princess, visiting the principal cities in America, when they hope to be able to avail themselves of an opportunity to pay their respects to the President of the United States.

His Majesty the King contemplates visiting Paris, and intended leaving here at the same time as Princess Kaiulani, but I am informed he has determined to delay his departure until some time next month.

During the absence of His Majesty, Her Royal Highness Princess Liliuokalani, heir apparent to the throne, and sister of the King, will be named as regent.

As to the route through and the time to be spent in the United States, the King has not determined.

I have, etc.,

GEO. W. MERRILL.

Mr. Merrill to Mr. Blaine.

No. 241.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Honolulu, May 8, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the U. S. S. Alert departed for Apia on the 18th ultimo.

The only national vessel now in the harbor is Her British Majesty's ship Cormorant, and evidently it is the intention of the British Government to retain a naval vessel in Hawaiian waters indefinitely.

Owing to the large American interests in Hawaii, and in the absence of cable communication, the comparatively isolated condition of the islands, and in view of an approaching political campaign, in which, no doubt, much animosity will be engendered, it is hoped it will be deemed advisable to so arrange that a United States ship will be able to remain in the waters of Hawaii.

While it is hoped that no occasion will offer for the employment of a naval force, yet I am convinced that the presence of passive power often prevents the maturing of turbulent schemes.

I have, etc.,

GEORGE W. MERRILL.

Mr. Blaine to Mr. Merrill.

No. 127.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 27, 1889.

SIR: I have received your No. 241 of the 8th instant, representing the circumstances under which you regard it advisable for a United States ship of war to remain for the present in Hawaiian waters.

A copy of your dispatch has been submitted for the consideration of the Secretary of the Navy.

I am, etc.,

JAMES G. BLAINE.