Hawaiian people. It has proved cumbersome, expensive, inadequate.

Many doubtful questions of admiralty jurisdiction have arisen. Under Article IV of the Constitution the judicial power of the United States extends to all questions of maritime and admiralty jurisdiction.

Here is the harbor of Honolulu, congested with shipping, with such questions arising almost daily, with no tribunal to pass upon them. Other questions have arisen in the administration of criminal law, as there is no provision for a majority verdict of juries. There has been no power to make appropriations for public improvements, for roads, or to extend the wharves or harbor facilities.

To settle this the public lands were ordered by the President in September, 1898. Persons who have had inchoate rights, homestead rights, and others have been unable to perfect their title. The Attorney-General rendered an opinion that although the municipal laws of Hawaii remained, yet the conveyances of the public lands were not authorized.

In addition, under this government large numbers of Japanese contract laborers have been imported into the island. By the last report which I have here, which has just been received, of the collector-general of customs of Hawaii, it appears that the immigration of 1898 was as follows: That there arrived in Hawaii in Chinese, 26,103 Japanese, and 5,647 of all others, and that there departed during the same time 1,514 Chinese, 2,780 Japanese, and 4,769 others.

The ten thousand contract Japanese laborers have been imported into Hawaii since it was a United States territory, subject to the United States laws, waiting for the United States Congress to give them a government.

It is time that this reprouch upon the United States be removed, and that the contract labor into Hawaii be forever ended by the action of Congress.

Now, the duty is laid upon Congress to provide a government for these islands. In providing that government no question of general policy as to the people of other islands should have any weight. As long as the Hawaiian people are not governed as is decided alone, upon the needs of the Hawaiian people and upon their fitness for a representative and free government. In this way alone can we do justice to the people of Hawaii. They are entitled to a government for the Hawaiian people, not for the Hawaiian Islands.

As to the character of the government that we provide, we should not be deterred by the fear of establishing any troublesome precedent for the future. If the conditions in Hawaii are not like the conditions found in the United States, then the establishment of the government that is in Hawaii has no precedent for such government, if any, as Congress may establish in other islands. Upon the merits of the case alone as applied to the Hawaiian people we ask you to provide a government for the Hawaiian Islands.

We should not be deterred as to the character of the government we provide by any fear of a claim of statehood hereafter on the part of the people of Hawaii. They may never ask it. It may never be considered proper to grant it. But upon that question we will not deal.

We can not bind a single Congress that shall succeed this one. We can not bind the next session of this Congress. If claim is ever made for statehood upon the part of Hawaii, it must be decided by the Congress then representing the American people, and we can not make one hair black nor white in reference to that decision.

But there is nothing to fear, I believe, in this matter. I believe the Hawaiian people are content to go on under the free, representative government of a United States Territory, that shall give them the protection of the flag of the country. They have the ability to develop their wonderful resources, their marvellous, beautiful country.

The American people can be trusted. For more than fifty years the Territory of Hawaii has been an organized Territory of the United States, often seeking statehood at the hands of Congress and uniformly refused.

For more than a generation the vast Territory of Alaska, the richest of land, one of the most valuable possessions of the United States, has never had it's government, which have had their particular laws generalized under statutes, and laws made applicable to all Territories—it is desirable to do so.

We are not met at the threshold of action by the question of the extension of the Constitution to Hawaii, for the annexation resolution provided that the municipal law of Hawaii that was not in contravention of the Constitution should remain until action by Congress. And this bill, in so many words, extends the Constitution to Hawaii, and it is ordered that there be no difference of time since the Hawaiian Islands were annexed to the United States that the Constitution has not been the standard by which all the laws of that country must be measured. Before the annexation resolution and before our Constitution was extended there its spirit had gone.

For sixty years the spirit of the American Constitution, the foundation of our traditions and our history, has existed in Hawaii, permeating the body politic, enlightening the legislation of the territory through a period of the Constitution which preceded the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and the great guaranty of personal freedom that we extend to Hawaii is extended by the government.

Can we, then, extend to the people of Hawaii aTerritorial government to the people of Hawaii? There has been no time since the Northwest Territory that there has not been several organized Territories under the jurisdiction of Congress. Twenty-eight Territories in all have been organized. It has been the standard of government, and the people of Hawaii have never been citizens of Hawaii and can never exercise suffrage.

Now, what as to the remainder of the population of the Hawaiian Islands? There are native Hawaiians, some 40,000 in number. The Hawaiians are a slowly dying race, fading out, soon to be supplanted by the Hawaiians and the white man. The Hawaiian Islands also as a place for the calling of vessels of all nations has at times offered inviting ground for epidemics, which have swept off the people in vast numbers. Whatever the cause may be, they are a rapidly dying, fading nation. Those that remain may be saved. Those that have died are lost. They are ignorant, simple, generally orderly; they are educated either in the English or in the Hawaiian language. All the younger portion of the Hawaiians speak the English language; the older ones speak the Hawaiian language, and the newspapers are published in both by other missionaries and their families. They acquired other lands, and they lived there, intermarried, and were soon after joined by other pioneers, business men, those who looked to...