



KAMEHAMEHA V: LOT KAPUĀIWA

Rosalin Uphus Comeau

Illustrated by
Robin Yoko Burningham

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LOT KAPUĀIWA

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Kamehameha Schools Press
Honolulu
1996



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The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences—
Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984.

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN 0-87336-039-7

Cover photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

This book is dedicated

to all the

children of Hawai'i,

both young and old

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Preface

This book is one of a series written for Kamehameha Schools Intermediate Reading Program (KSIRP) students. They are designed to increase students' reading skills and their knowledge of Hawaiian history and culture by focusing on topics such as the Hawaiian monarchy.

The books are written by KSIRP staff in an effort to provide young readers with culturally relevant materials in language arts and Hawaiian studies. The authors are pleased that the books have been well received by both educational and general audiences.

The books are being translated from their original English into Hawaiian through the efforts of the staff of the Hawaiian Studies Institute (HSI).

Both KSIRP and HSI are Community Education Division programs of Kamehameha Schools Bernice Pauahi Bishop Estate. KSIRP is operated in collaboration with the State of Hawai'i Department of Education at several intermediate schools throughout the state.

Michael J. Chun, Ph.D.
President
Kamehameha Schools

Acknowledgments


I am deeply grateful to my associates at Kamehameha Schools whose help, love and encouragement contributed to the production of this book.

A special *aloha* to *Julie Stewart Williams*, who graciously shared her writing, editing and lay-out expertise throughout every phase of this text; to *Robin Yoko Burningham*, whose exquisite illustrations bring life to the text; to *Russell Kawika Makanani*, who generously shared his historical and writing knowledge; to *Suelyn Tune*, who critiqued the manuscript for grammatical accuracy; to *Naomi Noelani Chun*, who reviewed the text for proper use of Hawaiian; to *Charlene Hara*, who spent many hours entering the manuscript; and to the *Media & Publications Department* of Kamehameha Schools who finalized the text for publication.

I also wish to recognize my fellow teachers and staff of the Kamehameha Schools Intermediate Reading Program for their perseverance in providing a collection of books for children on the Hawaiian monarchy period.

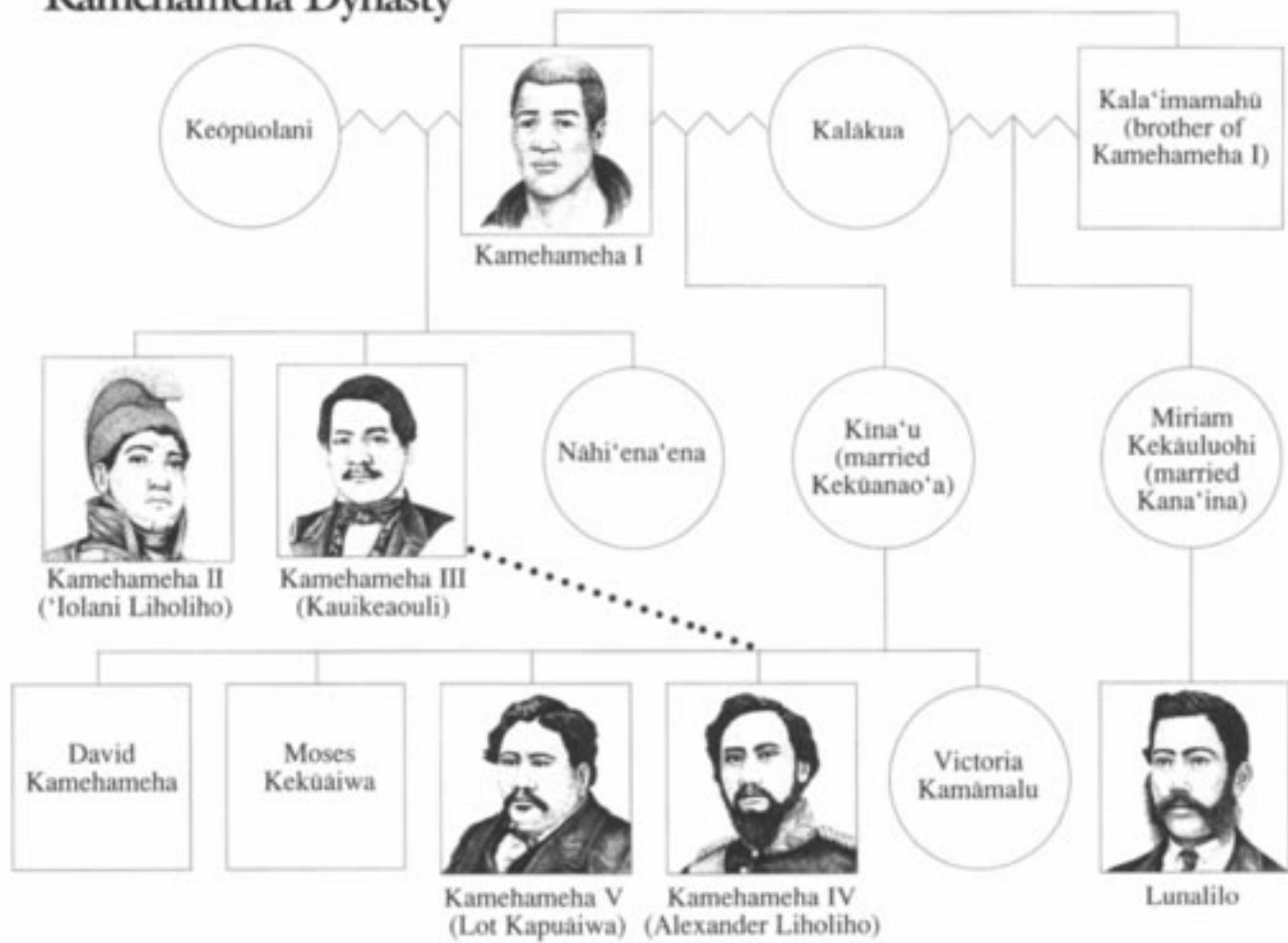
R.U.C.

Introduction

awai'i existed as a unified nation for eighty-three years, from 1810 to 1893, closing with the overthrow of Queen Lili'uokalani. Two dynasties ruled, the Kamehameha dynasty and the Kalākaua dynasty. A dynasty is a series of rulers who belong to the same family.

The first sovereign was Kamehameha the Great, the founder of the kingdom. The second and third sovereigns were Kamehameha's sons, Liholiho (Kamehameha II) and Kūikeyouli (Kamehameha III). They were followed by Kamehameha's grandsons, Alexander Liholiho (Kamehameha IV) and Lot Kapuāiwa (Kamehameha V).

Kamehameha Dynasty



Kalākaua Dynasty



Legend

- male
- female
- ~ married
- *hānai*

Historians often refer to Kamehameha V as the last Kamehameha to rule. But the sixth sovereign, William Lunalilo, was a grand-nephew of Kamehameha the Great. Therefore, technically speaking, Lunalilo was the last of the Kamehameha dynasty. However Lunalilo chose not to use the Kamehameha name.

From the Kalākaua dynasty came the seventh and eighth sovereigns. They were King David Kalākaua and his sister, Queen Lili'uokalani.

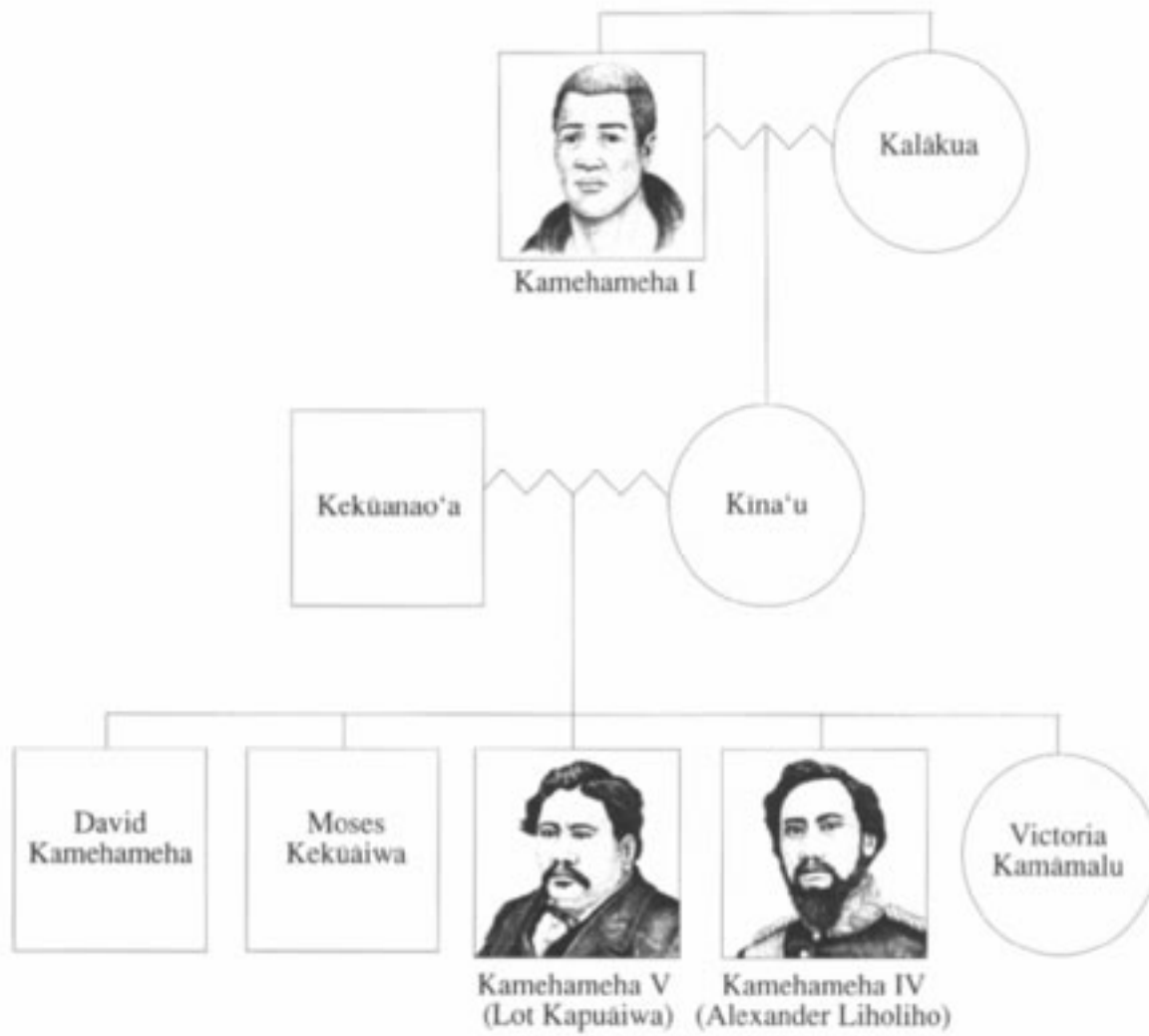
Kamehameha V: Lot Kapuāiwa is the story of the fifth sovereign of the kingdom of Hawai'i. He ruled from 1863 to 1872.

