REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE HAWAIIAN LEGISLATURE, SESSION OF 1892

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Report of the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Hawaiian Legislature, Session of 1892 by Various

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REIGN OF HER MAJESTY LILIUOKALANI 2nd YEAR.

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Hawaiian Legislature,

Session of 1892.

Department of Foreign Affairs, March 31st, 1892.

Nobles and Representatives :

I have the honor to submit the Report of this Department for the past Biennial period.

During this period there have been three Ministerial changes; the portfolio of the Minister of Foreign Affairs having been held by Hon. Jona. Austin from December 28th, 1887, to June 17th, 1890, and by Hon-John A. Cummins, from the latter date until February 25th, 1891, when, the Constitutional privilege of Her Majesty to select Her Ministers upon Her accession to the Throne having been decided in Her Majesty's favor by the Supreme Court of the Kingdom, Her Majesty honored me with the trust.

The policy of Her Majesty's Ministers having been to maintain and perpetuate the autonomy and independence of the Kingdom, I am, therefore, happy in being enabled to report that our relations with all the Great Powers of the world are of the most friendly and cordial character.

THE DEATH OF KING KALAKAUA.

The year 1891 brought with it, in its opening month, a great affliction to the Nation. His late and beloved Majesty, King Kalakaua, who had left these shores on the United States Flag-Ship *Charleston* on November 25th, 1890, as the guest of Rear Admiral George Brown, U. S. N., for the hospitable shores of California, and, while there receiving the most generous treatment at the hands of the citizens of that most favored State, was struck down by death after a comparatively short illness, dying at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, on January the 20th, 1891, of Bright's disease of the kidneys.

Although a vague presentiment of impending sorrow had permeated the Hawaiian people on the eve of the

late King's voyage, the sad blow fell none the less with mournful severity; the effect of which was tempered alone by the very marked sympathy evinced by the citizens of the friendly and neighboring State in which he passed his last hours, the immunerable tokens of respect paid to his memory by the world at large, and the fact that under his favored rule our country had so prospered that it could rely upon Providence to justify him to posterity.

SYMPATHY OF FOREIGN POWERS.

Autograph Letters of Condolence on His late Majesty's death have been received by Her Majesty from Sovereigns, Potentates and Rulers in every part of the world.

The President of the United States, Benjamin Harrison, wrote:

"You are well aware of the warm affection which has "been felt by the Government and People of the United "States for the late King, and Your Majesty may be "assured that the same deep interest will accompany "the Reign of his Successor on the Throne of Hawaii. "It is my sincere wish that the relations of the two "Governments may be even more cordial if possible than "heretofore; and that the People of both Countries "may be benefitted thereby."

The Secretary of State of the United States, the ' Hon. James G. Blaine, wrote as follows:

"By his visits to this country, where he was always

"assured a sincere and cordial welcome, the person of "the late King had become familiar to many of the "people, and his approachableness, the simplicity and "amiability of his manner, and the kindliness of his dis-"position had rendered him the object of their friendly "regard, and aroused the desire on their part to testify "their sentiments by such hospitalities as they might "offer with propriety. It is, therefore, not necessary to "emphasize the fact that his death among them became "the cause of something more than a merely formal "expression of sorrow, or that he will be long and "pleasantly borne in remembrance."

"The many years of friendship between his late Ma-"jesty and the Government of the United States, and "the neighborhood and common interests of the Hawai-"ian and American Peoples made it peculiarly fitting "that the last honors should be paid to him, and his "body returned to his people, by Officers and men of the "American Navy, and on board of an American ship "of war."

Under date of May 5th, 1891, His Holiness Pope Leo XIII, wrote:

"We share your sorrow, as the late King was well "known to us for his benevolence and the great inter-"est he took in his people. At the same time We are "pleased to learn that on Your Majesty's accession to "the Throne, peace and prosperity surround You, and "that You are a worthy successor to the most estim-'able Prince who has finished his earthly career."

Under date of March 21st, 1891, Autograph Letters expressing the most sincere sympathy and condolence were received from Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and H. I. M. William III., Emperor of Germany, and, at subsequent dates, from the Czar of Russia, the Emperor of Japan, the Emperor of China, the President of the French Republic, Leopold, King of Belgium, Oscar, King of Sweden, Emma, Queen Dowager and Regent of the Netherlands, Porfirio Diaz, President of the United States of Mexico, Francis Joseph I, Emperor of Austria, Dom Carlos, King of Portugal, Mchemet Tewfik, Khedive of Egypt, Mons. Welti, President of the Swiss Confederation, Carlos Pellegrini, President of the Argentine Republic, Maria Christina, Queen Regent of Spain, Umberto, King of Italy, Julio Hereray Obes, President of the Republic of Uruguay, Remijio Morales Bermudez, President of the Republic of Peru, the Sultan Nazr-Ed-Deen, Shah-in-Shah of Persia, Somdetch Phra Paraminde Maha Chulaloukorn Phra Chula Klao, King of Siam, Abu Bakhar, Sultan of the State and Territory of Johore, and others.

THE QUEEN'S ACCESSION.

Her Most Gracious Majesty Liliuokalani, who had been acting as Regent of the Kingdom during His Majesty's absence, was proclaimed, in pursuance of the Constitution, as His Successor, as Queen of the Hawaiian Islands, on January 29th, 1891, and on March 9th, 1891, Her Royal Highness Princess Victoria Ka-

1