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AN EXCITING WEEK.

Hawaiians Apprehensive of Minister Willis' Actions.

FEAR OF FORCE BEING EMPLOYED

Naval Officers Unwilling to Participate.

MR. DOLE WANTS REASSURANCES.

Royalists Puffed Up With Hopes of Speedy Triumph.

WILLIS MERELY MAKING A "BLUFF."

Indignation Among Americans at His Conduct.

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VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 9.—The steamship Warrimo of the Canadian Australian line arrived at 9 o'clock last evening, seven days from Honolulu. The United Press representatives boarded her in the straits from a pilot boat, and placed the first news of the situation in Hawaii in the hands of the papers. Warrimo lay at Honolulu December 31 and January 1. While there beyond the sight of a few provisional government soldiers parading the streets there was nothing to indicate that the country was in the midst of a political crisis upon the outcome of which rests its future.

The Warrimo brought no passengers from Hawaii. B. Thompson, one of the British commissioners of Fiji, was a passenger. He said to the United Press reporter:

"My stay was very short and my investigation into the situation necessarily superficial. The provisionals or annexationists evidently taking a cue, now advance the claim that their government is fully organized and properly constituted, and any act of the United States tending to restoration is an act against a recognized power. There is not the faintest doubt that a vote of the people would overthrow it. Provisional soldiers are paid $40 a month, and while a lucrative salary is paid, the ranks will always be full. The natives are inactive, and I do not wonder at it. They are given all sorts of reports, and I doubt if they appreciate the true situation. They are held in check, no doubt, by the pressure of the American, Japanese and British men-of-war in the harbor. The landing of the United States marines at the time of the overthrow had its effect on them."

Minister Thurston will return to Washington at once, where his services will be much needed.

While Willis' menacing attitude has cut off sales of bonds, the treasury has been amply replenished by tax collections, and the available cash increased from $143,562.87 to $212,346.67 during the week ending December 27.

The government is keeping the answer of Dole to Willis' demand secret until it shall have had time to reach the President.

President Dole's Reply.

The following summary, however, has been obtained from good authority:

Dole begins by noting that this is the first official communication this government has had intimating in any way the policy of President Cleveland toward Hawaii. By no action of this government has any matter connected with the late revolution been submitted to the authority of the United States. This is carefully argued. No intimation has ever been made to the provisional government of anything having been done or considered in the premises until the alleged conclusion of the President now presented by Minister Willis. An exhaustive resume is given of the series of political struggles leading up to the revolution, including the acts of Kalakaua before 1887, and his obstructing and dictating legislation by filling the legislature with office holders.

The climax was reached in the opium scandal when Kalakaua took a bribe of $71,000, previously prepared for the legislature. The citizens then united to overthrow the monarchy.

This was averted by submission to a new constitution, which took most of his arbitrary power away. Thence on till his death he constantly chafed and sought to evade those restrictions. The inside history of the attempted revolution of 1889 is then recited, and of Liliuokalani's participation therein. The opposition then shown by her to the rights and interests of the foreigners was after her ascending to the throne constantly emphasized. It became violent during the latter part of 1892 as shown by her perverse appointments of her cabinets in opposition to the will of the legislature. The events of the last week of her reign are recited, the resuscitation of the defunct lottery bill, the removal of the Wilcox cabinet, all through the queen's personal influence. Dole recites the attempted coup d'etat, the action of the committee of safety and the two mass meetings of the foreigners and the natives. The committee deemed the presence of the American forces necessary for the protection of life and property, and requested Stevens to land them. Dole denounces in the strongest terms the falsehood that Stevens was ever asked to have his forces assist in the revolution or that he ever did so.

The government disclaims having ever authorized Damon or any other person to make terms for the queen's surrender, and denies that he ever reported or was asked to report such terms. Damon made those terms on his own responsibility. Never before or since the revolution did the members of the committee of safety confer with Stevens about the overthrow of the government. The provisional government is responsible only to those who constituted and are now maintaining it in power. It is amenable to no foreign power on earth. It has always been faithful to its constituents, and by no acts or intimation has ever offered to submit its rights to the United States or any other power. For these reasons this government must refuse to consider the proposition of Minister Willis. No allusion is made by President Dole to Willis' appeals to their patriotism and moral sense nor to terms of amnesty secured from the ex-queen.

A Week of Intense Excitement.

The week of December 17 to 24 was one of great excitement at Honolulu.

Sunday, the 17th, passed quietly, although Mr. Carter visited the queen afterward. Being a trustee of Central Union Church, he made a private search of that building for concealed arms, but found none. This was done by him at the ex-queen's request, as the towers of the church overlooked her residence at Washington place, across the street.