A Royal Birth

The prince who was to become King Kamehameha V was born in Honolulu, Hawai'i, on December 11, 1830. He was given the Christian name Lot and the Hawaiian name Kapuāiwa, which means "mysterious *kapu*" or "the sacred one protected by supernatural powers." His full name was Lot Kapuāiwa Kalanimakua Ali'iōlani Kalani Kapuapaikalaninui.

Lot's mother was High Chiefess Kīna'u, daughter of Kamehameha the Great and chiefess Kalākua. His father was Chief Mataio Kekūanao'a, who served as governor of O'ahu for many years.

Kamehameha V Genealogy



Legend

- male
- female
- ~ married

Prince Lot Kapuāiwa Kamehameha had three brothers. They were David Kamehameha, who was three years older; Moses Kekūāiwa, who was two years older; and Alexander Liholiho, the future Kamehameha IV, who was four years younger. A sister, Princess Victoria Kamāmalu, was the youngest of the children. David died in 1835 at the age of seven. Moses was nineteen years old when he died in 1848.

Shortly after birth young Lot was given into the care of Chief Hoapili, a relative. Hoapili lived in Lahaina, Maui. There he raised Lot as his grandchild and as the *bānai*, or foster, child of Princess Harriet Nāhi'ena'ena, daughter of Kamehameha the Great and Keōpūolani.

The Chiefs' Children's School

At the age of nine Prince Lot entered the Chiefs' Children's School, a boarding school run solely for the royal children. This historic school was started by American missionaries Amos Starr Cooke and Juliette Montague Cooke at the request of King Kamehameha III and Kīna'u.

The high chiefs and chiefesses wanted their children to be well-trained in leadership in both the Hawaiian and Western traditions. In the past young *ali'i*, or chiefs, had been trained in Hawaiian skills and traditions of leadership by their *kabu*, or guardians.

Lot was most often called Lot Kamehameha and that is how he signed his letters and other writings.

For nine years Lot studied astronomy, English, geography, history, mathematics, music, penmanship, religion and other Western subjects. By the time he finished his formal schooling he had studied many subjects at the college level.

Life at the Chiefs' Children's School was not all work and no play. Hiking was a popular activity. Making and flying kites was another pastime.

Sometimes the royal children would even break school rules. Students were not supposed to bring food into their rooms. But the three brothers—Moses, Lot and Alexander—and another student, Princess Bernice Pauahi, broke this rule. They were caught eating fish and *poi* in Pauahi's room.

On the other hand, Lot tried hard to develop good habits. In 1841, when he was just ten, he wrote, "I do not think lazy boys are happy."

Miss Montague,

I suppose my teachers have told you about their school and scholars. We are happy that we have a school to attend. It gives us great pleasure to have Mr. Cooke say to Mrs. Cooke that we have studied hard today, and it makes *her* very happy *too*. I do not think lazy boys are happy.

Lot Kamehameha

*Letter (top) written by Lot on January 1, 1841,
when he was ten years old.*

On New Year's Day three years later he wrote these resolutions in his journal:

“Use no deception.

Be always pleasant and cheerful.

Try to make your teachers and all around
you happy.

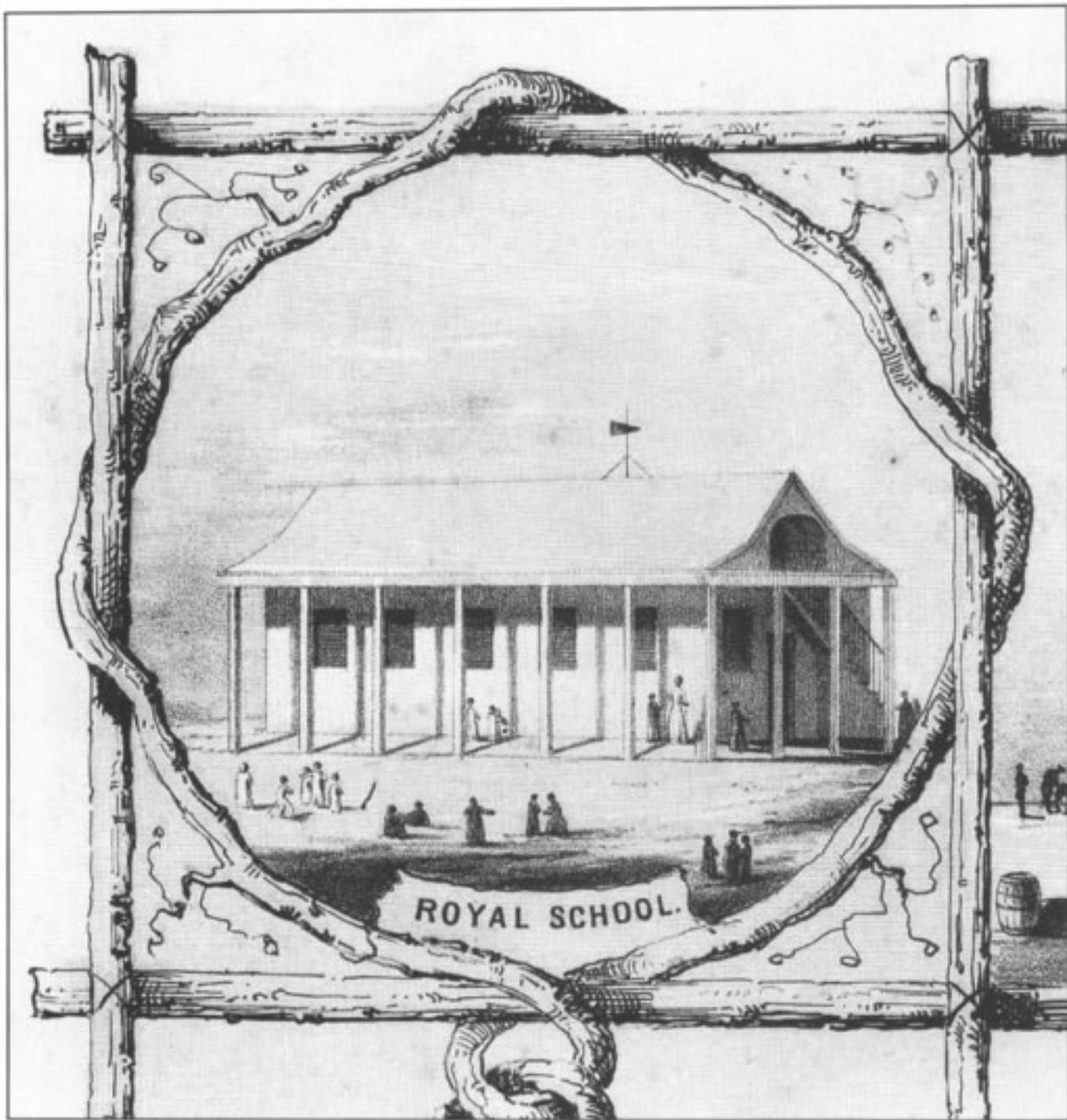
Have a place for everything and everything in
its place.

Improve your English—get four new words and
correct four errors every day.

Rise at 5:30 in the morning.”

The Chiefs' Children's School was renamed the Royal School in 1846. In December 1848 Lot and Alexander ended their schooling at the Royal School to work for the government. Lot was eighteen and Alexander was fourteen.

Lot went to work in Honolulu Hale, a government office building on Merchant Street. There he kept record books and wrote or copied documents. Because he knew both English and Hawaiian he also translated government papers.



The Royal School
Courtesy of Bishop Museum

The Prince and the Princess

From the time they were children Prince Lot and Princess Pauahi were expected to marry each other. This had been planned by their parents. It had traditionally been the custom for chiefs to choose suitable mates for their *ali'i* children.

When Pauahi was about sixteen years old, however, she fell in love with Charles Reed Bishop. Her parents, Konia and Pākī, were not happy at the thought of her marrying a foreigner. Pauahi was not happy at the thought of marrying Lot.



