Mr. Willis to Mr. Gresham.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Honolulu, April 14, 1894.

SIR: In compliance with your telegram of 12th January last to "keep the Department fully informed of the course of events," I inclose certain resolutions adopted at a mass meeting of Royalists held here on the night of 9th instant, the number of persons present being estimated by the press from two to three thousand. The meeting was quiet and orderly.

I have the honor to state further that Admiral Walker and staff arrived last Thursday morning, and at 10 a. m. this (Saturday) morning the exchange of command took place with the customary ceremonies, the foreign war vessels firing the usual salute.

The U. S. S. Adams, Capt. Brice, leaves at 8 a. m. tomorrow for Port Townsend, which will leave here three war vessels, the Philadelphia, the Champion, and the Takachico, the other Japanese cruiser, the Naniwa, having returned to Japan.

Very respectfully,

ALBERT S. WILLIS.

[Inclosure with No. 51 from Hawaii.—Commercial Advisor of April 16, 1894.]

RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas the Provisional Government of the Hawaiian Islands has called a convention for the purpose of preparing and promulgating a constitution for these islands, and has, in the act calling such convention, provided that the same shall consist of 57 members, to include the 13 self-appointed and nonrepresentative members of the executive and advisory councils of said Government, and 18 members to be elected; and

Whereas said act provides that voters for delegates to such convention, and such delegates, shall first take an oath to bear true allegiance to said Provisional Government, and to oppose the reestablishment of monarchy in the Hawaiian Islands, thereby unreasonably restricting the people, and such convention, in their choice of a permanent form of government, and makes no provision for the submission of the constitution, which shall be so prepared, to a vote of the people; and

Whereas there is now pending unadjusted before the Government of the United States of America the protest of the constitutional government of Hawaii against the action of those by whom said constitutional government of Hawaii was deposed, on the 17th day of January, 1893: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by us, the loyal people of Honolulu, in mass meeting assembled, on the evening of this 9th day of April, 1894, That we will and do decline to take said oath, or to register or vote for delegates to such convention as aforesaid; and we further decline to participate or cooperate in any project of said Provisional Government to extinguish the Hawaiian constitution of 1887, or to adopt a form of government other than that sanctioned by said constitution, until a definite and final reply to said protest of the constitutional government of Hawaii shall have been received from the Government of said United States;

Resolved, That we regard the said act, passed by the said Provisional Government, and especially the provision thereof which makes the members of said councils also members of said convention, thereby assuring a majority of nonrepresentative members therein, as being calculated and intended to prevent a full and fair representation of the people in such convention; and we regard the oath thereby prescribed as a practical disfranchisement of the Hawaiian people, and of all who, with them, remain loyal to the form of government here existing from time immemorial;

Resolved, That we appeal to our compatriots and sympathizers throughout the land to stand firm in their refusal to take said oath, or to register or vote for delegates to such convention;

Resolved, That the chairman and secretary of this meeting are hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to his excellency the minister plenipotentiary of the United States in Hawaii, with a request that he will forward the same to his Government.