As a result of the conference, there was then and there prepared the
protest which has been cited.
The time occupied in this conference is indicated in the following lan-
guage by Mr. Damon:

We went over (to the Palace) between 4 and 5 and remained until 6 discussing the
situation.

Mr. Damon and the cabinet returned to the Provisional Government,
presented the protest, and President Dole indorsed on the same:

Received by the hands of the late cabinet this 17th day of January, A. D. 1893.

SANFORD B. DOLE,
Chairman of the Executive Council of Provisional Government.

After this protest the Queen ordered the delivery up of the station
house, where was an important portion of the military forces, and the
barracks, where was another force.
The statements of many witnesses at the station house and at the
conference with the Queen, that the reply of Mr. Stevens to the cabinet
on the subject of recognition had been received when Mr. Damon and
Mr. Bolte called there, and also the statements at the conference with
the Queen that the recognition had taken place, are not contradicted by
Mr. Damon; but when inquired of touching these matters, he uses
such expressions as "I can not remember. It might have been so."

Mr. Damon says that he is under the impression that he knew when
he went to this conference with the Queen that the recognition had
taken place.

Mr. Bolte, another member of the Provisional Government, in a formal
statement made and certified to by him, shows very much confusion of
memory, but says: "I can not say what time in the day Mr. Stevens
sent his recognition." He thinks it was after sunset.

Mr. Henry Waterhouse, another member of the Provisional Govern-
ment, says: "We had taken possession of the barracks and station
house before the recognition took place."

It will be observed that I have taken the communication of the
Queen's ministers and the memorandum of Mr. Stevens as to his reply
and the time thereof, to wit: "Not far from 5 p. m. I did not think
to look at my watch."

This information was then transmitted to the station house, a dis-
tance of two-thirds of a mile, and before the arrival of Messrs. Damon
and Bolte. This fact is supported by nine persons present at the inter-
view with Mr. Damon and Mr. Bolte. Then another period of time
intervenes between the departure of Mr. Damon and the cabinet, pass-
ing over a distance of one-third of a mile to the Government building.
Then some further time is consumed in a conference with the Provisional
Government before the departure of Mr. Damon and the cabinet to the
palace, where was the Queen. The testimony of all persons present
proves that the recognition by Mr. Stevens had then taken place.
Subsequent to the signing of the protest occurred the turning over of
the military to the Provisional Government.

Inquiry as to the credibility of all these witnesses satisfies me as to
their character for veracity, save one person, Mr. Colburn. He is a
merchant, and it is said he makes misstatements in business trans-
actions. No man can reasonably doubt the truth of the statements of
the witnesses that Mr. Stevens had recognized the Provisional Govern-
ment before Messrs. Damon and Bolte went to the station house.

Recurring to Mr. Stevens's statement as to the time of his reply to the