

# HAWAII'S LAST STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

## STATESMEN OPPOSED TO ANNEXATION

Pettigrew and Dubois Cheer  
the Hearts of the  
Hawaiians.



SENATOR RICHARD F. PETTIGREW.

HILO, HAWAII, Nov. 19.—The visit of Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota and ex-Senator Dubois of Idaho has been the subject of greatest interest, more especially on account of the fact that both these well-known and influential men have come out flat-footed against the project of annexation. While Senator Pettigrew, for reasons patent to all, has been more conservative than ex-Senator Dubois in his remarks on the subject, still, what Hawaiians call his "mana" is very clear. Neither of the men has spoken publicly in this city, but did so in Hilo, the Rainy City, upon two different occasions.

Shortly after arrival in Honolulu from the Orient, Senator Pettigrew and ex-Senator Dubois took passage for Hilo on the steamer Kahu, November 12. F. S. Dodge of the Survey Department and Colonel de La Vergne went along to see that the two men were well taken care of. Included in the party were also William Churchill, ex-American Consul-General to Apia, Samoa, and his wife.

It seems that the anti-annexationists had a big scheme on hand, and as soon as Mahukona was reached the telephone was kept jingling in a most lively manner. Every place within a radius of thirty miles of Hilo was notified of the presence aboard the Kahu of the "two big men" from the United States. When the steamer reached Hilo, all arrangements had been made for a "huanu," or native feast, upon the return of the party from the volcano. The Kahu landed her passengers, the trip to the abode of the goddess Pele was made and at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, the party, upon which eyes were turned, arrived back in the Rainy City.

That night the "huanu" was held in Waialeale, a suburb of Hilo. Besides the members of the party, there were present Messrs. C. E. Richardson, J. Campbell and J. T. Stacker, representative men of Hilo, together with some fifty or more native Hawaiians. A blessing was asked by Rev. Stephen L. Desha of the native church, and the feast began. All but Senator Pettigrew used their fingers. The latter sipped some shrimps jumping in a reckless manner about his plate and used a fork to crush out such unlooked for vitality as well as to feed himself. The Hawaiians enjoyed watching the "haole" dig into the poi bowl and then calmly smear their faces. However, the embarrassment of the initiatory stages over, all went well.

The feast over Mr. Churchill was called on to give a Samoan song, which he did most gracefully, his wife going through the movements of the Samoan hula, which are made while seated on the floor. Next came a speech in Samoan, which several of the very old natives were able to understand.

Just before breaking up ex-Senator Dubois was called on for a speech. In answer he expressed great pleasure at being able to meet with the native Hawaiians socially and characterized this as the most pleasant feature of his visit. He had been investigating the matter of annexation as it stood in the islands and had found that the Hawaiians themselves were not being given much of a show. He had not yet been able to learn the thoughts of the Hawaiians in regard to annexation. However, it was his sincere wish to tell all the Hawaiians present, his companions in a most pleasant evening, that so far as he understood public sentiment in the United States and, further, in so far as he was able to direct that public sentiment, annexation of Hawaii by the United States would never take place. He regarded the Hawaiians in the light of being entitled to make their own Government for the free and independent ruling of themselves. If they did so the Hawaiians would receive the moral support of the United States in an effort of

government of the Hawaiians, by the Hawaiians and for the Hawaiians.

