by annexing Hawaii we opened up a vast field for the profitable
and remunerative employment of American labor.

How changed the picture! Now the commission says, "Some
thing that white labor may be superior to Chinese and Japanese
labor."

Analyze the contract-labor system; see the contract laborers
stored in steacage like sardines in a box, huddled together, men,
women, and children; see them on the plantations, the whole fam-
ily working. Since contract, the men must pay for $5 to $15 a month
for their passage and board and clothes themselves; see them
huddled together in prison for failure to keep their contract, and
then tell me whether American white labor can compete in a
country crowded by such sentiments under such conditions.

This does not go well when the sun shines at midnight and the
moon at midday, when nature stops to take a rest, and when men
are expected to be selfless.

The population of the islands, December 1898, as affirmed by
the report, was: Hawaiians, 21,500; Chinese, 1,500; Japanese,
21,500; Portuguese, 15,000; Americans, 4,000;
British, 2,350; Germans and other Europeans, 2,000; Polynesians
and miscellaneous, 1,250, total, 110,000.

The Japanese and Orientals predominate in numbers. Hawaii
has a treaty with Japan that gave the citizens of the latter free
access to the "favored nation clause." By the resolution of
annexation we struck this down and established our own treaty
relations with Japan. This was only the enforcement of a well-
established principle of international law. Our treaty with Japan
provides that the United States may at any time control or
prohibit the immigration of Japanese laborers to the United States.
The party in power has never invoked this right to protect the
interest of labor.

Note the number of Chinese and Japanese we have admitted to
our population under annexation, July 7, 1898, thousands of foreign
contract labor have been flowing into the Hawaiian islands, so
that today 40,000 contract laborers, or more than one-third of
the population, are on the islands because Congress did not prohibit
this infamous dealing in human chattels in the resolution of an-
nexation.

It could have been done. The Chinese were excluded by a sec-
tion of the resolution; but it was not the policy of the annex-
ationsists; it was not the policy of the administration of Hawaii,
or of those in charge here, to do it, but they allowed the
islands to be worked profitably by foreign contract laborer.
Those voices which were raised for annexation proclaimed that Hawaii was near to us—she is far enough away but near enough to infect our laboring men with the pestilence of her laboring system.

Hear this proof:

Office of Commissioner-General of Immigration.
Washington, February 9, 1900.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 8th
instant, and to state in reply that the Board of Agriculture, in its report on
Japanese immigration to Hawaii, for the reason that its jurisdiction has not as yet been extended over that Territory,

It has been stated that the Honorable Mr. Joshua B. Brown, Chinese inspector at Honolulu, forwarded the following informa-
tion to the supervising special agent at this Department:

From January 1, 1899, to December 31, 1899,

Japanese arriving under contract,

Japenese arriving "free",

Total for fractional part of 1898,

From January 1, 1899, to December 31, 1899, Japanese arriving under contract,

Japenese arriving "free",

Total for year 1899,

Total from August 12, 1899, to December 31, 1899, Japanese under contract to arrive within the first three months of 1900,

Total admitted and under contract to arrive

1899,

Number who have departed from the islands during the same period,

This is the first data in this form of this office concerning the subject referred to, and it is trusted that it will answer your purpose.

Respectfully yours,

T. V. POWDERLY,
Commissioner-General.

HON. JAMES M. ROBINSON, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

This shows the importations from Japan only. Other nations are also admitted under contract labor to the Hawaiian system. It
will be seen that of 44,000 Japanese arriving, only 243 have de-
parted in the same period, thus showing that the statement made
that they leave is misleading.

The Pittsburg Dispatch (Independent) of September 26, 1898, referring to the dispatch from Yokohama that the sugar interests
of Hawaii had collected 10,000 Japanese contract laborers for ship-
ment to the islands, "and that Japan was alarmed at the exodus
present and future contemplated," remarked significantly that
its was a cause of more just alarm to the United States.

Is it any wonder that the labor interests and organized labor is
wary against this incursion? For what is that incursion toward
the United States government? Can they not well doubt a govern-
ment and their security for the future when that government tolerates
such a scourge?

