

The Queen's Protest

On that same day, January 17, 1893, when informed of the risk of bloodshed that would result from resistance, Queen Lili'uokalani issued a statement temporarily yielding her executive authority as the constitutional monarch of the Kingdom of Hawai'i to the United States government.

Her wording makes clear her expectation that the United States would restore her position, and the Kingdom.

I, Lili'uokalani, by the grace of God and under the constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Queen, do hereby solemnly protest against any and all acts done against myself and the constitutional Government of the Hawaiian Kingdom by certain persons claiming to have established a Provisional Government of and for this Kingdom.

That I yield to the superior force of the United States of America, whose minister plenipotentiary, His Excellency John L. Stevens, has caused United States troops to be landed at Honolulu and declared that he would support the said Provisional Government.

Now, to avoid any collision of armed forces, and perhaps the loss of life, I do, under this protest and impelled by said forces, yield my authority until such time as the Government of the United States shall, upon the facts being presented to it, undo (¶) the action of its representative and reinstate me in the authority which I claim as the constitutional sovereign of the Hawaiian Islands.

Done at Honolulu this 17th day of January, A. D. 1893.

(Signed)

LILIUOKALANI R.

(Signed)

SAMUEL PARKER,

Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(Signed)

WM. H. CORNWELL,

Minister of Finance.

(Signed)

JOHN F. COLBURN,

Minister of Interior.

(Signed)

A. P. PETERSON,

Attorney-General.

(Addressed)

To S. B. DOLE, Esq., and others composing the Provisional Government of the Hawaiian Islands.