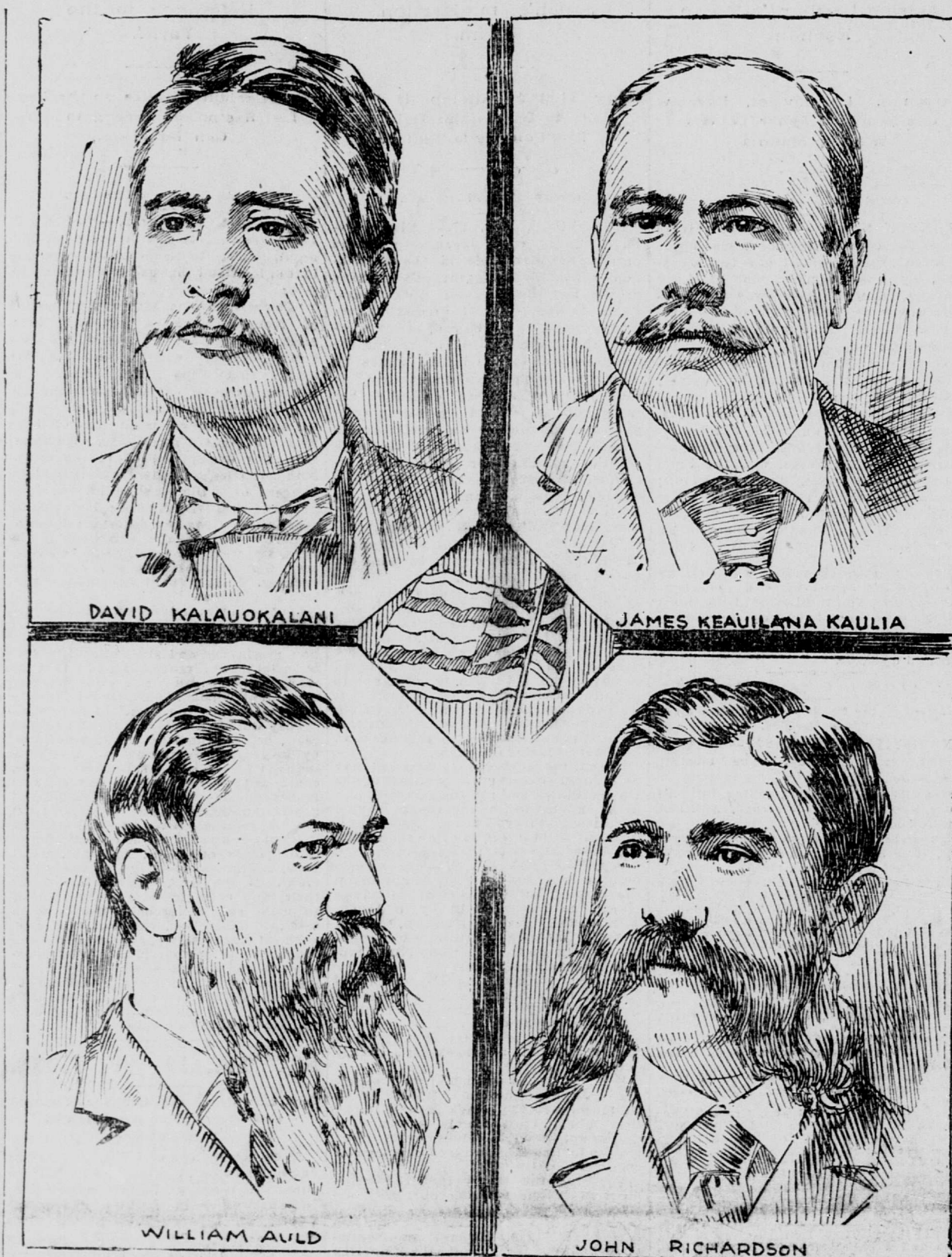
In well-chosen Hawaiian an old native expressed formally the thanks of the people present for the thoughts expressed by ex-Senator Dubois. They certainly were in accord with what had just been spoken.

Senator Pettigrew was then called upon for a speech. He took up the thread of argument where ex-Senator Dubois left off. The speech of ex-Senator Dubois had been as great a pleasure to him as it seemed to be to them. Dubois had expressed the opinion that a government of the Hawaiians by the Hawaiians and for the Hawaiians would receive the moral support of the United States. He wished to say a few words in explanation of this. So far as he could see, all necessary would be for the United States to announce to the world in the proper method that the Monroe doctrine was looked upon as extending to the Hawaiian Islands as an outlying of the American continent. The doctrine, since its promulgation by Monroe seventy odd years ago, had proved sufficient. In all that time not a man had been called into the field, not a cutlass had been sharpened to support it. As it had been heretofore, it would be now. The doctrine would be respected, and the Hawaiians could govern themselves according to their own sweet will.

