held before this revolution took place—minister of foreign affairs,” I
would say, “no; unless you have it under a protectorate.” It is no use
looking to England, Japan, France, or Germany. All our benefits are
derived from the United States.

Mr. BLount. What is the feeling of your people on the question of
their right of suffrage?

Mr. Parker. The right of suffrage means of course a great deal to
the Hawaiian people. If they were admitted as the District of Co-
lumbia, which has no vote, the natives would not like it. It would be
an eyesore to them. They want suffrage.

Mr. BLount. Is there any apprehension in their minds about the
question of suffrage?

Mr. Parker. Yes; they are very well posted on that.

Mr. BLount. Is there any apprehension that the friends of the Pro-
visional Government contemplate any deprivation of the right of
suffrage?

Mr. Parker. Yes; it was given out that the natives could not be
trusted and it was out in native papers just as quick as it was in other
papers. There was a howl when they heard that; when young men,
nursed by Hawaiian women, as they said, would ever live to work
against the interests of Hawaiian people. I said to the people that
we could not expect to be under a monarchical government all the
time; a change is bound to come some day. Every day this thing
becomes more apparent. The native race is decreasing every year.

Mr. BLount. Would you please state the cause of that?

Mr. Parker. That has been brought up in the legislature year after
year, and all the conclusions we could come to was that we are like all
dark races—that they go out when the white man comes in. It is a
probable why we should die out. I have eight children, and many
others have as many. If all other Kanakas should have two children
each we should increase very much. I can not account for the decrease.

Mr. BLount. Is it a fact that they do not have so many children as
other people here?

Mr. Parker. Oh no; I can show you a dozen of my stamp. I have
eight children, another five, and so on. I am seven-eighths native; my
wife is seven-eighths. That is nearly all Hawaiian, with little foreign
blood in it.

Mr. BLount. Children are born, but not raised?

Mr. Parker. Yes; they are careless. It is a customary thing for
Hawaiian women to give birth to a child this morning and then ride
out horseback in the afternoon. The better class, though, go under
proper treatment. I have been married twenty-one years. With our
first child my wife was in bed nine days. My aunt said, why should
she lie in bed so long? When she gave birth to her first child she was
out the next day.

The Hawaiians are good breeders, but they are careless. When the
children get fevers they give them cold baths. When the smallpox
was here, about 1881, some 400 or 500 natives died. Other nation-
alsities very few. Natives will sit in draft or jump into a bath if they
are fevered. They are very careless in that way.

Mr. BLount. You said awhile ago that the native vote, as expressed
in secret ballot, would not show the same opinion as if they were asked
to sign a petition.

Mr. Parker. It would never be the same.

Mr. BLount. Why?