tions from an equal participation in the benefits to be derived from an intercourse
with your islands, and seeks no control or undue influence whatever, it has a right
to expect that no partial or exclusive favors be granted to other nations. The wish
of my Government is that the independence of the Hawaiian territory may be scrup-
ulously maintained, and that its Government should be impartial towards foreign-
ers of every nation.
Allow me to congratulate Your Majesty upon the interest taken in you and your
people by one of the most powerful and free nations of the earth, as evinced by the
unanimous vote of its representatives that a diplomatic intercourse should be opened
with you. It must be a matter of great satisfaction to Your Majesty to think that
while not a quarter of a century has elapsed since your country was in a state of
heathenism, such progress has been made in civilization and Christianity that you
are about to be admitted into the communion of nations who for ages have had ad-
vantages which have made them powerful and happy.

Next to the gratitude due from you to the Almighty Disposer of Events, you owe
under Him, to those who, for the welfare of your people, left their friends and
country to teach them (you) the blessings of Christianity and the arts of civilization,
a debt which can only be paid by the knowledge that their efforts have not been in
vain.

I assure Your Majesty that it will afford me great pleasure to be the means of unit-
ing more closely the relations heretofore of the most friendly kind between the Gov-
ernment of the Hawaiian Archipelago and my own, and to further by everything in
my power a reciprocal feeling of friendship and good will.

To which His Majesty replied as follows, which was also translated
by Mr. Judd:

I am much gratified at being informed by the premier of your arrival, and am
happy to receive you as a representative of the United States of America whose
Government is much respected by me, and whose people have made great efforts to
promote civilization and Christianity among my people.

I thank you for the kind sentiments you have expressed, and trust there will never
be any alienation between my Government and yours. You may assure your Gov-
ernment that I shall always consider the citizens of the United States as entitled to
equal privileges with those of the most favored nations.

Declaration of Great Britain and France relative to the independence of
the Sandwich Islands, London, November 28, 1843.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Ireland, and His Majesty the King of the French, taking into con-
sideration 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 posses-
sion, either directly or under the title of protectorate, or under any
other form, of any part of the territory of which they are composed.

The undersigned, Her Majesty's principal secretary of state for for-
eign affairs and the ambassador extraordinary of His Majesty the
King of the French, at the court of London, being furnished with the
necessary powers, hereby declare in consequence that their said maj-
esties take reciprocally that engagement.

In witness whereof the undersigned have signed the present declar-
ation, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done in duplicate at London, the 28th day of November, in the year
of our Lord, 1843.

[Signature]
[Signature]

Aberdeen.

St. Aulaire.