After the usual expression of thanks and hearty applause at the remarks of the man from South Dakota ex-American Consul Churchill made a short address. After the words of the two Senators he considered it unbecoming for him to attempt to speak, since the subject had been so completely covered. Just a fortnight previous he had met for the last time with his Samoans. As all present were Polynesians he wished to speak from that standpoint. In Samoa the Hawaiians were regarded as the children of Samoa. They knew when the Hawaiians left them and sailed from the ancient Savaii to the present Hawaii. There had been a similar matter to face in Samoa a few years ago, when two of the great nations of the earth attempted to destroy the Samoan Government by the Samoans. In this case the natives appealed to the United States and the Government of America said to the other Governments, "Thou shalt not." That Polynesian people, the parent of the Hawaiians, is governed by its own King and chiefs, and the United States Government keeps its representative there year in and year out to see that no one interferes. Mr. Churchill stated that he was of the opinion that what the United States saw fit to do for a people so remote and so little connected she would be all the more willing to do for a people so much more intimately connected. Mr. Churchill closed his remarks with an old Samoan speech.

As a result of the luau a meeting of the Hawaiians was called in Hali Church for 9 A. M. the next day, or about three hours previous to the departure of the Kahu for Honolulu. The church was crowded, over 200 natives being present. Senator Pettigrew and ex-Senator Dubois both addressed the meeting.

Senator Pettigrew then spoke as follows: "We came to your islands for the purpose of ascertaining what the people who live in this country thought about the question of annexation of the islands, and also to see what we thought about the desirability of annexing these islands, if we found the people wanted them annexed on the part of the United States. I have tried to talk with every one who would talk with us on both sides of this question, and ascertain the views of your people. Much misrepresentation has been made in the United States with regard to how the native Hawaiian looked upon this question. I had supposed when I came that many of your people were in



THE HAWAIIAN COMMISSION.

favor of annexation, because it had been so represented, but I have talked with every one who would talk with me and I have failed to find a native Hawaiian who was not opposed to annexation to the United States, and in favor of your own Government. [Applause.]

"It will do you no good for me to talk with you. Of course I think it may do you more good for you to talk to me. That is what I came here for, therefore it is unnecessary for me to make a speech. I think you are all of one mind anyhow, and I think you should have a voice in the matter of the government of these islands; that is a matter of justice.

"I shall tell what I have seen and what I have heard in the Senate of the United States this winter when the question comes up. I should do that even I were opposed to what you want done, but I am not opposed to it." [Great applause.]

Following are the remarks of ex-Senator Dubois:

"We are very much pleased to meet so many native people, and this demonstration, so early in the morning, is sufficient testimony to any unbiased mind as to the sentiment of these people. I can readily understand how Americans who are lovers of justice and patriots can come to the Hawaiian Islands, spend a month in

Honolulu, entertained by white people, seeing none except white people—I can understand why they, being great men and patriots, can go off to their own country and be in favor of annexing these islands to the United States. I can understand how they can spend one day in Honolulu, be entertained at the club, to lunch, and driven around through the city by the officials of this republic—this grand republic of yours—and then go away in favor of annexing these islands.

"Senator Pettigrew, who, by the way, is very modest, but who will be your great champion in this fight, is a born investigator, and wanted to ascertain through personal observation what the feelings of your people were on this subject. In my judgment no fair man who was not actuated by personal considerations of some kind could go among the people of these islands and then deliberately go back to the great American people and say to them: 'We, after acquiring our rights of property in this beautiful land, now ask you to aid us in taking them away from these people against their will.'

"You may have been faulty in the administration of your Government; you may have committed many acts of injustice. I think that if that is so that the last four or five years will have had a chastening effect upon you. I believe that you will learn much from this experience; these trials and tribulations you have gone through. So far as I am concerned, unless I mistake human nature, you will be a much better Government after this than you were before; but whether you are or not, this is your land, it belongs to you; and so long as you are fair, so long as you treat those whom you have invited to come among you with fairness, these lands belong to you and you are responsible to your God and yourselves for the way in which you take care of them. [Applause.]

"The people of the United States are fair and just. They are working out the greatest problem ever presented to civilization. They stand between Europe and Asia.

"With this tremendous task which they have imposed upon themselves, you can easily see that the best thought, the best energies, the best ability of all men who are worthy to be American citizens must be devoted to working out the salvation of our own country. They have very little opportunity to study questions which do not strictly concern them, and in consequence in regard to this matter, which is vital to you, our people as a rule are not informed at all. As Senator Pettigrew most truthfully remarked, there is a very general impression throughout the United States that the Hawaiian people themselves desired to become a portion of the United States. As I said, they are essentially a fair and just people, and they are working out this problem of civilization; and in my judgment when they understand what the people here want, they will not turn aside from their great task to go 5000 miles to rob a kind and gentle and humane people of their land. [Great applause.]