*Prince Lot Kapuāiwa,
age nineteen*

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives



*Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop,
age nineteen*

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

Amos and Juliette Cooke best explain what happened next. These were some of their diary entries for 1849:


"August 30—...Yesterday Bernice had a talk with Governor Kekuanaoa about his desire that she marry Lot. She told him she did not like Lot. It made her quite unhappy all day and she went to bed early with a headache.

"September 8—...Heard this afternoon that Dr. Judd was to sail in the *Honolulu* for San Francisco on his way to France and that he was to be accompanied by Lot and Alexander. Governor, Paki and Konia sent for Bernice this evening and wished her to be engaged to Lot, so as to marry him when he shall return from France, and they wished her to decide at once without seeing him and without his saying to her whether or no he loves her.

"September 7—...This forenoon B. wrote a note to Lot and requested him to call and see her and he came. She told him the wishes of their parents and said she would consent in accordance with their commands, but she knew it would make her always unhappy for he did not love her, nor did she love him. After this she wrote to the Governor.... Lot, seeing her letter to Governor, wrote saying he exonerated her from all her promises in her youth, that he would not be the means of rendering her unhappy, that he knew he was unworthy of her, but that there was one who was worthy, even the one she loved, and he hoped she would be happy with him. ... Since this B. feels more light-hearted."

Pauahi and Lot remained close friends throughout their lives.

The Trip Abroad

n September 1849 Prince Lot and his brother Prince Alexander began a year-long visit to the United States, England and France. They traveled with Dr. Gerrit P. Judd, an advisor to Kamehameha III. Dr. Judd was traveling to take care of important government matters for the king.

This trip would help Lot and Alexander prepare for their future roles as leaders. They would learn more about other countries by visiting them. They would see for themselves other royal courts and government leaders in action.



Prince Lot Kapuāiwa, Dr. Gerrit P. Judd and Prince Alexander Libolibo

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

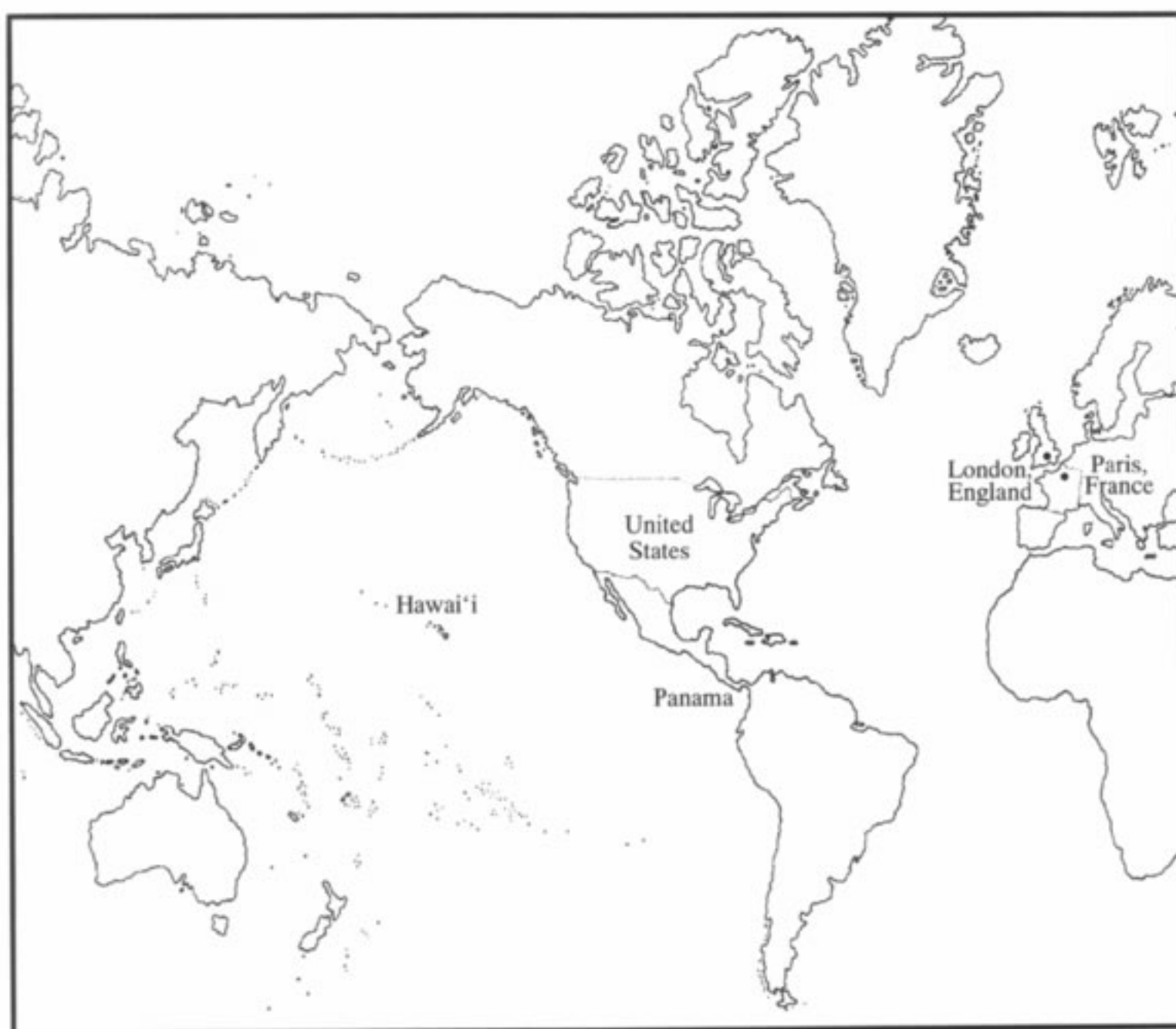
Lot and Alexander kept diaries of their trip. Each day they recorded the events of their travels.

The princes, as future rulers of the kingdom of Hawai'i, were official guests of each country's leaders. In the United States they met President Zachary Taylor and Vice President Millard Fillmore. In England they met Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria. The queen was ill at the time and so could not greet them personally. In France they met President Louis-Napoléon.

The brothers attended several balls and receptions. They danced and talked with members of other royal families. In his diary Lot wrote that the ladies were dressed magnificently.

One of these ladies even asked Lot to be her dancing partner. Somewhat embarrassed, Lot asked to be excused from the dance. This lady, however, was very persistent. Finally Lot agreed to dance with her.

The young princes went sightseeing. They saw the gold fields of California and the jungles of the isthmus of Panama. They toured the city and harbor of New York. In London they saw the British crown jewels in the castle named the Tower of London. They also visited Madame Tussaud's Waxworks.



*The trip to other countries helped Prince Lot and Prince Alexander
prepare for their future roles as leaders*

In Paris Lot and Alexander visited the Louvre Museum. Lot was impressed with the Louvre.

“Went in a gallery about one-fourth of a mile long, both sides were covered with paintings by most of the celebrated artists.... The paintings were magnificent, some very large and beautiful.”

Lot attended the opera in Paris and wrote that “the acting was very fine and the scenery and costumes of the actors were numerous....”

The brothers shopped for gifts to take home. They bought china and jewelry for Kamehameha III, Queen Kalama and their sister, Princess Victoria Kamāmalu. Lot also purchased a fine ring and bracelet for Princess Pauahi. It is not known if he ever gave these gifts to Pauahi.

Government Positions


Lot and Alexander returned to Hawai'i in September 1850, three months after Pauahi's marriage to Mr. Bishop. The brothers' training as leaders continued. Kamehameha III saw to it that they had suitable work in government positions.

Nineteen-year-old Lot was appointed a member of the House of Nobles. It was much like being a senator in Hawai'i's legislature today. Lot was also made general of a division in the Hawaiian kingdom's army.

Kamehameha III died in 1854. Alexander, his *bānai* son and chosen heir to the throne, became Kamehameha IV.

Lot served as the Minister of Interior during Alexander's reign as Kamehameha IV. This put Lot in charge of all government matters not involving foreign countries. For one year he also directed the Department of Finance.

The Prince Becomes King

amehameha IV ruled for nine years. When he died on November 30, 1863, his brother Lot became Kamehameha V. Lot was proclaimed king by their sister, Princess Victoria Kamāmalu. She was the *kubina nui*, or co-ruler, at that time.


“It having pleased Almighty God to close the earthly career of King Kamehameha IV, at a quarter past 9 o'clock this morning, I, as Kuhina Nui, by and with the advice of the Privy Council of State hereby proclaim Prince Lot Kamehameha, King of the Hawaiian Islands, under the style and title of Kamehameha V. God preserve the King!”



Princess Victoria Kamāmalu (1836–1866), sister of Kamehameha IV and Kamehameha V and last appointed kuhina nui of the Hawaiian kingdom

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

“Last Great Chief of the Olden Type”

amehameha the Great was a strong believer in law and order. He ruled with power and authority. He did what he thought best for his people.

Kamehameha V modeled his style of leadership on that of the kingdom's first ruler, Kamehameha the Great, his grandfather. Historian William D. Alexander knew Kamehameha V. He described the king as “the last great chief of the olden type.” Like his grandfather, Kamehameha V believed “it was the right and duty of the chiefs to lead and direct the common people.”

*Kamehameha the Great,
grandfather of Kamehameha V
Portrait courtesy of Honolulu Academy of Arts*




Kamehameba V, "The last great chief of the olden type"

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

But times had changed. Kamehameha V found it difficult to rule the way his grandfather had ruled. Kings were now expected to follow the laws of a constitution written in 1852. These laws were liberal. They allowed individuals to have more freedom and more participation in government.