The 18th opened amid great and general excitement of all parties. It was given out by the royalists that the queen would be restored that morning. The British troops were to land early, but did not. The American officers and men were refused shore-leave. The prisoners, who come out daily at early morning to labor upon the roads, were kept within their prison walls. Twenty-three of the native policemen refused duty early in the morning and their places were supplied by others, who were ready to stand by the government. From 7 till 10 a.m. the wharves were crowded with natives and others, who were expecting the forces of the Philadelphia and Adams to be landed.

Meantime, Capts. Nelson and Barker of those ships drove up to Nunanu Palace after 9 a.m. with Mr. Willis, returning at 1 p.m., expressing surprise at the expectations of the natives.

At 9:30 a.m. the German consul, Glade, visited Mr. Willis, and importuned him to say something which would allay the extreme tension of the public mind. Mr. Willis declared that the existing fears were without foundation. There would be no trouble. He was laboring night and day and was progressing toward a satisfactory result, happy for all parties.

The minister would not say the one word which would allay fear, namely, that he would not employ force to restore the queen. At Mr. Glade's importunity he named forty-eight hours as the shortest time at which a conclusion could be arrived at. Other leading men visiting the minister during the day to set before him the distressing effect of the disquiet upon all business, also the daily increasing danger to plantations, manned chiefly by ignorant Asiatics, who were acquiring the belief that the government was paralyzed by the minister's course of action.

President Dole's Note of Inquiry.

During the afternoon a decisive step was taken by President Dole, who addressed a note to the American minister, saying that the government had received positive information that he was carrying on negotiations with the ex-queen. Although they could not credit such a course upon his part, their information was so positive that they felt compelled to ask him if it was true. It had become quite certain through royalist intimations and from other indications that Mr. Willis' negotiations were mainly for the purpose of securing from the queen certain pledges of moderation in her conduct, prior to making his demand for her restoration. It became generally believed that the unexpected contingencies mentioned by him as necessitating his further reference of matter to Washington per Alameda's mail of November 16 related to obstinate refusal on the part of the queen to concede amnesty and other conditions required by Mr. Willis.

As the minister had had six weeks in which to adjust other conditions and stipulations with her, and as he had now been working hard with her for several days since receiving fresh orders, the inference was that she was resisting his efforts for moderation.

Tuesday, the 19th, opened with continued excitement and apprehension. The American officers and men were strictly retained on board, and it was ascertained that they had been equipped for landing. At the instance of the agents of the Elva plantation, where several hundred Japanese laborers are employed, the Japanese superintendent of immigrants, together with an agent of Consul General Fujii, visited the plantation in the morning and instructed the people to keep order. At 10 a. m. Consul Mills visited President Dole and asked audience for Mr. Willis, at 1:30 p. m. At the appointed hour Minister Willis entered the foreign office, where were assembled the four ministers with a stenographer. The American minister at once proceeded to read a communication, couched in courteous terms, but closing with a request for the provisional government to retire from office and make room for the restoration of Queen Liliuokalani, in accordance with the decision of President Cleveland, upon the case between her and the provisional government, which had been virtually submitted by both parties to the arbitration of the United States. He then retired after an interview of twelve minutes. During the 20th and 21st, the government was working upon the reply, which was to be made to the minister's demand, this being inspired by Mr. Willis' reference to an implied arbitration.

It is the first time that this position has fairly dawned upon the minds of the Hawaiian public and was at once seriously taken. The expressions of surprise and indignation brought out by it have been almost ludicrous. This is so, notwithstanding the cogent refutation of its absurdity made by Vice President Hatch at the mass meeting November 28. He seems to have been the only public man who fairly appreciated the fact that it was Mr. Gresham's fundamental point. Undoubtedly this point will form a prominent feature in the reply of the government.

Trying to Send Dispatches on the Corwin.

The Corwin had arranged to sail on the night of the 18th, but was detained. Strenuous efforts were made by the various correspondents to smuggle dispatches by her. On the 20th every officer was put upon his honor and compelled to return to the writers every letter intrusted to them. An ironclad embargo was laid upon all transmissions of papers and letters by the Corwin. It was the intention to have Minister Willis' dispatches to Washington anticipate all other news to the American public. Plans were laid to dispatch a small fast boat to San Francisco to reach there before the Corwin and frustrate secret machinations at Washington. Later developments made the outlay unnecessary. On the 21st the general impressions were that no actual force would be employed by the minister, but that he would continue to keep up a menace of it.

The naval officers were understood to be united in a sentiment of extreme distrust and indignation at the abhorrent task of making war upon Americans which seemed about to be forced upon them, especially as this would gratify British royalists, who seemed to be in Mr. Willis' confidence, while Admiral Irwin was not. The admiral is believed to share the sentiment. It was learned that the naval officers had agreed that if the admiral issued any order which was unlawful or derogatory to the United States they would want it to be made in writing and would then sign a joint protest against such order, so as to free themselves from blame. Should the admiral then persist in his order they would execute it.

