the archives, the treasury, the barracks, the police station, and all
the potential machinery of the Government.” But a protest also
accompanied said treaty, signed by the Queen and her ministers at
the time she made way for the provisional government, which ex-
plicitly stated that she yielded to the superior force of the United
States, whose Minister had caused United States troops to be landed
at Honolulu and declared that he would support such provisional
government.

The truth or falsity of this protest was surely of the first impor-
tance. If true, nothing but the concealment of its truth could
induce our Government to negotiate with the semblance of a gov-
ernment thus created, nor could a treaty resulting from the acts
stated in the protest have been knowingly deemed worthy of con-
sideration by the Senate. Yet the truth or falsity of the protest
had not been investigated.

I conceived it to be my duty therefore to withdraw the treaty
from the Senate for examination, and meanwhile to cause an accu-
rate, full, and impartial investigation to be made of the facts attend-
ing the subversion of the constitutional Government of Hawaii,
and the installment in its place of the provisional government. I
selected for the work of investigation the Hon. James H. Blount, of
Georgia, whose service of eighteen years as a member of the House
of Representatives, and whose experience as chairman of the Com-
mittee of Foreign Affairs in that body, and his consequent famili-
arity with international topics, joined with his high character and
honorable reputation, seemed to render him peculiarly fitted for the
duties entrusted to him. His report detailing his action under the
instructions given to him and the conclusions derived from his in-
vestigation accompany this message.

These conclusions do not rest for their acceptance entirely upon
Mr. Blount’s honesty and ability as a man, nor upon his acumen
and impartiality as an investigator. They are accompanied by the
evidence upon which they are based, which evidence is also here-
with transmitted, and from which it seems to me no other deductions
could possibly be reached than those arrived at by the Commissioner.

The report with its accompanying proofs, and such other evidence
as is now before the Congress or is herewith submitted, justifies in
my opinion the statement that when the President was led to submit
the treaty to the Senate with the declaration that “the overthrow
of the monarchy was not in any way promoted by this Govern-
ment”, and when the Senate was induced to receive and discuss it
on that basis, both President and Senate were misled.

The attempt will not be made in this communication to touch