Kamehameha V did not agree with these liberal laws. Perhaps that explains why he refused to take the oath to support the constitution of 1852. What Kamehameha V really wanted was a constitution based on his ideas and beliefs. The 1852 constitution had taken many powers away from the king. Kamehameha V wanted these powers returned to the king.

Changing the Constitution of 1852

amehameha V felt that the Constitution of 1852 was too advanced for the needs of the kingdom and its people.

He wanted three articles, or parts, of the constitution changed. He toured the islands to explain his wishes to the people.

After his tour the king called for delegates to attend a convention at Kawaiaha'o Church. He expected the delegates to quickly accept the changes he wanted. Instead the delegates began harsh and bitter debates over each of the three changes he had proposed.

Abolish the Office of *Kubina Nui*

Kamehameha V wanted to take personal control of the government. He believed it was right that he rule alone. Having a co-ruler lessened his power. Therefore the office of *kubina nui* would have to be abolished, or ended. After all, hadn't his grandfather been the sole ruler of the kingdom?

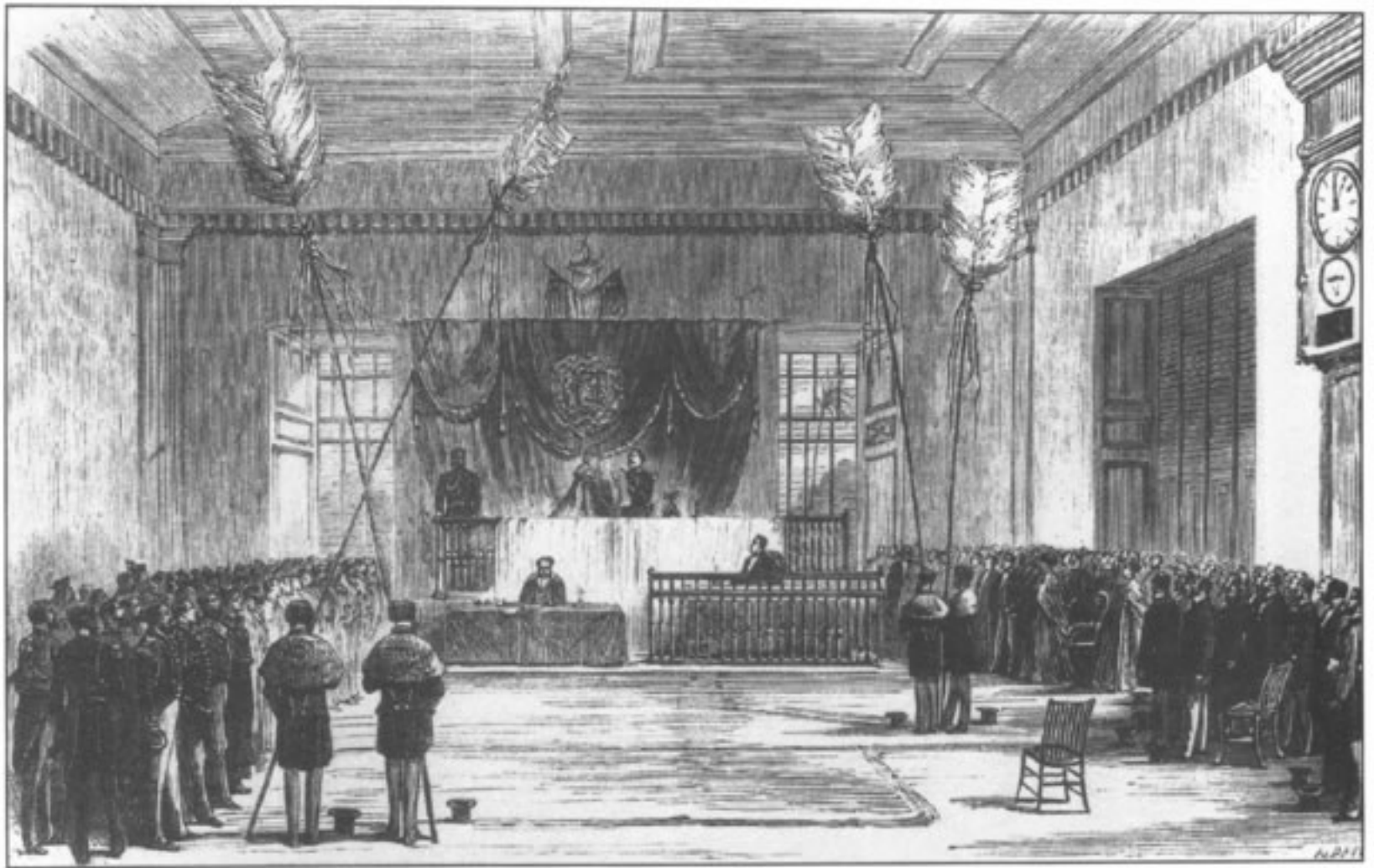
Limit the Power of the Privy Council

The king wanted to limit the power of the Privy Council. The council was made up of thirty-five members who approved or disapproved decisions made by the king. Kamehameha V did not want the council to be able to change policies or programs he felt were necessary and best for his people.

Voters Must Be Literate and Own Property

The Constitution of 1852 granted the right to vote to all Hawaiian men twenty years of age or older. Kamehameha V disagreed with this. He felt that voters should also own property and know how to read and write.

“How could they rule themselves without the basic knowledge and skills to do so?” he reasoned. “How could they vote on issues intelligently if they could not even read and write?”



Kamehameha V addressing the delegates

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

The delegates could not agree about voter qualifications. The king then stepped in and said,

“In my estimation this article is the most crucial of them all. If it is not accepted, my government ceases to be a monarchy and instead becomes a republic. I, therefore, declare the Constitution of 1852 abrogated. I shall grant a new one to take its place.”

With these few words, the king wiped out the power of the delegates and began writing a new constitution himself.

Naturally the delegates were shocked by the king's bold action. But it was clear to both the Hawaiians and the foreigners that, like his grandfather, Kamehameha V was a firm and decisive ruler.

The Constitution of 1864

The Constitution of 1864 was signed on August 20 of that year. It contained the changes Kamehameha V wanted.

Constitution of 1852

- Restricted the monarch's power
- Preserved the office of *kubina nui*, or co-ruler
- Separated the House of Representatives and the House of Nobles into two bodies
- Required approval of Privy Council for official acts of the monarch
- Allowed males twenty years old or older to vote without being literate or owning property

Constitution of 1864

- Increased the monarch's power
- Abolished the office of *kubina nui*, or co-ruler
- Combined the House of Representatives and the House of Nobles into one body
- Abolished requirement of Privy Council approval for official acts of the monarch
- Required voters to be males twenty years old or older and to be literate and own property

At last Kamehameha V had a constitution that gave him the power he wanted. This constitution was a victory for the king. He felt satisfied with it. Now he could rule independently, as his grandfather and the chiefs of old had ruled.

Some government and business leaders had opposed the new constitution. These men criticized the king for his boldness and for the way he pushed his laws on them.

Soon two political parties developed. One party favored the Constitution of 1864 and the increase of royal power. It was largely made up of Hawaiians and those foreigners who supported the king.

The other party favored a more liberal government and wanted to bring back the Constitution of 1852. This party was largely made up of Americans who opposed the king and his cabinet.

Preference for Britain

Americans and others in Hawai'i believed that both Kamehameha IV and Kamehameha V preferred Britain to the United States. This preference for Britain probably began during the brothers' trip abroad.

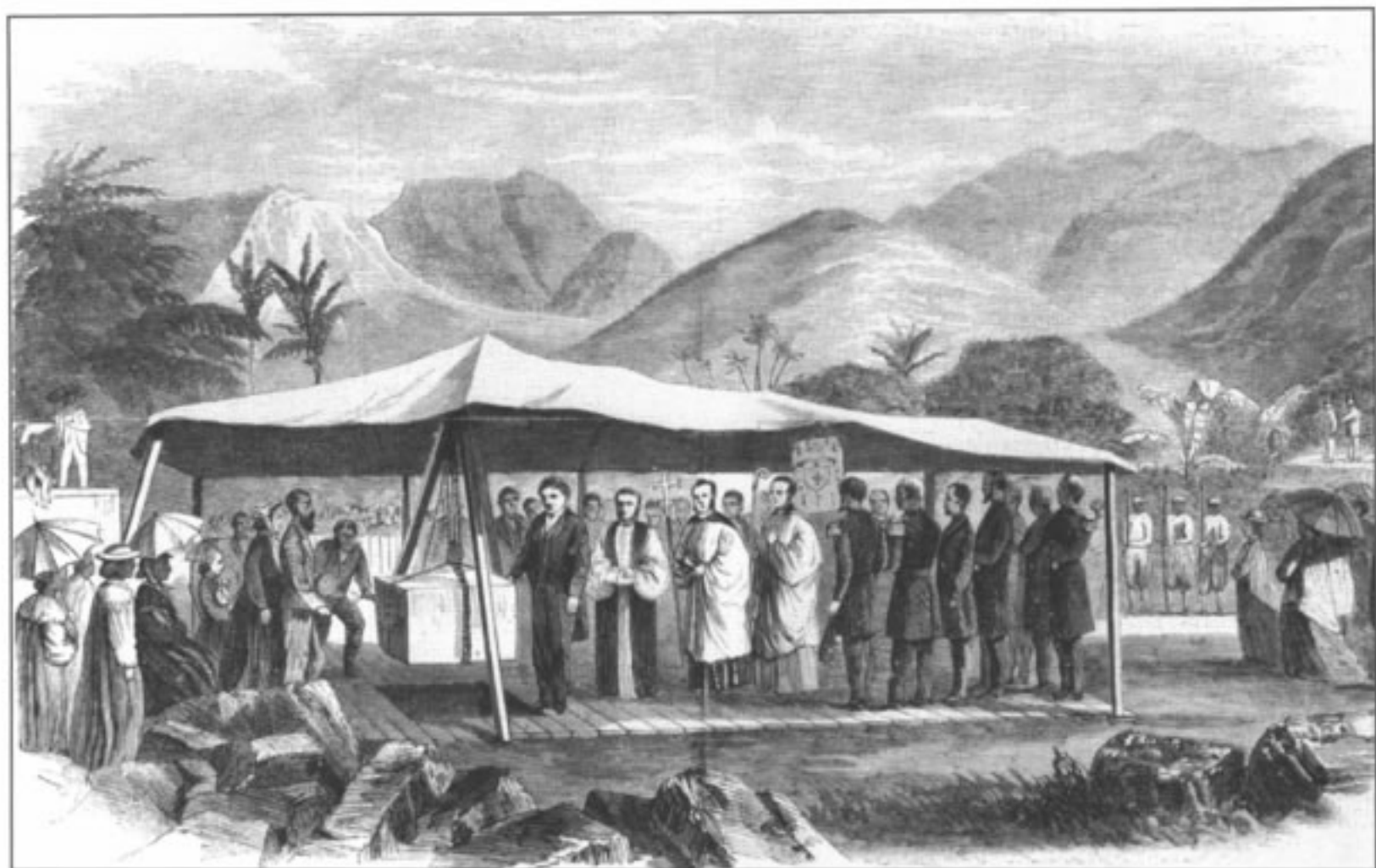
On June 4, 1850, Alexander wrote about an incident which occurred while he was sitting in a train in Washington, D.C.