Information Asked of Mr. Willis.

The Portuguese consul, Canavarro, visited Mr. Willis on the 20th, saying he represented the largest element of the white population and asking that he might be informed in confidence what action was intended. The minister turned sharply upon him with the reply that he had not informed even his own admiral. The expectation of

(Continued on Seventh Page.)

FOR PROTECTION.

First Speech of the Opposition on the Tariff Bill.

REPRESENTATIVE J. C. BURROWS.

The Democratic Policy of Free Trade Arraigned.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

The opening of the debate in opposition to the Wilson tariff bill was accorded to Representative J. C. Burrows of Michigan, a member of the committee on ways and means. He began with the following words:

"Mr. Chairman, the measure now under consideration has for its avowed object a radical modification of the tariff act of 1890. It involves not only a change of rates, but a complete reversal of an economic policy. The law of 1890 was enacted not only with a view of securing revenue for the support of the government, but for the further purpose of giving encouragement to the creation of new enterprises and protection to American industries and American workingmen against unequal and injudicious foreign competition. In its practical workings it accomplished both these results."

If the Election Had Resulted Differently.

Proceeding then to an examination of the working of the act of 1890, he presented a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the government in the past several years and he asserted that so long as the operation of the bill was undisturbed, as a revenue measure, it met the requirements of the government. The decline of revenues this fiscal year, he suggested, was not due to any defect in the law of 1890, but to the general depression of business brought about by "the ascendancy of a political party pledged to the destruction of our protective policy. This has not only crippled and suspended the operation of our domestic manufacturers, but the importer of foreign fabrics naturally curtails his importations in the hope of securing their admission into our markets upon more favorable conditions. I confidently assert that if the election of 1892 had resulted in the retention of the republican party in power, accompanied as it would have been with the assurance of the continuance of the American policy of protection, the effect upon the public revenues as well as the general prosperity of the country would have been entirely reversed."

Benefits of the McKinley Act.

In justification of this assertion Mr. Burrows quoted from various sources, including President Harrison's last annual message, and dwelt especially upon the development of the tin plate industry. "In no single particular," he said, "did the act of 1890 fail to secure the beneficent results its authors designed, and every prophecy of ill in which its enemies indulged utterly failed of fulfillment. You said it would develop no new industries—it created them by the hundreds. You said it would bring no resultant benefits to our workmen—it secured for them enlarged employment and increased wages. You said it would enhance the cost of the protected article—it cheapened it to the consumer. You said it would diminish our foreign trade—it augmented it in 1892 to $1,857,680,610, an increase over the previous year of $128,283,094. You said it would shut out our products from foreign markets—our export trade increased $145,797,388, swelling its volume to $1,030,278,148, the largest ever known in the history of the country and exceeding the value of our imports by $202,875,686. You said it would paralyze our domestic trade—it was never more vigorous than that in the years immediately following its enactment. And so every prophecy of ill found swift and complete refutation in increased industrial activity on every hand and enhanced individual and national prosperity." And further: "This industrial depression came, therefore, not as the result of existing tariff rates, but from an apprehension (it seems now to have been well founded) that these rates were to be so modified as to overthrow and destroy our protective policy, exposing our domestic manufacturers to a ruinous foreign competition and inaugurate in this country an era of free trade with all its attendant evils.

How to Restore Confidence.

"How easily you might demonstrate the beneficial effects of restored confidence. You have but to abandon the policy upon which you have entered, recommit this bill and permit existing tariff regulations to remain undisturbed, and all our industries will quickly revive. But such an exhibition of wisdom and patriotism is not to be expected of a party pledged to 'tariff reform,' and American workmen must tramp and starve, great industrial plants must go into disuse and decay, while the democratic party is attempting to secure revenue from imported goods without conferring protection upon American capital and American labor."

Considering the general character and purposes of the bill, Mr. Burrows called attention to the similarity between the democratic platform of 1892, as to the subject of protection, and the declaration on the same subject in the South Carolina ordinance of nullification. The issue between the parties was stated as follows:

Party Policies Contrasted.

"On the one hand, the democratic party insists that revenue is the only lawful purpose for which any duty can be imposed, and that such exactions, therefore, must be for revenue only, regarless of the conditions or necessities of American industries or American labor, and to that end they would admit free of duty, indiscriminately, all products which they are pleased to denominate 'raw material' and impose a rate of duty on manufactured articles sufficiently low to insure their importation into our market, and thereby secure the only purpose of a democratic tariff, namely, 'revenue.'

On the other hand, the republican party believes in a tariff which, while yielding revenue for the support of the government, shall at the same time be so adjusted as to promote the establishment and maintenance of domestic industries and the protection of the American workmen; and to that end would admit free of duty all articles, raw or manufactured (except luxuries), coming from any place on the face of the globe, the like of which are not or cannot be advantageously produced in this country, and impose duties only on the things that we do or can produce, and make that rate high enough to measure the difference between the cost of the foreign and domestic product, and by that means stimulate the development of all our resources and insure the employment of all our people.

