sented the intelligence and wealth and morality of the community or not?
A. In those days they were nominated to the King by his cabinet, and
they were representative of the property of this Kingdom, combin-
ing also a fair representation of character and intelligence, until the
middle of Kalakaua’s reign, when, as vacancies occurred, he would
appoint natives generally who did not have these characteristics of
wealth, character, and intelligence.
Q. How was a ministry appointed and removed?
A. Under every constitution prior to 1887 the ministers were
appointed by the King and removed by him; but until Kalakaua’s reign
it was a very rare thing that any King changed his ministry. They
had a pretty long lease of political life. My father was minister for
nine or ten years, and Mr. Wyllie for a longer period. It was a very
rare political occurrence, and made a great sensation when a change
was made. Under Kalakaua things were different; I think we had
twenty-six different cabinets during his reign.
Q. How long was his reign?
A. From 1874 to 1891.
Q. What were the property qualifications of electors prior to 1887?
A. None—no property qualification.
Q. They had to be 20 years of age, and to be able to read and write?
A. If born since 1840 they had to be able to read and write, but this
test was rarely applied. If born before that there was no qualification
at all.
Q. Under the constitution of 1887 the same qualification of an elec-
tor for representative was continued?
A. Yes; substantially the same.
Q. Was there any very considerable change in the matter of the
qualification of a voter for representative under the constitution of
1887 in the matter of allowing foreigners to vote?
A. There was.
Q. Please state it.
A. Previous to that time only citizens could vote; that is, native
born or naturalized, or those who had received letters of denization.
The constitution of 1887 allowed all residents, if they had those qual-
ifications, excepting Asiatics, and they were not allowed to vote, even
those who were citizens by naturalization.
Q. Did that cover the Portuguese element?
A. We allowed Portuguese to vote.
Q. Then the races that were excluded under that from the privilege
of voting were the Chinese and the Japanese?
A. Yes.
Q. How about the qualifications to read and write for that class of
voters—I mean the Portuguese, Americans, and Europeans who were
allowed to vote? Did the qualifications as to reading and writing apply
to them?
A. It did.
Q. Were there many Portuguese then voting under the constitution
of 1887?
A. A good many voted. Not having the statistics before me I can
not say what proportion.
Q. Under that constitution of 1887 were the number of nobles and
representatives the same?
A. Exactly the same—twenty-four nobles and twenty-four rep-
resentatives.