"...A man came to me and told me to get out of the carriage...saying that I was in the wrong carriage. I immediately asked him what he meant. ...somebody whispered a word into his ears.... He then told me to keep my seat. ...I found he was the conductor and probably [had] taken me for somebody's servant, just because I had a darker skin than he had.

"Here I must state that I am disappointed at the Americans. They have no manners, no politeness, not even common civilities, to a Stranger."

In contrast the British people they met treated the princes as royalty, with respect and honor.

Like Kamehameha IV, Kamehameha V supported the Episcopal or Anglican religion, the national religion of England. He would not worship at Kawaiaha'o Church, the American missionary church. On March 5, 1867, Kamehameha V laid the cornerstone for the Episcopal St. Andrew's Cathedral.



*Kamehameha V, to the right of the stone, laying the cornerstone for
St. Andrew's Cathedral, 1867*

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

In spite of the king's feelings about Americans he tried to improve Hawai'i's relations with the United States. He sent an envoy to Washington, D.C., with a message. An envoy is a messenger sent by a government or ruler to another government or ruler.

The envoy explained that: "Kamehameha V was not anti-American nor pro-British, and that he wished above all to be at peace with all nations."

Opposed to Annexation

Kamehameha V wanted to keep Hawai'i free and independent, especially from the United States. Like Kamehameha IV he felt that many Americans living in Hawai'i were trying to undermine his royal power. He did not trust them and questioned their intentions.

Many of the Americans in Hawai'i did want the annexing, or joining, of Hawai'i with the United States. They had three reasons.

First, taxes would not have to be paid on products grown in the islands and exported to the United States.

Second, these Americans were not satisfied with the kingdom's government, the new constitution and the ministers appointed by Kamehameha V. Through articles in newspapers they tried to stir up the Hawaiian people against Kamehameha V.

Third, Hawai'i's location in the Pacific was of strategic value. Pearl Harbor would be ideal as both a military and commercial port for American ships. This would increase the amount of business taking place in Hawai'i.

Kamehameha V was opposed to annexation. He refused to give up his beloved kingdom to any other country. His minister of foreign affairs wrote: "The Hawaiian Government and People are, at present, opposed to Annexation and consider it not worth the while to discuss it."

In his writings Kamehameha V remembered when United States Minister Edward M. McCook wanted to buy an island:

"He asked me what was my feeling in selling the United States one of our smaller islands for a coal depot for their ships. I replied that it was useless to talk of buying a portion of these islands as they are not for sale."

The Sugar Industry

The sugar industry had grown quickly during the reigns of Kamehameha IV and Kamehameha V. Most sugar was exported to the United States. Export means to send a product out of one country for sale and use in another country. Americans paid a high price for Hawai'i's sugar. This made it possible for Hawai'i growers to pay high import taxes to the United States and still make large profits.

When a product was exported to another country for sale an import tax often had to be paid to the country receiving the product. Import means to bring a product in from a foreign country for sale or use.



By 1867 Wailuku Sugar Company on Maui had built a sprawling factory

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

When the American Civil War began in 1861 Americans paid even higher prices for Hawai'i's sugar. The sugar industry in the southeastern United States just about stopped because the planters and their workers were involved in the war.

The lack of American sugar helped the Hawai'i sugar industry grow. Unfortunately for the Hawai'i planters this situation did not last long. In 1865 the American Civil War ended. By 1866 the price of sugar had dropped in the United States.

The San Francisco sugar market was now overstocked. Supplies were coming in not only from Hawai'i but also from the Philippines and China. Americans paid a very low price for Hawai'i's sugar.

But the import tax on Hawaiian sugar remained high. How could Hawai'i sugar growers still make a profit? This was a serious problem facing King Kamehameha V. The Hawaiian sugar industry slowed down.

No Reciprocity Treaty

The king decided that Hawai'i should try again for a reciprocity treaty with the United States. Kamehameha III and Kamehameha IV had tried but failed to get such a treaty approved.

“Reciprocity” is from the root word “reciprocate,” which means “to give and to get in return.” It is a mutual exchange. In a commercial reciprocity treaty special privileges would be exchanged between Hawai'i and the United States.

Article V.

The present Convention shall be duly ratified, and the ratifications exchanged, at Washington City, within eighteen months from the date hereof, or earlier, if possible.

In faith whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed this Convention, and have herunto affixed their seals.

Done in triplicate, in the English language, in the City of San Francisco, this twenty first day of May, Anno Domini, one thousand, Eight hundred and sixty seven.

Edward M. McCook.

Charles C. Harris



Draft of part of the proposed 1867 Reciprocity Treaty

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

A draft of the treaty was made in May 1867. It was approved by the Hawaiian legislature and Kamehameha V in September 1867. This treaty provided for sugar and some other Hawaiian products to enter the United States without any import tax or duty.

In return many American products would enter Hawai'i free of any Hawaiian import tax or duty.

In Washington, D.C., the treaty was supported first by President Andrew Johnson and later by his successor President Ulysses S. Grant. It was discussed over a period of three years in five sessions of congress, only to be defeated in 1870. America was not interested in a reciprocity treaty with Hawai'i. None was approved while Kamehameha V was king.

Other Products to Export

Products other than sugar were also grown in Hawai'i and exported to the United States. These included coffee, cotton, pineapple, rice and wheat.

Pulu, a silky fiber which grows at the base of tree fern fronds, was shipped to California from 1851 to 1884. It was used as stuffing for mattresses and pillows.

The livestock industry became more important during Kamehameha V's reign. Under Kamehameha IV the cattlemen of O'ahu had, in 1856, organized a Graziers' Association. Prince Lot was its first president.

When Lot became king he took over a sheep station on Moloka'i that had been started by his brother. Sheep raising had become an important industry.

Cattle, goats and sheep provided a variety of products that could be sold. These included hides, or skins, fresh and salted meat, wool and tallow. Tallow is the fat of cattle and sheep that has been melted down and rehardened. It is used in making candles, soap and other items.