Circumscribed within these narrow limits lies the whole field of the controversy, and on this ground contending political forces confront each other in open and determined hostility. The republican party stands, I believe, securely intrenched behind the bulwarks of the American policy of protection, and will resist to the last the combined forces of free trade from whatever quarter they may come, confident of ultimate and triumphant support by the enlightened judgment of the American people."

Mr. Burrows then entered upon a defense of the constitutionality of a protective tariff, quoting from Webster, Fisher, Ames, Presidents Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and John Quincy Adams, as to the construction of the Constitution upon this point, and concluding from the citations, "that the want of power under the confederation to impose duties on imports with a view not only of raising revenue, but of insuring the development and protection of domestic manufactures, was one of the most potent reasons urged in favor of the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and that these powers were embraced in that instrument and promptly invoked by the national government without hesitancy or question."

A Definition of Tariff Reform.

Passing from these general matters, Mr. Burrows began a consideration of the substance of the measure, prefacing it with this definition of "tariff reform:"

And here we have at last translated into apt phrase the hitherto mysterious doctrine of "tariff reform." You have now conjured with these words for the last time. Having ceased to be mysterious, they will lose their magic power to deceive and mislead the people. "Tariff reform" is finally interpreted to mean "free raw material" and reduction of duties on competing foreign products entering our markets below the protective point, regardless of the consequences to American industries or American labor. This is "tariff reform."

The bill proposed, he said, the transfer of 131 articles from the dutiable to the free list, nearly one-half of which are the fruits of domestic husbandry. As a whole, the proposition is to open our markets to the free importation of nearly $46,000,000 of foreign products, accompanied with the voluntary surrender of nearly $13,000,000 of annual revenue. "It is free trade gone mad." The present free list ought to be sufficient to satisfy the demands of the most advanced free trader. The act of 1890 enlarged to the very limit of safety to American industries and American labor. The value of our free imports increased from $266,103,048 in 1890 to $444,172,064 in 1893, while our dutiable imports fell off from $507,571,764 in 1890 to $400,282,519 in 1893. And yet it is proposed to increase our free imports to more than $490,000,000, while reducing the dutiable to $354,000,000.

Effect of the Proposed Free List.

The speaker discussed at length the effect of the proposed free list, setting forth many alleged inconsistencies that must ensue, prejudiced classifications of "free raw material," two illustrations being these:

"One would suppose that hoop iron would be the same, regardless of the uses to which it is applied. Not so. On the farmer's bucket it is taxed, around the planter's cotton it is free. Washed wool and washed clay ought to hold the same place in democratic philosophy. Yet the wool of the northern farmer is 'raw material,' while the washed clay in the hands of the southern producer is a highly finished product."

Considerable time was devoted by Mr. Burrows to a presentation of the effects of the bill upon the wool and iron ore industries, which articles are among those proposed to be transferred to the free list. "When this shall have been consummated," he exclaimed, "the manufacturer of woolen goods will surely secure his raw material in the cheapest market. He will draw his supply of wool from Australia, South America, Turkey and South Africa, where lands are practically free and climatic conditions conduce to the cheapest production. The manufacturer of pig iron will turn to Spain, Cuba, England and the world's sources of cheapest supply for his iron ore. This will inevitably result in one of two things—the destruction of our flocks and the closing of our mines, or the lowering of our conditions to the level of our foreign competitors." The destruction of the wool industry, the speaker asserted, would be attended by the sacrifice of 47,000,000 sheep, in which 2,000,000 farmers have invested $100,000,000. Mr. Burrows read extracts from a memorial addressed to the President by the citizens of Bessemer, Mich., setting forth the present deplorable condition of the iron miners in the upper peninsula of that state, and from the protest by the board of supervisors of Gogebic county against putting iron ore on the free list, to show the appalling effects in those regions of the mere approach to free trade in that article. Besides the mining property directly involved in the proposition, Mr. Burrows scheduled other investments and improvements to the value of $182,000,000 that would be imperiled or destroyed by placing iron ore on the free list.

Some Incongruities of the Bill.

"I shall not pause to call attention to the many incongruities in this bill. The committee may be able to explain why pig iron is taxed and cotton ties are free. Why the northern farmer, with harvest labor at $2 a day, is allowed 20 per cent on his wheat, and the rice producer of the south, with 75 cents a day labor, secures 71 per cent.

