imperial Government of ours and exercising its powers without restraint.

There is nothing unconstitutional about it. There is nothing any more wrong about it or irregular about it than there was in the annexation of Louisiana after the treaty of Mr. Jefferson, when it became necessary to extend the laws over that Territory; but instead of extending the laws of the United States over it we retained the laws that were in force there, whether they were of French origin or of Spanish origin. All the laws in force were retained, and the courts were compelled to administer them and did administer them until the Congress of the United States furnished to Louisiana a Territorial form of government, after several years.

Now, there we are, and that is the situation of Hawaii to-day. Therefore the question arises, Mr. President, and arises naturally and properly, not whether we shall create a government in Hawaii anew entirely, starting it from the ground, but how much of the powers of the republic ought we to take away in order to conform Hawaii to the institutions and the Constitution and the laws of the United States and the opinions of the American people. That is the question which is presented, and in the presentation of that question I wish to state just this: We thought it was proper to retain the courts that were in Hawaii and give them local jurisdiction, cutting away from them all jurisdiction of a foreign character or admiralty character, and everything of that kind, but giving them control of local affairs within the jurisdiction of the district, circuit, and supreme courts. Then a part of the bill is to establish within those islands for the first time a district court of the United States proper. That is the proposition before the Senate at this moment of time.