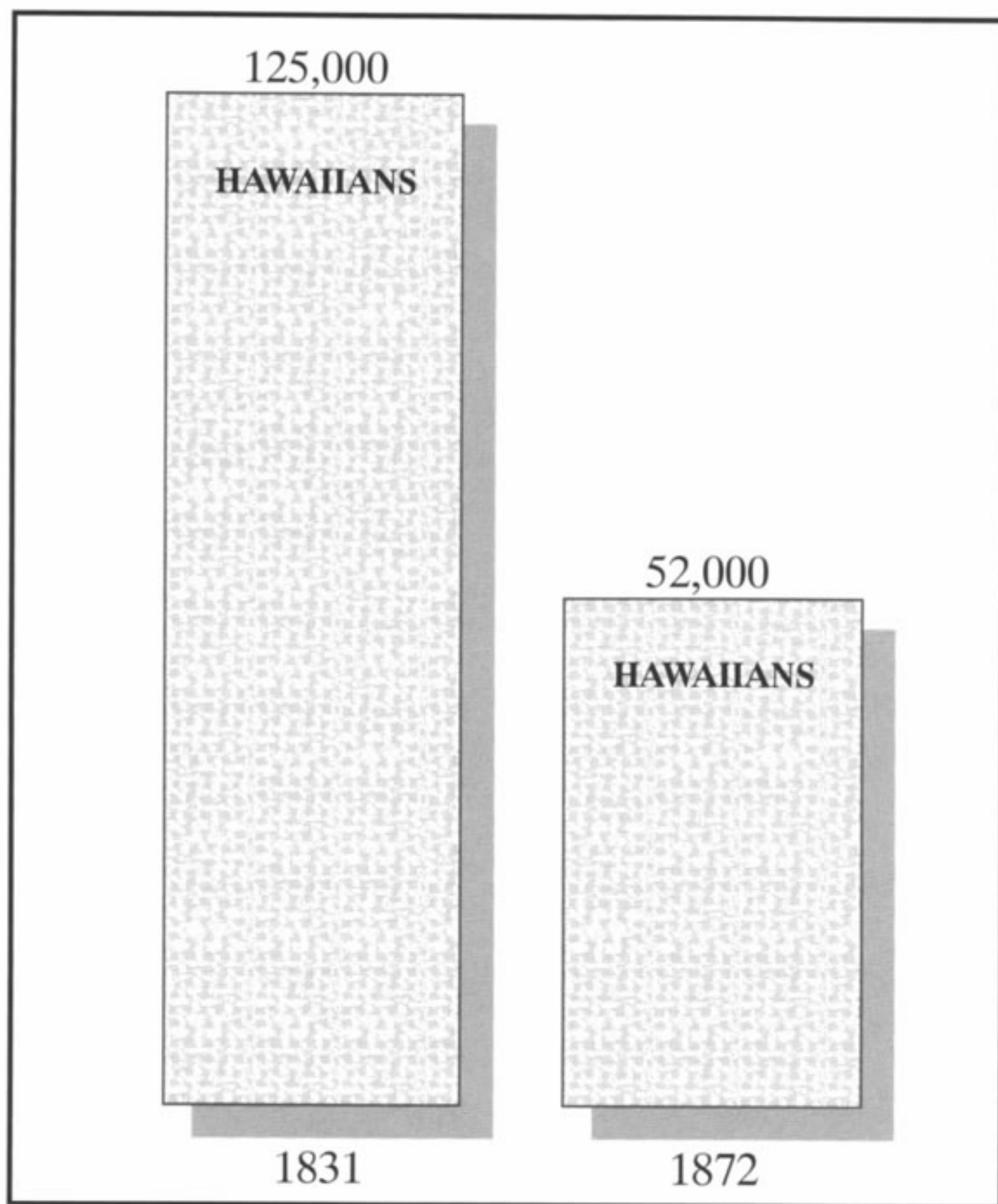
Hawaiian Population Decreases

The ships that brought Captain James Cook and other foreigners to Hawai'i also brought measles, mumps, smallpox and venereal diseases. Because these diseases were new to Hawai'i the Hawaiians had never developed any immunities, or resistance, to the diseases. As a result the diseases spread quickly. Many Hawaiians died.

The king was worried. In his lifetime the native Hawaiian population had fallen nearly sixty percent. In 1831 there had been about 125,000 Hawaiians. Forty-one years later, in 1872, that number had dropped to less than 52,000.

During Kamehameha V's reign leprosy became another major health concern. Leprosy, now known as Hansen's disease, is an infectious disease causing lumps, spots and open sores. It attacks the skin and nerves. It weakens muscles and sometimes disfigures parts of the body.

The first diagnosed case of leprosy in Hawai'i was noted in 1840. A captain in Kamehameha III's royal guard had the disease. By 1863 many more Hawaiians had leprosy.



Decline of Hawaiian population 1831–1872

Most Hawaiians had never been told that leprosy was contagious. They did not know it was spread by person-to-person contact. Many did not seek treatment for their disease.

The medical director of Queen's Hospital wanted to stop the disease from spreading. He said that those with leprosy should live apart from their families.

Kamehameha V had to make an important decision. He approved a law to send people known to have leprosy to an isolated part of Moloka'i. On January 6, 1866, people with this disease were taken to Kalaupapa peninsula on Moloka'i.



The leprosy colony on Kalaupapa peninsula, Moloka'i, 1898

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

At first these sick people were sadly neglected. Medicine, food and clothes were lacking. In 1873 a Catholic priest from Belgium named Father Damien went to Kalaupapa to take care of them. He made the government and the people more aware of the hardships of the leprosy colony. His efforts led to more support from the government. Damien died in 1889 from leprosy he caught while helping others.

Today those with leprosy receive modern medical treatment that controls their disease. They are no longer forced to live in isolation.



Father Damien (back center) with "his children" at Kalaupapa, Molokai

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

Workers from China and Japan

While the Hawaiian population was decreasing the sugar industry was increasing. After a time there were not enough Hawaiian workers to staff the sugar plantations.

Kamehameha V and the sugar planters decided to bring people in from other countries to work in Hawai'i. A Bureau of Immigration was created in 1865. It would supervise the recruiting of workers and encourage other immigrants to come to Hawai'i. An immigrant is a person who moves from one country to another to live.



Chinese laborers working in a sugar cane field

Photo courtesy Hawai'i State Archives

A first small group of Chinese workers arrived in Hawai'i in 1852. A larger number of Chinese arrived in 1865. Their work contract, or agreement, covered a term of five years.

Chinese laborers were to be paid four dollars a month plus food and lodging. During the nine years of Kamehameha V's reign about seventeen hundred Chinese laborers came to Hawai'i.

In 1868 the first group of Japanese laborers arrived in Hawai'i. They were contracted for three years at four dollars a month plus food, lodging and medical care.

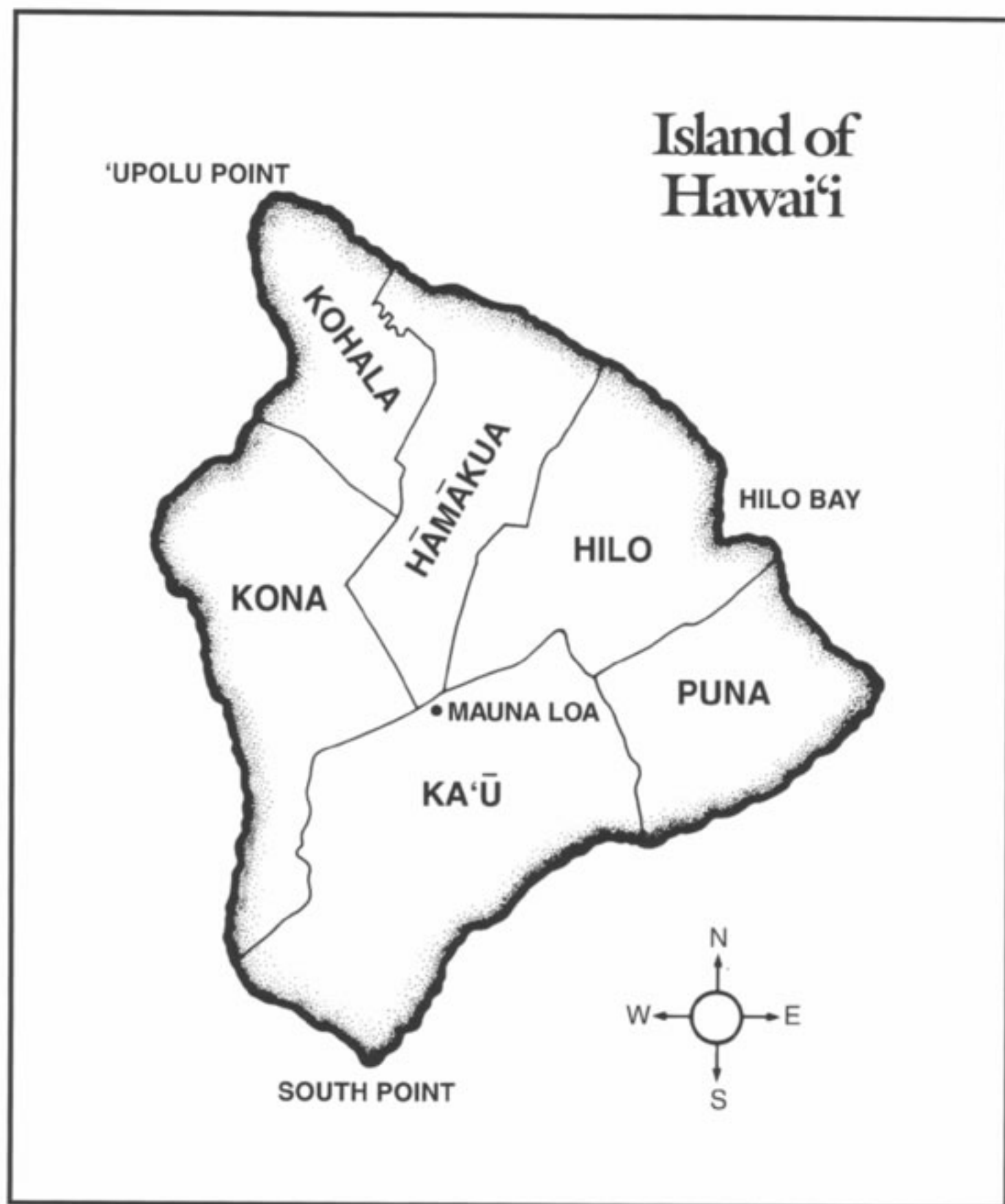
In 1869 some Polynesian workers were brought to Hawai'i from other Pacific islands. The king felt they were most like Hawaiians. He believed they would mix together easily with his own people and perhaps even marry Hawaiians.

It turned out that few Pacific islanders were willing to leave their homes. During Kamehameha V's reign only about two hundred other Polynesians came to Hawai'i to work.

Natural Disasters

In 1868 and 1869 nature caused major disasters on the island of Hawai'i. First, the volcano Mauna Loa erupted several times. Each eruption sent masses of hot lava flowing to the sea, destroying everything in its path: land, homes and people.