"Why tallow, wool, grease and degras are made free as tanners' materials, while the sumac of Virginia and North Carolina, used for the same purpose, is protected. Why the farmers' potatoes secure only 10 per cent consideration, while peanuts of Virginia grow in security behind a Chinese wall of 35 per cent. Why in many instances the duty on the finished article is less or no more than on the articles entering into its manufacture. But I cannot pursue this inquiry. I have only to say that the bill, as a whole, is as unscientific as it is un-American."

But the most startling feature of the bill, Mr. Burrows declared, was the general substitution of ad valorem for specific duties.

"It is a matter of surprise," he said, "that the chairman should have the courage to further state that 'specific duties lead to greater frauds in administration,' for counting and weighing at the custom houses are done by the cheapest and most easily corrupted labor."

"I may be permitted to say in this connection it will be a revelation to the laboring people of this country that in the opinion of the chairman of the committee on ways and means they are as a class more easily corrupted than their more fortunate brethren. But when the chairman states that 'specific duties lead to greater frauds in administration' he flies in the face of a current of authority which he cannot successfully resist. The method of levying duties has been the subject of thorough and repeated investigation and it is not too much to say that ad valorem duties are condemned by the almost unanimous verdict of those whose opinions are entled to respectful consideration. I invoke the judgment of every Secretary of the Treasury investigating the subject, from Hamilton to Manning, in refutation of the position assumed by the majority." A host of authorities was cited to sustain the allegation that ad valorem duties are inferior to specific rates of duty. The system, he said, had been condemned by a century of our own history and the experience of the leading European nations.

The remaining portion of the speech was devoted to demonstrating from statistics and history the beneficial results of protection upon the country's material prosperity as compared with the effects of the free trade eras through which it had passed. After quoting figures to show the gigantic strides made in the thirty years from 1860 to 1890 under the operation of a protective tariff Mr. Burrows closed as follows:

Concluding Remarks.

"Yet, in the face of this magnificent triumph, it is now proposed to call a halt in the industrial march and turn the column backward over the deserted and disastrous pathway leading to free trade. The command has already been given, and consternation has taken possession of all our people. The record of this single year's disasters stands without a parallel in the history of our country. Fifteen thousand five hundred and sixty business failures, seventy-three railways, aggregating 31,878 miles, and representing untold millions of property, gone into the hands of receivers and bankruptcy. Our mines and factories are closed, smokeless chimneys stand like monuments above the graves of dead industries, while an army of the unemployed are tramping the streets begging for bread.

"Yet the half has not been told. The record of this year's industrial and individual suffering resulting from this proposed legislation will never be made up. It exceeds the possibilities of human calculation. I implore you to abandon this suicidal policy. Have you not pursued it far enough to become convinced of its disastrous consequences? It is no longer an experiment—it has become a public crime. You have it within your power to instantly relieve this appalling situation. You have only to substitute for the pending measure a joint resolution declaratory of your purpose to maintain existing law in full force and effect during the continuance of this administration, and business activity would instantly take the place of business depression. It would arrest the slaughter of our flocks, open our mines, relight the fires of our furnaces, unchain the wheels of our industries, start every spindle and loom, while factory whistles and bells would call the tramping, starving millions back from enforced idleness to profitable employment, and the American republic would leap with a bound to its accustomed place in the van of industrial nations."

MUCH EXCITED.

The Friends of the Administration Are Worried.

NEWS OF HAPPENINGS AT HAWAII.

Secretary Gresham Denies Having Yet Received Reports.

THE DIPLOMATIC STATUS.

Despite their efforts to appear unconcerned at the situation in Hawaii, the members of the administration are manifestly very much excited over the news brought from Honolulu by the steamer Warrimo. They no longer express any doubt as to the correctness of the report that Minister Willis demanded the abdication of President Dole in favor of Queen Liliuokalani and that President Dole has positively refused to accede to his demands. They do not now attempt to discredit that action on his part.

Willis Has Followed Instructions.

On the contrary, they confess that he has followed his instructions from the President, and defend what he did as the only honorable policy of the United States.

According to their theory the United States was responsible for the overthrow of the queen and was in duty bound to put her back.

Exerted His Extreme Powers.

The President, they say, has exerted his extreme powers to bring about that result without violating any of the co-ordinate rights of Congress, and having failed, through no fault of his own, has relegated the question to Congress. Officials of the State Department say that Minister Willis has received no instructions from this government since December 11, when the Corwin arrived at Honolulu with Secretary Gresham's letter of December 3, reiterating and emphazing his original instructions for the restoration of the queen, and defining his course of action in the event of assent or dissent on the part of either the queen or the provisional government to the President's decision.

What Willis Was to Do.

He was specifically instructed, in case the queen agreed to the President's conditions, to proceed in his efforts for her restoration, and the demand for the surrender of the provisional government was the first step in that direction. These instructions also reminded Minister Willis that he could not employ force without the authority of Congress. They were published in full in The Star of Friday last, and formed part of the correspondence sent to Congress by the President with his Hawaiian message of December 18. Secretary Gresham is given as authority for the statement that no instructions have been sent to Mr. Willis since those bearing date of Washington, December 3.