"We are glad to have had this opportunity of meeting so many of you, and our advice would be this, and this only: Do all that you can to inform the people of the United States of what you yourselves want, then you can rest content

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## HAWAIIANS TO BATTLE FOR LIBERTY

Arrival of the Native Commission En Route for Washington.



EX-SENATOR DUBOIS OF IDAHO.

Hawaii has sent four of her representative men to plead with the United States before annexation is consummated. These men, forming a committee unique in the history of modern nations, have arrived in San Francisco. On Monday they will proceed to Washington.

The committee consists of two full-blooded Hawaiians and two half-Hawaiians. The leader of the delegation is Mr. James K. Kaulia, the president of the Hawaiian Patriotic League. There are, besides, Mr. David Kaku Kalani, the leader of the second Hawaiian society, which differs only in its opinion on local matters from the Patriotic League; Mr. William Auld, who is the possessor of considerable property on the island of Oahu, and Mr. John Richardson, a lawyer from the island of Maui, whose command of English, as well as his ability as a lawyer, makes him the spokesman of the party.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. Kaulia were interviewed by THE CALL yesterday upon their mission.

"We are going to Washington," said Mr. Richardson, "with the hope of inducing the President and the Committee on Foreign Relations to listen to our side of the question. From documents in our possession we think we can convince any fair-minded man that the great majority of the natives of Hawaii are opposed to annexation. If, from our showing, the United States is not assured of this fact, we shall ask that a vote be taken."

"A secret ballot?"

Mr. Richardson threw open his arms. "It doesn't matter. Even if the ballot be open the very men who have refused to sign our memorial will vote against annexation."

"Then some Hawaiians have refused to sign the petition against annexation?"

Mr. Kaulia, who had sat listening quietly, his grave face and dark eyes turned upon his more vivacious colleague, spoke now.

"Nearly twenty-one thousand Hawaiians have signed the memorial we are taking to Washington. The men, the natives, who have refused to sign, tell us that it would hurt their business or jeopardize their positions if their names were added to our petition. But they are with us in feeling, and as John—Mr. Richardson—says, if it comes to a vote, they will forget every other consideration, and remember only that their country is being taken from them."

"Your committee has been sent to Washington by the Hawaiians."

"Yes, we four have been chosen to speak for Hawaii," said Mr. Richardson. "The natives have subscribed liberally to the fund which pays our expenses. Maui, the island of Maui, is the leader in this. At first the Hawaiians would not believe that there was really danger of annexation. But on Maui—Maui is a unit on anti-annexation sentiment—we insisted that a declaration be sent. You know the natives didn't believe it possible that the United States would annex the islands, knowing the opposition of the Hawaiians. They wouldn't believe that things could go so far."

"And what is their opinion now?"

"Now they are thoroughly awake, to the danger. But they are hopeful."

"The United States cannot," interrupted Mr. Kaulia, "if it has any regard for justice, annex our country, after our protest. We have come to make known how the natives feel in the matter. I tried to see Senator Morgan when he was in Honolulu. Twice I wrote asking him when he could see me, when he could listen to us—he had listened long to the annexationists—but I received no answer. The natives are very bitter in their dislike of him, for they know how determined he is on annexation."

"But there is considerable opposition,"

said Mr. Richardson. "Senators Du Bois and Pettigrew, who came up on the same steamer with us, have spent ten days on the islands. They see and admit the injustice that would be done the Hawaiians if their country were taken from them. Senator Du Bois says that he hasn't met one native Hawaiian who is in favor of annexation, and he went as far as the island of Hawaii. He didn't remain at Honolulu."

"In case, though, of annexation, what will the Hawaiians do?"

"There will be trouble."

Mr. Richardson spoke very seriously. "If the people of the United States take Hawaii the natives will have to be kept down by force—as they are now."

"We hope to convince your Government that the Government of the Islands was overthrown by means of American warships; that the present is not a representative Government, and that the Hawaiians will never be reconciled to the loss of nationality."

"The members of the administration are doing everything in their power to bring about annexation. If they learn that they are not likely to succeed in this way they will try another. They will do as they did before—d. dare that their lives and property are in danger and ask that the American flag be raised. And we know, we Hawaiians, that if the flag goes up again it will never come down."

"But what will you do about it?" Mr. Richardson was asked.

"We will fight," he answered determinedly.

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