there was no effort on the part of the Queen to take the Government building?
A. Yes; on account of the recognition by Mr. Stevens and the presence of the United States troops.
Q. Was it or not the opinion of both parties that the recognition by Mr. Stevens ended the contest?
A. Yes; the recognition by Mr. Stevens ended the contest, because the Queen’s Government knew they could not go against Mr. Stevens’s recognition.
Q. How many troops did the Queen have in all at the time of that recognition?
A. She had a regular guard at the barracks; I think about 150.
Q. One hundred and fifty volunteers?
A. One hundred and fifty in all; and down at the station house some 200 or 300 men, with Wilson’s police and volunteers. They were armed. They had guns and Gatling guns.
Q. Were you in the palace on the 14th.
A. Yes, sir.
Q. What troops were about there?
A. The Queen’s guard.
Q. How many?
A. About 80.
Q. There were certain of the members of a certain political society there asking for a new constitution. Was that a committee from that society?
A. Yes.
Q. Not only from Honolulu but from the other islands?
A. Yes.
Q. Is it a large organization and has it much influence among the native population or not?
A. So far as the question of the constitution was concerned it had nearly all of the natives. At every election that point was talked about by every member to secure election.
Q. Why did they want a new constitution? What was the matter with the constitution of 1887?
A. They felt that they were forced by the constitution of 1887, by the party who got up that revolution, and that the qualification for noble voter barred most of them from voting.
Q. Tell me how that was?
A. To vote for noble on these Islands a voter must have an income of $600. If not an income, a property qualification of $3,000.
Q. Unincumbered?
A. Yes. Then there was a party called the Liberal party. We didn’t mean a constitution giving all power to the Queen. We meant a constitution for equal rights.
Q. Do I understand you to mean this: That there was a large party that wanted to give the Queen power to appoint the nobles, but the Liberals were opposed to giving her the power to appoint the nobles, but wanted freer franchise in the matter of electing nobles?
A. Yes; and the Liberals held that the Queen ought to let the strongest party in the House form a cabinet, and not appoint the favorites.
Q. How was the bulk of the native population on that question?
A. The bulk of the natives were Royalists. They held the old idea; the Queen must have all power.
Q. Is that the general feeling among the native population?