Painful Sensation.

The dispatches from Honolulu by way of Victoria created an immediate and painful sensation at the uptown departments and at the Capitol, particularly among the friends of the administration, who find themselves in a most embarrassing position.

"I have not had a word of confirmation of the story," was the reply of Secretary Gresham to a query as to whether he had received any news by the Corwin touching the startling events in Hawaii. Despite the fact that according to Honolulu advices the instructions under which Mr. Willis acted were conveyed to him in cipher by the Corwin and President Dole's peremptory refusal to accede to the request for surrender was brought to the United States by the same vessel Mr. Gresham gave every indication that the news now published was a surprise and at first seemed disposed to doubt its correctness.

Mr. Gresham again stated positively that he had not received a line of advice through the Corwin as yet, so that he could not properly undertake to pass judgment upon the truth of the statements brought by the Warrimo.

It was suggested to the Secretary that inasmuch as he was of course acquainted with the instructions sent to Mr. Willis by the Corwin he could at least pass judgment upon the probability of the narrative. To this he replied earnestly that he had no better means of information than his interrogator; that the instructions referred to had been submitted to Congress, and that the American public was consequently aware of all the facts in his possession. Necessarily this answer also fitted the question whether the Secretary knew that the British marines had been landed in Honolulu.

Conference With Senator Mills.

The Secretary had been in his office only a few minutes when Senator Mills of Texas came in. The Secretary immediately took him into a private room, and they proceeded to discuss the situation. About 10 o'clock the door of the Secretary's office opened and in walked Commissioner Blount. He looked rugged and hearty and appeared to be in a great hurry. Being told that the Secretary was within the diplomatic room, he cast his white sombrero upon a convenient chair, entered the room and was soon a party to the consultation proceeding.

The conference lasted about half an hour, and when Mr. Blount reappeared he was asked by the United Press reporter what he thought of the news.

Ex-Commissioner Blount.

The late commissioner declared that he had not had an opportunity to look at the morning papers, and falling into his usual receptive habit, began to ask for information. He showed much interest in the recital and his face became very grave when he was told of the landing of the British marines. He was particularly anxious to know how that had been brought about. But after listening to all that the reporter had to say, Mr. Blount, like the Secretary, declined to comment upon the news. In fact, he carried his reticence so far as to decline to admit that he had come to Washington to answer the summons of the Senate committee on foreign relations, which is conducting an investigation into the entire subject of our Hawaiian relations.

The Present Status.

Accepting Secretary Gresham's statement that Minister Willis has had no further instructions since December 3 last, it appears that the status of affairs in Hawaii from a diplomatic point of view, is about as follows:

The queen has accepted the President's conditions in toto; the provisional government has refused to surrender, and Minister Willis is acting under his original instructions, limited by the injunction to use no force. These original instructions were dated October 18 last, and were to the following effect:

The President having withdrawn the treaty of annexation the minister was to be guided by Mr. Blount's instructions. He was to inform the queen immediately upon his arrival at Honolulu of the President's determination not to renew the treaty; to express his regret at the reprehensible conduct of the American minister (Stevens), and ask her to rely on the justice of this government to undo the flagrant wrong. He was to secure the queen's promise of amnesty, and then advise the provisional government of the President's determination of the question which their act and that of the queen devolved upon him, and that they are expected to promptly relinquish to her her constitutional authority.

So it would appear that the minister having done all of these things, having met with a refusal to surrender from the provisional government, and being explicitly instructed to avoid the use of force, must now wait until he receives further instructions before taking another step. This being the case it is believed at the State Department that there is little likelihood of bloodshed at Honolulu except in the event that there should be a rising of the royalists. It was very evident, however, that the landing of the British troops has added a new and troublesome factor to an already complex and delicate situation and one that is viewed with grave concern by the State Department officials.

Secretary Gresham took with him to the cabinet meeting this morning full copies of all the news dispatches that had been furnished him.

TODAY'S CABINET MEETING.

Its Entire Attention Engrossed by the Hawaiian Matter.

It is a safe assumption that the Hawaiian complication engrossed the entire attention of the President and his cabinet at today's meeting. All the members were promptly in attendance and there were various indications that the session was of unusual importance. In the alleged absence of official advices on the subject, Secretary Gresham submitted to the cabinet the latest press dispatches from Honolulu, via Victoria, giving a full account of the meeting between Minister Willis and President Dole and cabinet in regard to the proposed restoration of the queen. Copies of these dispatches were furnished to Secretary Gresham at his request.

He said he desired to submit them to the cabinet, and he repeated the statement that he had not yet received anything from Minister Willis on the subject, despite the fact that the Corwin arrived at San Francisco last Friday with dispatches from him. According to Secretary Gresham these dispatches were mailed at San Francisco, and are not due here until tomorrow, at the earliest.

