foundation of prosperity, and that without good government we have no use for labor. I think if we could have been assured of a good independent government we should have preferred it.

Q. What sort of an independent government?
A. A thoroughly reliable home government.
Q. Without annexation?
A. Yes, sir; because the benefits we might get are very obscure. We didn't feel that we could depend on that at all.
Q. What would be a reliable government here do you think?
A. I do not think it is possible to have good government and free suffrage.
Q. Just there I would be glad if you would give me your views with precision.
A. Knowing the native race as well as I do—have worked them for years, was raised among them and had them in responsible positions—I know their character and know they can not be relied upon. They are not educated to it.
Q. They are not educated to what?
A. To manage themselves—to govern themselves.
Q. You mean for participation in governmental affairs?
A. Yes; a native can never conduct any business for himself. In no instance that I know of has a native attempted to go into business for himself and made a success of it—that is, any business of any extent. He has always been associated with some foreigner and the foreigner at the head always. It is very hard for them to understand business. They have not got the knack of acquiring, and what they do acquire they can not hold on to. They are very weak in this matter.
Q. Well, now, when it comes to voting, how are they?
A. Very easily led, one way or the other. Up to within the last three or four sessions of the legislature they were very indifferent about it, but since then there has been a little race prejudice.
Q. For ten or twelve years?
A. I won't go back as far as that. I will say six years. Of course it was anything to beat the Howele (the white man). Very often now in elections, especially outside of Honolulu, you ask them how they expect to vote, they say, "Oh, it makes no difference to us. As long as the plantations are running of course we can always expect employment, and we look to the plantations for support."
Q. How long is it since the Australian ballot law was enacted?
A. Only the last election.
Q. In your legislature you have nobles and representatives. Now I want to speak as to representatives. Were a majority of the representatives elected to the last legislature in sympathy with the reform party or against them?
A. Against them.
Q. What was the effect of the Australian ballot system on the native? Was he more or less easily influenced under this system as compared with the former?
A. I think that if the candidate was a Hawaiian; that is, if there were two candidates, a white man and a Hawaiian, he would, of course, vote for the Hawaiian.
Q. Under the secret ballot system?
A. Yes, sir; that is, speaking of the majority.
Q. Suppose the question was left to the native population to determine by ballot under the Australian system whether they desired to return to royalty or annexation, what do you think that vote would show?