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THE HAWAIIAN TREATY

Secret Documents before the U. S. Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Among the treaties which are still pending before the Senate, and which were stored until the Tribune, (N. Y.,) had them before its readers this morning, is one renewing the reciprocity treaty with Hawaii. The secret executive documents which were transmitted with this treaty to the Senate, and which contains much valuable information upon the subjects involved, are herewith presented to the public.

Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a report of the Secretary of State, communicating the proposal of the King of Hawaii for the extension of the duration of the existing reciprocity treaty with the United States.]

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

I transmit herewith, for consideration by the Senate and appropriate action thereon, a report of the Secretary of State communicating the proposal of the King of Hawaii that the duration of the existing reciprocity treaty with the United States be extended for a further definite period of seven years.

The treaty having been heretofore under consideration by your honorable body, I deem it fitting to consult the Senate in the matter before directing the negotiations to proceed.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

Executive Man'n, Washington, June 8, 1881.

TO THE PRESIDENT:

The question of the duration of the existing treaty of reciprocity with Hawaii has been under discussion in the Senate since the expiration of the seven years' term fixed by the treaty itself left the two Governments free to terminate the treaty on twelve months notice given by either to the other. A majority of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, by its report of January 24 1883, has expressed its conviction that the treaty should not be terminated by the act of the United States. The concluding paragraph of that report intimates that it may be a duty toward "the people of both countries to give certainty and permanence to the gratifying prosperity which this treaty has created."

Whatever permanence it may be deemed an part proper to give to the provisions of the treaty instead, it is evident, be secured while Hawaii, on its side, is at liberty to give at any time the twelve months notice of termination.

His Majesty the King of Hawaii has directed the Hawaiian Minister in this country to propose the removal of this element of uncertainty in the duration of the treaty by a specific agreement extending it for a further term of seven years.

The undersigned deems it proper to suggest to the President the submission of this proposition to the Senate, in order that, if favorably disposed therein, that body may signify, by resolution or otherwise, its consent that the proposed extension be negotiated.

The Hawaiian Minister's note of April 18, 1881, embodying this formal proposal, is herewith laid before the President for transmission to the Senate, if he shall deem it proper so to do, together with a draft of an additional article to the existing treaty, which is designed to accomplish the suggested seven years' permanence thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Department of State, Washington, June 8, 1881.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, May 31, 1881.

SIR: I duly received your note of the 18th ultimo, wherein you state the advantages which would flow from a definite understanding as to the duration of the reciprocity treaty between the United States and Hawaii, instead of the present indeterminate status whereby treaty may be terminated upon twelve months' notice given by either side, and Government proposes, on behalf of His Majesty the King of Hawaii, to enter into an additional convention extending the definite duration of the treaty for a further term of seven years.

It is thought best, the treaty having been so long under consideration in the Senate with a view to deciding whether the interests of this country require the termination of the compact under the twelve months' notice, now open to either party, that the Hawaiian proposal should be submitted to the Senate for its action, if favorable thereon, that body, in the exercise of its constitutional share of the treaty-making power will the Executive, and signify its consent that the proposed extension of time shall be effected by negotiating a formal convention to that end.

The President has accordingly directed that the proposal shall be submitted to the Senate.

Availing myself the honor of commencing the result, to you in due time, I embrace this occasion to repeat to you, sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. H. A. P. Carter, &c., &c., &c.

HAWAIIAN LEGATION, WASHINGTON, D. C., April 18, 1881.

SIR: The convention concerning commercial reciprocity between the United States and Hawaii of Jan. 30, 1875, has been productive of most beneficial results to the trade and industry of both Nations as shown by the great increase of trade mutually profitable, and to an increase of American commerce unequalled, as I believe, in any other branch of the foreign commerce of the United States. It has also stimulated enterprises the continued successful prosecution of which is of importance to citizens of both Nations.

There is no doubt also that the convention has promoted cordial relations between the two countries, and given strength to the political autonomy of Hawaii.

Apprehensive of the continuance of the treaty relations which have produced such gratifying results which naturally tend to weaken its beneficent influence and lessen its advantages to the people of both countries. By its terms the convention is now terminable on twelve months' notice by either of the contracting parties. Its successful operation, however, during the first definite term of seven years would seem to justify its further definite extension. I am, therefore, authorized, if the President concurs, with these views, to agree on behalf of His Majesty my sovereign, to extend the definite duration of the treaty for a further term of seven years, and thus remove all doubts as to the intentions of the two governments to foster and maintain the relations now happily existing between the United States and Hawaii.

Trusting that these sentiments which animate my sovereign will be shared by the President and by yourself, and that the friendly ties now further strengthened by an arrangement such as I am authorized to conclude, I remain, etc., with renewed assurance of distinguished consideration.

Your most obedient servant,

H. A. P. CARTER.

Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State, etc.

Whereas, by the convention concerning commercial reciprocity between the United States of America and His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, concluded January 30, 1875, it was agreed that the said convention should remain in force for seven years from the date at which it should come into operation, and further, until the expiration of twelve months after either of the contracting parties should give notice to the other of its wish to terminate the same;

And whereas, the said term of seven years has expired, and the said convention is now terminable on twelve months' notice by either of the contracting parties;

And whereas, The mutual advantages growing out of said convention may be lessened by doubt as to its continuance in force;

Therefore, the President of the United States and His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, desiring that the definite term of duration of force of said convention should be established, have appointed, the President of the United States, Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Secretary of State, and the King of the Hawaiian Islands, Hon. Henry A. P. Carter, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government of the United States of America, who, having exchanged their full powers, which were found sufficient and in due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

The contracting parties agree that the said convention concerning commercial reciprocity shall remain in force for a further term of seven years from the date of exchange of ratifications of this agreement, and further until twelve months after either of the contracting parties shall give notice to the other of its wish to terminate the same, each of the high contracting parties being at liberty to give such notice to the other at the end of the said term of seven years or at any time thereafter.

ARTICLE II.

The present agreement shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington, D. C., U. S. A., within ten months, or earlier if possible.

In witness whereof—

The Senate to-day ratified the additional article of the Mexican treaty extending the treaty of 1883 to May 20 1885, and removed the injunction of secrecy therefrom. The Senate also removed the injunction of secrecy from the treaty relating to the boundary line between the United States and Mexico along the Gila River, which was ratified day before yesterday. The Senate also entered upon the discussion of the Weil and L'Abra treaties, but did not reach the point of action.

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