Probably a Special Meeting.

In case they reach here tomorrow it is likely that a special meeting of the cabinet will be held tomorrow or Thursday. The next regular meeting will not be held until Friday. It is not at all probable that the cabinet will act in the matter on the newspaper dispatches in view of the fact that official advices will be received tomorrow or next day. In the probable event that further instructions will be sent to Minister Willis at once the Corwin will be ordered to be held in readiness for instant service, unless it shall be found that the regular Pacific mail steamers offer better facilities for prompt communication with Honolulu.

Appeared Greatly Worried.

The members of the cabinet showed their usual reticence in regard to today's proceedings. They showed more by their manner than by their words that they are greatly worried at the unexpected turn of affairs in Honolulu, but no one was accosted who would say that Minister Willis had exceeded his instructions or had acted otherwise than in strict conformity therewith. The one source of consolation in the matter, so it is said, is the knowledge that Minister Willis is not authorized to use force and that the danger of a conflict is minimized accordingly.

Paymaster J. G. Hobbs, U. S. N., who has been summoned by the Senate committee, has arrived in the city and reported at the Navy Department. He was attached to the Boston at the time of the Hawaiian revolution in January last.

THE CORWIN'S INSTRUCTIONS.

The Officers Not Requested by the President to Keep Away From Shore.

Secretary Gresham talked to the reporters last night in regard to Hawaii for the first time since the news came from Auckland that Minister Willis had called on the provisional government to abdicate in favor of Queen Liliuokalani. His talk consisted almost wholly of denials.

He said if there was any fresh trouble at Honolulu neither the President nor the State Department knew anything about it. He denied the report that the department had received any dispatches from the Corwin, but stated that dispatches by the regular course of the mails were expected from Minister Willis on Wednesday of this week. "And whatever dispatches are received at that time," said Secretary Gresham, "will be sent to Congress at once."

The Secretary said that so far as he or the President knew there had been no unusual restrictions placed upon the officers or men of the Corwin. The vessel was under the orders of the Treasury Department, but so far as he had any knowledge, the officers and crew of the Corwin could come ashore whenever they pleased.

Neither did he know any reason why the Corwin should remain outside the harbor, and if she did not come to her dock it was certainly not because of any request made by him or the President.

It is understood here that the request for the restrictions which have been placed upon the Corwin's crew came from Minister Willis. The dispatch from Mr. Willis asked that no visitors should be allowed to go aboard the Corwin, and that none of her officers or crew shall be allowed to land until after the mail steamer shall have arrived on January 9. This request was not communicated to Secretary Carlisle until yesterday, when an application for permission to board the revenue cutter developed the fact that the vessel had been isolated and her crew prevented from landing at the request of Minister Willis.

AN INTERNATIONAL CASE.

The President to Decide a South American Boundary Dispute.

The controversy between Brazil and the Argentine Republic over the boundary line between those two countries will be formally submitted to the arbitration of the President of the United States on the 11th proximo. The territory in dispute is known as the Missiones, and is located where Brazil and the Argentine touch Uruguay. It has been a subject of dispute for many years. Brazil has sent a special commission to the United States, consisting of Baron do Rio Branco and Gen. Dionizio Evangelista de Castro Cerqueria, to present and support its claims to the disputed territory. The case for the Argentine Republic will be conducted by Dr. de Estanislae S. Zeballos, its minister to this country and Mexico. Dr. Zeballos will formally present his credentials as such special commissioner to Secretary Gresham on the 20th instant. The case will be submitted on the evidence and briefs of the parties, which make a great mass of printed matter. A decision cannot, of course, be expected for some time.

FORD'S THEATER BUILDING.

A Bill Donating It to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. Henderson of Illinois has introduced a bill in the House, by request, donating the Ford's Theater building to the Grand Army of the Republic and the Loyal Legion of the District of Columbia, to be used as a memorial hall or for any other purpose that they may see fit. The building is to be free from all taxes, and $20,000 is appropriated to put it in suitable repair.

Confirmations.

The Senate yesterday confirmed the following nominations:

Waverly Stairley, collector of internal revenue for the fourth district of California; Terrence Martin, receiver of public moneys at Fargo, N.D., and John D. Stocker, surveyor of customs at Atlanta, Ga.

The following postmasters: Illinois—E. B. McClanahan, Waukegan; Charles Donohue, Freeport; C. N. Smith, Belvidere; J. D. Waterman, Rockford; Lewis McCoy, Golconda, and F. G. Wood, Gerard. Iowa—William H. O'Connell, Audibon. Tennessee—E. H. Taylor, Brownsville. Florida—J. W. F. King, Gainesville.