Cardinal Gibbons, in his able paper to the Knights of Labor,

said: "The time has come in the world's history when the church should seek
an alliance with the masses and should abandon special efforts to conci-
mile the wealthy in the power of the strong, the smallness of the one of the earth, because
in the heart of the world rests the people.

Sir, some Hawaiians are in this country, representing the
people and the labor interests, which class, they say, were not re-
presented before the Hawaiian commission.

One is Mr. Robert W. Inouye, the representative of the islands, who,
as you may well remember, presided for six years in a military school in Italy by

King Kalakaua, and the other, Mr. Edgar Caypless, a lawyer, of
Honolulu, formerly of New York, and a graduate of the South

Carolina University. The latter says that "over 25,000 Japanese
have been imported into the islands, and are being under contract to labor for a term between three and five years.

These contract laborers were brought to Hawaii for the money
that is in them. Let us be honest. This editorial of the Wash-
ington Post of Sunday, January 21, 1900, has favored the
Administration's policy of annexation, is candid and honest
with the laboring masses. It reads:

Let us be honest.

Why can we not be honest in our utterances touching the territories we have recently acquired? Why is it we should waste time and trouble, to say nothing of effort, to come out frankly with the announcement that we have annexed these possessions in cold blood and that we intend to utilize them for the benefit of a few.

The annexation of the islands was a piece of legislation: all his hypocritical pretense for the moral, social, and intellec-
tual uplifting of the masses is worthless: it will only add to the national debt, and if this be all that the Japanese are to receive in consideration of their practical possibilities. We value them by the standard of their commercial usefulness, and by no other. If Cuba and Luzon are mere sound and fury, signifying nothing, foolishly or wisely, we want these new ac-
cquired possessions, not for any mission of uplifting, but for the
trade, the commerce, the power, and the money there in them. Why beat about the bush and promise and protest all sorts of things? Why not

As a matter of fact, we are not concerned in the religious or ethical uplift-
ing of the islands, but for their commercial utility. After all, the
starched shirt front is a matter of climate and personal opinion. Dish-
reliance, untruth, crime, and general wickedness is our great growth with our growth.

We need not go to the West Indies or the Philippines in search of material for
the development of our territories. We are growing right here.

Why not tell the truth and say—it is the fact—that we want Cuba.

Port Rico, Hawaii, and Luzon, together with any other country we can get, for compen-
sation for the loss of a part of our fertile and prosperous parts of the United States, our appetite, because we believe they will add to our national strength, and because we know that the
will some day become purchasers at our bidding, that trust us. We might as well throw off the pious mask and indulge ourselves in a little honest candor. It will cost us nothing, and it may profit much. At any rate, let us be
frank in our utterances touching the annexation of these islands, without looking into the mirror without blushing.

Now, after this plain avowal from a competent and reliable source, with the evidence all one way to prove it, it is clear that the ruling party is now in position to hold the Hawaiian islands for a like purpose and from like motives. With 40,000 laborers imported under the eye and
by the aid of the United States Hawaiian government officials
since annexion, where is the protection to American labor.

On the same day, Mr. Gardner of New Jersey, chairman of the Labor
Committee, asked unanimous consent for the immediate considera-
tion of a bill to extend the labor laws of the United States to Hawaii.

Mr. Knox (Massachusetts) said: "Mr. Speaker, the time has arrived for
the people of Hawaii to be extended to the Hawaiian islands; as shown on page 883, volume 32, part 7, thirty-fifth session of the Fifty-
fifth Congress.

The bill sought to be enacted then reads as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the act approved February 26, 1883, to prohibit
the importation of Chinese laborers into the United States on
any pretense or agreement to perform labor in the United States, its Territories, and the District of Colum-
bia, and the act amendments thereto, be, and the same are," and thereafter extended to the Hawaiian islands.

The gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. Knox] a long time "after, in explanation of his obstruction to this legislative enactment at that early and opportune time, by voice and vote then contes-
ting the bill, was asked, "Do you think that the people of Hawaii will ever consent to such "deemal legislation," and that his own committee had a bill
including other provisions. His committee was then nursing
and trying to have considered the bill with the outrageous provisions
provided for therein. I refer. But time was of the essence of this
action in the House, and by his opposition in the House he delayed