Second, earthquakes knocked down nearly every house in the Ka'ū district. The quakes caused a huge mud flow that swept three miles down a valley. It was said that the mud moved so swiftly it buried thirty people and more than five hundred head of cattle and horses.



The island of Hawai'i, where nature caused major disasters

Third, a gigantic tidal wave, forty to fifty feet high, rolled in upon the coast of Ka'ū washing away villages. In a few moments more than eighty people were killed.

The king showed great concern for the victims of these disasters. In spite of the danger of more earthquakes and more eruptions, he insisted on personally joining the relief expedition to Hawai'i.

The ship *Kīlauea* was loaded with food and supplies. The ship, with the king aboard, then proceeded to Hilo and smaller villages. The king wanted to see the damage and offer aid and encouragement to his people.

Personal visits by the king greatly lifted the morale of the victims. Kamehameha V met with the people and told them he was there to help them. He invited the heads of families to tell him about their losses and their needs.

One man told the king that of his family of twenty-two, six had died. He needed clothing, food and supplies. He needed materials for rebuilding thatched houses and repairing canoes and fish nets.

The king filled the man's requests. He gave him permission to cut bamboo and other wood from his royal lands. The king listened to more than eight hundred cases. He met the needs of all the victims.

Kamehameha V took care of those children whose parents had been killed by the storm. He saw to it that they were brought up by his relatives or retainers. He provided a home for some of these orphans on one of his own royal estates.

Buildings for Honolulu

More and more visitors came to Hawai'i during Lot's reign. Steamships carried travelers between Honolulu and San Francisco in the United States and between Honolulu and Sydney in Australia.

With the growth in travel the king and his advisors saw the need for Honolulu to become a modern city. New buildings were constructed. The Honolulu Post Office, with its carved railings, was built in 1870 at Bethel and Merchant Streets. 'Iolani Barracks, first known as Hale Koa, was built in 1870 for the king's Household Troops.



Honolulu Post Office

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives



Hale Koa, now known as Iolani Barracks, was built in 1870 for the king's Household Troops

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

The largest new building was the Hawaiian Hotel at the corner of Hotel and Richards Streets. It opened in 1872. It was a comfortable place to stay for visitors such as American author Mark Twain, foreign envoys and merchants. This elegant hotel quickly became the social center of Honolulu.

In Nuʻuanu construction began on the Royal Mausoleum, known as Maunaʻala, in 1863. It was completed in 1872 in time to become the burial site of Kamehameha V as well as of other *aliʻi*. The king died on December 11, 1872.



Hawaiian Hotel

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum



Mauna'ala

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

Aliʻiōlani Hale, also constructed at that time, remains one of the grandest buildings in Honolulu. It is now called the Judiciary Building because of its use. Kamehameha V laid the cornerstone in March 1872. The building was completed in 1874 and named in honor of the king. “Aliʻiōlani” was one of his sacred names.

Aliʻiōlani Hale stands as a monument to a king who knew he had to keep up with the world of progress and change. Under his guidance Honolulu grew into an attractive and modern city.



Ali'iōlani Hale was started in 1872 and completed in 1874

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

Kamehameha V's Social Life

Kamehameha V enjoyed the social side of life. He entertained both Hawaiians and foreigners. One of his very special guests was a royal visitor, the Duke of Edinburgh. The duke was the second son of Queen Victoria of England.

A newspaper report described one of the king's elegant events:

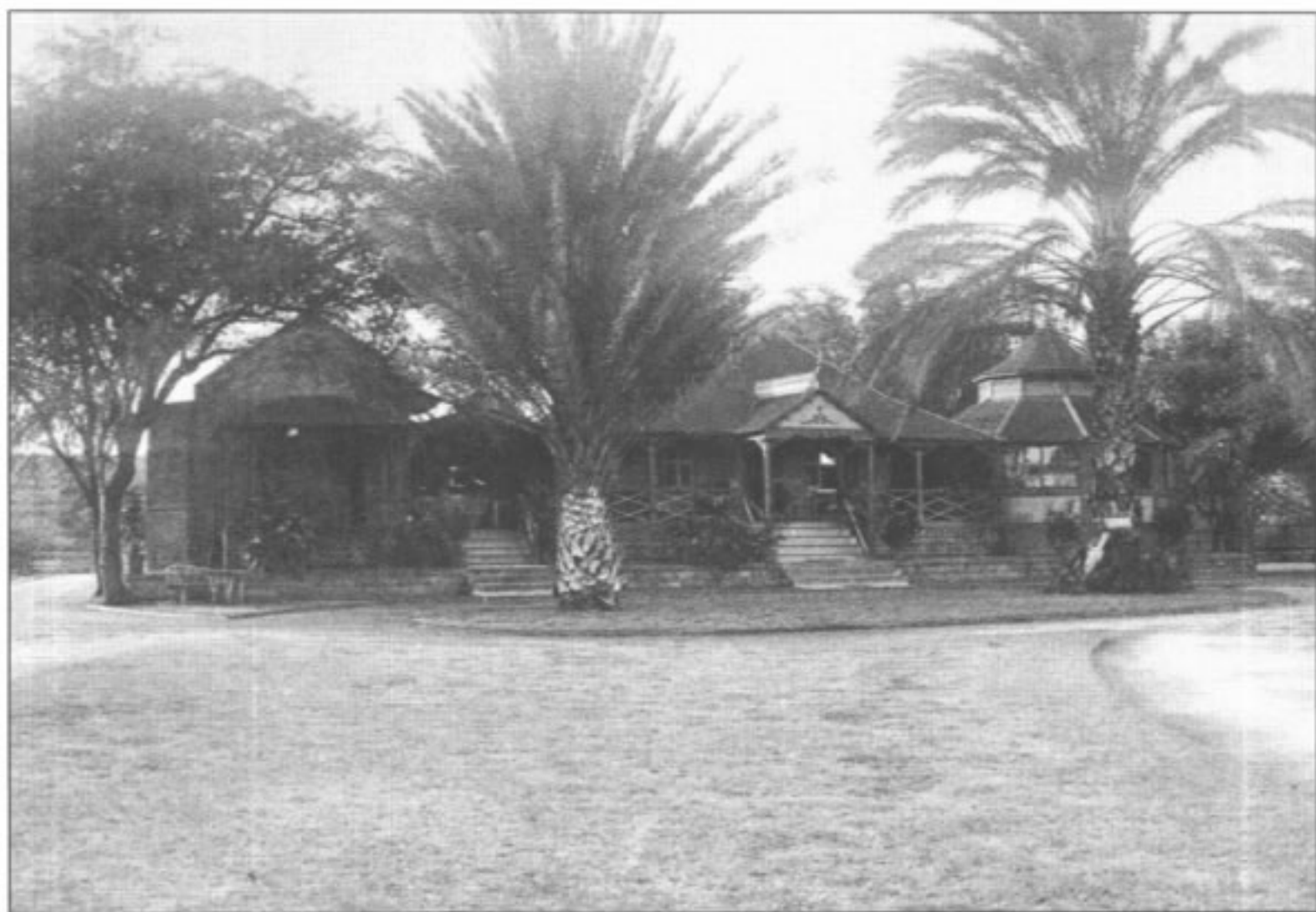
"The ball given at the courthouse by His Majesty's staff was a most brilliant affair. The decorations were splendid; beautiful fancy colored lanterns were placed along the walks, and special lights were used at various points. Eight hundred guests were invited.... Her Majesty, Queen Emma, honored the occasion.... There was a formal reception followed by a great ball, which opened with a quadrille in which sixty couples took part. Dancing continued very late. At five o'clock in the morning, the guns from the *Mobigan* gave the signal to close the party."

No one seemed to enjoy the party more than the king.

Country Homes

As a prince, Lot had a vacation place in Moanalua on O'ahu. When he became king a green cottage, named for him, was built there in 1867 as his summer house. The Kamehameha V Cottage stood in the midst of a large garden.

Moanalua was where the king held *lū'au* gatherings and *bula* performances. It was a place where important travelers between Honolulu and 'Ewa rested.



Kamebameba V Cottage at Moanalua Gardens

Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

Today these lands are known as "Moanalua Gardens." They are owned and maintained by the Samuel M. Damon Estate but kept open for use by the public. Large monkeypod trees provide shade for the many people who enjoy the park.

The Prince Lot Hula Festival is held in the gardens on the third Sunday in July each year. It honors the prince who once owned the land and helped to revive, or bring back, the art of *hula*.

Kamehameha V is said to have ordered a coconut grove planted near the site of his country home in Kaunakakai, Moloka'i, in the 1860s. Today the foundations of his *pili*-grass home, Mālama, can still be seen near the Kaunakakai Wharf.