Frank B. Dabney of Louisiana, to be consulting engineer of the Mexican boundary commission.

MORE TARIFF TALK.

Mr. Wilson Concludes His Speech Advocating His Bill.

HE SEVERELY SCORES PROTECTION

And Urges the Benefits to Come From Reduced Duties.

BUSINESS IN THE SENATE.

When the House met today at 11 o'clock there were just forty members present, by actual count. The galleries, too, were somewhat depleted, and there was a general air of relief manifest that the House had overcome all obstacles and had got well started on its tariff journey.

After the call of committees for reports (which was without result) the House went into committee of the whole, with Mr. Richardson (Tenn.) in the chair, and Mr. Wilson (W. Va.) resumed his speech, which was dropped yesterday at 5 o'clock. He held that any industry which was dependent upon the protection of law, or leaned against the taxation laid upon other industries, reduced the rate of wages. They reduced wages, if not in the main, at least by reducing the purchasing power of wages. The English iron workers are paid three or four times as much as the same class of laborers in Russia, yet England had been able to maintain her supremacy against this competition of cheap Russian labor. The United States had exported last year over 6,000,000 bales of cotton to be sold in the markets of the world, which was sold in competition with the cotton of Egypt and India, even though the wages paid on American plantations were ten times as much as in Egypt and India.

Competition With Foreign Manufactures.

He enumerated the exports of many other branches of higher protected American manufactures, and showed how these American-made goods competed with the goods of other countries having cheap labor. He held that if we could compete in spite of this disadvantage we would be in a much better condition to compete if the American laborer had free raw material.

Protection, said Mr. Wilson, had been defined as a wall of defense, built around the manufacturer of our own country in order to keep out foreign-made goods and keep all the customers within the wall for himself. This would do very well if they were satisfied with customers within the wall; but if they tried to trade with those outside the wall would prove a heavy burden. Manufacturers who were not protected had two customers with one price, and if the wall of protection were removed from the American agriculturist the farmer would not know nor care whether his wheat was eaten in Memphis or Manchester, nor whether his cotton had gone to Fall River or Manchester.

Protests by Coercion.

In referring to the numerous petitions which had been presented in Congress protesting against the passage of this bill, Mr. Wilson intimated that they had been signed under coercion. He said he had just received a letter from a former constituent stating that he had been discharged from an iron mill in Youngstown, Ohio, because he refused to sign a petition. (Democratic applause.) And this was not an isolated case. His mail every day was filled with letters from workingmen stating that those petitions had been signed under duress, and hoping that he (Mr. Wilson) would not be influenced by them.

Mr. Apsley (Mass.) said he had attempted this morning to present a petition from his constituents protesting against the Wilson bill, and that petition was not obtained by force. (Democratic cries of "How do you know it?")

Mr. Wilson, in reply, read a letter from a workingman in Lewiston, Me., which, he said, was but a sample of many others of the same tenor which he had received, in which the writer stated that petitions had been sent around to all the mills and all the men, women and children had been compelled to sign it. The petition, coming from the bosses, was equivalent to a command to sign it.

Mr. Doolittle (Wash.) asked Mr. Wilson if he meant to compare the intelligence of American laborer with the intelligence of the slave laborer of the south before the war?

Mr. Wilson replied that no one with intelligence above that of the slave laborer would ask such a question. (Long continued laughter and applause on the democratic side).

Mr. Wilson soon afterward stated that he wished to be courteous in everything, and he, therefore, withdrew his remarks about the gentleman from Washington. (Laughter and applause).

Mr. Reed's Inquiry.

Mr. Reed inquired sarcastically of Mr. Wilson if he would withdraw democratic approval of his remarks. (Republican applause).

The Income Tax.

In speaking of the income tax, Mr. Wilson said that the committee on ways and means expected to follow up the tariff bill with an internal revenue bill, which would provide for the temporary deficit in the revenues of the country. He stated, in passing, that the committee contemplated an income tax of 2 per cent on personal incomes in excess of $4,000, and an internal revenue tax of $1.50 in place of the present tax of fifty cents on cigarettes; and also, he thought, an internal revenue tax of 2 cents a pack on playing cards and an increase of 10 cents a gallon on whisky.

In his peroration he said: "Now, Mr. Chairman, in closing these remarks, I want to say that if the economic objections to protection are so great, if it unbalances trade, if it causes fluctuations and lop-sidedness in the industries of the country, if it robs labor of employment, if it lessens the wages of labor, if it throws crushing burdens upon the American farmer, if it makes the support of this government an onerous burden upon every man that works for a living in this country, there are objections to the protective system equally as strong, equally as vital, in that it is undermining equal free institutions in this country."

When the applause which greeted the close of Mr. Wilson's speech had subsided Mr. Doolittle (Wash.) arose and stated that he attributed the remark of the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. Wilson) in reference to himself as due to