and tested in innumerable instances, and to whose assistance and encouragement the nation is so deeply indebted.

With the highest esteem and respect, I have, etc.,

Samuel Parker,
Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Correspondence with the Hawaiian Legation at Washington.

Mr. Carter to Mr. Blaine.

Hawaiian Legation,
Washington, January 6, 1891. (Received January 7.)

SIR: I am charged by His Majesty the King of Hawaii with the agreeable duty of conveying to you, and through you to the President, His Majesty’s thanks for the courtesies and attentions which he has received at the hands of the officers of the United States Government while en route to and since his arrival in this country.
His Majesty instructs me to refer especially to the thoughtful and considerate care and attentions of Admiral George Brown, who with the officers under his command of the U. S. S. Charleston were unremitting in considerate attentions to His Majesty on the voyage from Honolulu to San Francisco.

His Majesty feels that to these officers of the U. S. Navy and to their care and attention he owes much of the improvement in his health which he feels has resulted from his visit to California, and he trusts that you will make known to the Secretary of the Navy his high appreciation of their courtesies and timely attentions.

His Majesty further instructs me to express his thanks to Gen. Gibbons and the officers of the U. S. Army at San Francisco for salutes and courteous personal attentions, which he trusts may be communicated to Gen. Gibbons through the Secretary of War.

Taking this occasion to renew to you the assurances of my most distinguished consideration,

I am, etc.,

H. A. P. Carter.

Mr. Carter to Mr. Blaine.

HAWAIIAN LEGATION,
Washington, January 21, 1891.

SIR: It is my sad duty to inform you that His Majesty Kalakaua, King of Hawaii, died yesterday at 2:35 p.m., at San Francisco.

In this hour of personal grief and anxious solicitude for the welfare of my bereaved country, I must content myself with this simple announcement of the sorrowful event and pray you to communicate it to the President.

Please accept, etc.,

H. A. P. Carter.

Mr. Blaine to Mr. Carter.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 21, 1891.

SIR: I receive with feelings of sincere sorrow the intelligence of the death of His Majesty King Kalakaua, which you convey to me in your note of this day’s date.

The President, to whom I hastened to communicate the information, instructs me to express through you his deep regret that Hawaii has lost a wise and good sovereign, under whose beneficent rule the people of Hawaii have prospered, and whose efforts have been so constantly and signally put forth to strengthen the ties of mutual advantage between his Kingdom and the United States.

The President further directs me to request you to convey to the royal family the heartfelt sympathy he feels for their great affliction.

Accept, etc.,

James G. Blaine.