A. Ours principally.
Q. Is he in your employ?
A. Not directly—well, I suppose he is.
Q. The other native. His business?
A. He is a minister of the Gospel.
Q. You all came in together yesterday evening. Did you represent
the same organization?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Do you represent the same locality?
A. No, sir; we represent about the whole of the island.
Q. Will you tell me the causes which led to the dethronement of the
Queen?
A. Well, poor government.
Q. Could you not be more specific? Poor government is a very loose
phrase, and won't carry much information with it.
A. Of course it was something that has been coming for some time,
but what decided the question was the Queen's wishing to put a new
constitution on the people—force a new constitution on the people.
Q. What do you mean by the phrase, "has been coming for some
time?"?
A. Things had been drifting into disorder and corruptness in gov-
ernment matters.
Q. What sort of disorder?
A. Mismangement.
Q. Well, was life and property safe?
A. No, sir; well, I won't say that altogether, but things were drifting
that way. We felt that property at least was not safe.
Q. Was there a looking forward to a change of government on ac-
count of the discontent with the political condition in the islands?
A. Well, I do not think so. Of course we are not as well posted on
the other islands, away from the capital here.
Q. You were not here during the scenes immediately preceding and
during the dethronement of the Queen?
A. No, sir.
Q. Then, on that question you can not answer?
A. No, sir.
Q. You have already said you are representing annexionists?
A. Yes.
Q. What is your opinion as to the feeling in favor of the existing
Government with a view towards annexation?
A. When the Queen was first overthrown there were very few in
favor of annexation, very few of the planters especially. I was one
that did not see that we could be improved, especially in view of the
contract-labor system which is our mainstay.
Q. You mean mainstay for sugar interests or for the islands?
A. Well for the islands, because it is the main industry of the islands;
but as things developed, and after looking over the matter carefully
and talking over the matter with other interested parties—that is,
planters principally—we came to the conclusion that we would rather
take our chances on the labor question than to take the chances of an
independent government. We were in hopes that if annexation was
secured that the United States would take our labor question into con-
sideration and allow us some privileges in that way.
Q. In what way?
A. In bringing in Asiatic labor or not interfering with our present
system of labor. We feel, of course, that good government is the