Mr. SPOONER. But I think this is not the time for it nor the place for it, and I doubt if the Senator is not peculiar among all the Senators who represent the South here in desiring to discuss it. You are making your own constitution; South Carolina is enforcing her laws, explaining and enforcing, which in the history of the country when there is so little of sectional animosity and so little of sectional questions to be debated in the Senate, and I am not a little surprised, Mr. President, it should rest with a Southern Senator to constantly provoke or interject this question into the business of the Committee from South Carolina. I like him: I admire his frank, manly, and direct methods: I recognize his ability. I may be mentally dull, but I am unable to see how the question of South Carolina's action in relation to the suffrage is involved in this Hawaiian bill.

Mr. TILLMAN. Will the Senator allow me to enlighten him? Mr. SPOONER. This is a proposition to confer suffrage by the laws of the United States upon the people of Hawaii. It is not a proposition at all to disfranchise those who already have the right to vote, and I should suppose the Senator from South Carolina might, if he had leisure, consider that the Senator having this bill in charge offers this amendment.

I do not like the property qualification. I do not like a property qualification. There is philosophy and reason, Mr. President, oftentimes in an educational qualification, but there is nothing of manhood suffrage. I return to the remarks of the part of the country only men should vote who are able to read and write, and it can hardly be maintained that a man should be permitted to vote who cannot read and write, but happens to own so much property. Manhood suffrage is one thing: dollar suffrage is another.

Mr. SPOONER. The compulsory policy of the United States—the compulsory policy of the United States—dealing generally with this question in what are called "the island possessions." It is a new question to us; there are new conditions; there are different people from any with whom we have had to deal before. You bring in the Members of the House who have been so long in office from Mississippi—you may be able to register the white men there just as we have done. Does anybody object to that? Mr. SPOONER. Mr. President, was that qualification in regard to property industriously inserted in the South Carolina constitution in order to safeguard the rights of negroes to vote who have been to $500.

Mr. TILLMAN. It was not put there to safeguard the rights of any man, but was intended for the colored people, simply because we could let the whites there register anyhow under the "understanding clause," we have got little conscience down there and no negroes have seen to think so: but we have got more than you have for the Canakas and Portuguese. I am asking you to acknowledge that, and let us alone.

That is all.

Mr. SPOONER. Mr. President, I shall vote for this amendment

Mr. TILLMAN. Will the Senator please to particularize and

Mr. SPOONER. I can specify. If the Senator wants debate upon this subject, when this bill shall have passed he can have it. If he wants to repeat his denunciations of the act of Congress giving colored men the right to vote, whether as matter of policy, an infamous act of Congress, in the light of the history of that day—he can have it.

Mr. TILLMAN. Will the Senator allow me?