can representatives here, the perfect correctness of which have been confirmed by
subsequent information, I now beg to be allowed to state, that through the same
trustworthy source I have been informed that in a very late moment of effusion,
some American official gave to understand that he had instructions to press and
hurry up an annexation scheme, which he confidently expected to carry through at
no distant date, with the help and assistance of the present cabinet.

If your Majesty will kindly weigh this information by the side of the bold open
declarations and annexation campaign made at the present time in the Bulletin, by
the Rev. Sereno Bishop, the well-known mouthpiece of the annexation party, I
think that your Majesty will be able to draw conclusions for yourself, and realize
not only that there is yet danger ahead, but that the enemy is in the household, and
that the strictest watch ought to be kept on the members of the present cabinet.
This again in strictest confidence from
Your Majesty's humble and faithful servant.

The above was written by a gentleman in whose word I have great
confidence as a man who had the best interest of Hawaii at heart.

It was on the receipt of this note that I sent for the British com-
missioner, James H. Wodehouse, and asked his advice on the matter.
I asked whether he thought it would be wise for me to invite all the
foreign representatives of the diplomatic and consular corps fearing that
a disturbance might arise over the political situation. He said he
should not interfere with our local matters, and he dissuaded me from the
idea, as he said it was like acknowledging that there was actual danger.
“Did I think there was any danger?” I answered, “there might be.”
The morning of the 14th of January, 1883, arrived with all prepara-
tions for the closing of the Legislature. At 10 a.m. I called a cabinet
meeting for the purpose of apprising them of their positions in the
house and other preliminary instructions. I told them it was my inten-
tion to promulgate a new constitution. The cabinet had to meet the
Legislature and we adjourned. At 12 m. I prorogued the Legis-
lature. I noticed that the hall was not filled as at the opening. There
were not many ladies present in the audience, and I also noticed that
several members of the Legislature belonging to the Reform party were
not there. This looked ominous of some coming trouble.

On entering the palace I saw Mr. Wilson at the entrance of the blue
room. I went up to him and asked if all was ready. He replied,
“Yes.” Then I said, “You will have to be brave to day,” and I passed
into the blue room and sat awaiting my ministers. A half hour passed
and they did not come. After a little longer delay they arrived. I
immediately judged from their countenances that something was
wrong. I had a few days before planned that I would sign the constit-
tution in the throne room and in the presence of the members of the
Legislature, the majority of whom had been elected by the people for
the purpose of working for a new constitution.

At the commencement of my reign petitions were sent from all parts
of the kingdom asking for a new constitution. Mr. Iosepa, of Hani;
Kauhi, of Ewa; Nahinu, of Molokai; Kaneali, of Waihe; Kamaunohi,
of Kohala, and other members came to me repeatedly and asked for a
new constitution. Mr. Parker, from the commencement of his ministry,
advocated a new constitution, as well as most of my friends, but I was
cautious in my answers to them; but to Mr. Parker I had always said
it would be a good thing, and he said he would sustain me when the
proper opportunity arrived.

A month later I met two members of the Legislature, and started out
to make up a new constitution from Kamehameha V and that of 1887.
After completing it, I kept it till the month of October, when I placed
in the hands of Mr. A. P. Peterson, and asked him to correct it, and
if he found any defects to strike them out and to put in such clauses
as he thought would be good for the people and for the country. He