Kapuāiwa Grove, Kaunakakai, Moloka'i

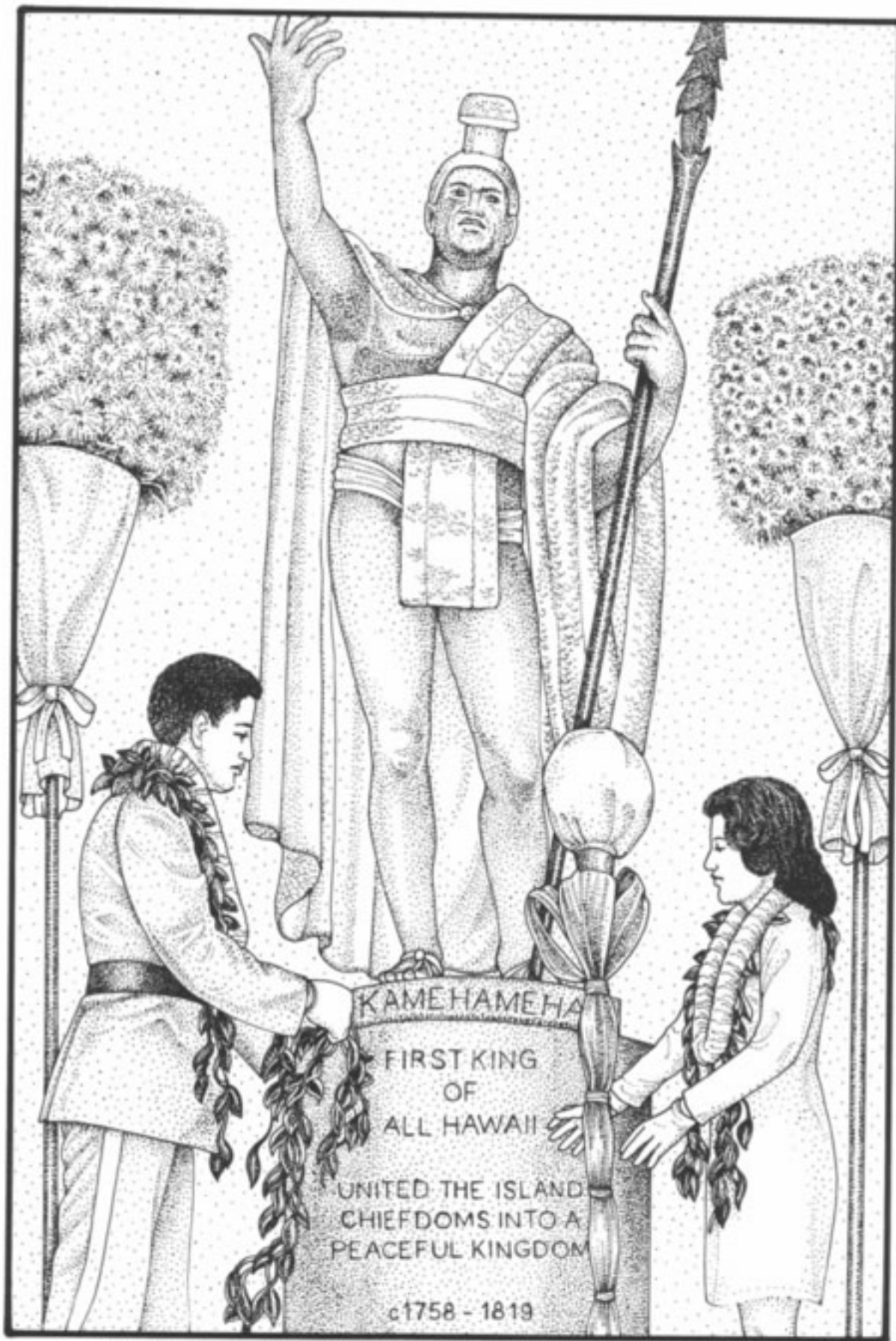
Photo courtesy of Bishop Museum

Kamehameha Day

*L*ot was born on December 11, 1830. When he became king in 1863 December 11 was proclaimed Kamehameha Day as a birthday celebration for him.

In December 1871 the king changed this celebration to June 11. Kamehameha V wanted to honor the memory of his grandfather, Kamehameha the Great. He chose June 11 as Kamehameha Day for his grandfather.

The king always wanted his people to model themselves after their hard-working ancestors. Kamehameha V himself was much like his grandfather. By celebrating Kamehameha Day Hawaiians would remember the example of this noble and hard-working leader. Today June 11 is observed as a state holiday by the people of Hawai'i.



The King Kamehameha memorial statue in Washington, D.C.

The Royal Hawaiian Band

Whenever the Austrian ship *Donau* arrived in Honolulu its band would give a public concert. The people enjoyed these concerts very much. They asked why Hawai'i couldn't have a band of its own to give concerts.

Kamehameha V wanted to please his people. He asked Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany to send a bandmaster to Hawai'i. On June 2, 1872, bandmaster Henry Berger arrived. He reorganized the musicians of His Majesty's Band into the Royal Hawaiian Band.

After just five days of rehearsing the band gave its first concert on June 11, 1872. At a location near the Queen's Hospital it performed for the first Kamehameha Day celebration.

Berger presented three of his own compositions. One he had named the "Hymn of Kamehameha I." King Kalākaua later wrote words to this music. The song was named "Hawai'i Pono'i," which has become Hawai'i's state song.

Concerts by the Royal Hawaiian Band became important social events. Carriages gathered nearby. Some people stood while others sat and relaxed in the shade. Everyone watched and listened and enjoyed the music! Long after a concert had ended people could be heard whistling the melodies the band had played.

In 1883, while in San Francisco, another Hawaiian song was played by the band for the first time. The song was "Aloha 'Oe," composed by Princess Lili'u who later became Queen Lili'uokalani.

Hawai'i Pono'i

(Hawai'i's Own People)

lyrics: Kalākaua

music: Henry Berger

Handwritten musical score for 'Hawai'i Pono'i'. The score is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. Chord symbols F, C7, and F are placed above the first three measures. The lyrics 'Ha-wai- 'i po- no- 'i, Na- na i kou mō- 'i, Ka la- ni' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with chord symbols C, G, G7, and C7 above it. The lyrics 'a- li- 'i, Ke a- li- 'i, Ma- ku- a la- ni ē, Ka- me- ha-' are written below. The third staff concludes the piece with chord symbols F, Bb, F, and C7, followed by first and second endings marked '1. F' and '2. F'. The final lyrics are 'me- ha ē, Na kōu- a e pa- le, Me ka i- he. he.'

"Hawai'i Pono'i" became Hawai'i's anthem

Handwritten musical score for 'Aloha Oe'. The title 'Aloha Oe.' is written in cursive at the top. The score is written on two staves with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F-sharp). The lyrics are written in cursive below the staves. The first line of lyrics is 'I ō- 'i ha'api'a ka uia i na hali, He mīka a'ela i ka pāhale To u hāi ana i ka lili Pua a'ehi hōhō'. The second line is 'Uha Aloha o - e Aloha o - e E ke mōnana a'ehi i ka lili A fōnd a'ehi a'ehi a'ehi'. Below the staves, there is a section labeled '2-' with the lyrics 'O ka hālia 'ehi i hiki onai, He hōne a'ehi hōne o'ana'ana, Oe ma hāu i'pō aloha, Aloha hāu o'ei'.

An early handwritten copy of "Aloha 'Oe" by Princess Lili'u

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

The Royal Hawaiian Band was Kamehameha V's special gift of music to his people. But he enjoyed this music for only a short time. Six months after the band's first performance he died. During his funeral service the Royal Hawaiian Band played in his memory.

Today the Royal Hawaiian Band plays at important functions throughout Hawai'i. Public concerts are given on the lawn of 'Iolani Palace. Sometimes the band gives concerts on the mainland and in other countries. In the past it has toured the east coast of the United States, Europe and Japan.

The King's Last Years

As an adult Kamehameha V was always rather large and heavy. As he got older he grew even heavier and it became difficult for him to move about. No longer could he ride a horse. In fact he spent most of his time indoors.

The king liked to visit John Cummins, a friend who lived in Waimānalo. To avoid the rough Pali trail Kamehameha V bought a steamboat so he could travel to Waimānalo in comfort.

In the ninth year of his reign the king became ill and bedridden. Some physicians said he had an ulcer, or sore, on his lungs. Others said it was “dropsy of the chest,” a condition that results when fluid accumulates in the chest and swelling occurs. This is now known as an edema.

On December 11, 1872, Kamehameha V knew that he was dying so he sent for Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop. At the king's bedside was John O. Dominis, the governor of O'ahu.

Dominis recorded this conversation between the king and Pauahi.

The king spoke to Bernice: "I wish you to take my place, to be my successor."


Bernice answered, "No, no, not me; don't think of me, I do not need it."

The king continued, "I do not wish you to think that I do this from motives of friendship, but I think it best for my people and the nation."

Once again Bernice said "No, no; do not think of me, there are others; there is your sister [Ruth Ke'elikōlani], it is hers by right."

To this Kamehameha V simply replied, "She is not fitted for the position." The immovable, steadfast king chose his beloved and capable Pauahi. He would not consider any one else. Pauahi, however, declined his selection.

“God’s Will be Done!”

 ecember 11, 1872, was Kamehameha V's forty-second birthday. Several birthday celebrations were scheduled to take place.

At the same time the king lay very ill. “It is hard to die on my birthday,” he whispered. Those by his side told him not to think such thoughts. The king merely shook his head, saying, “God’s will be done!” Then, just as he predicted, Kamehameha V died on his birthday at twenty minutes past ten in the morning.

The king left no heir to the throne. His sister, Princess Victoria Kamāmalu, had been named successor by the Constitution of 1864. But she had died in 1866. Now the legislature would have to decide who would be the new monarch.

Ali‘iōlani: A Name Chant

Mele Inoa

Traditional

*Noe wale mai no ka nabele
Kīpū ka ‘obu i ka mauna
I walea ‘o Ali‘iōlani
I ke kui pua lei ‘ōbelo
Me ‘ole wabine i ka nabele
‘O ke boa like ‘ole nō ia
E kobu ‘ole ai nā lani.*




Name Chant

English Translation
by Nathan Nāpōkā

The forest is covered by mist
A mist that encircles the mountain
As Ali‘iōlani effortlessly delights in
Stringing a flower *lei* of ‘ōbelo
Womanless in the forest
His friendship has no equal
All other chiefs do not compare.

Impressions of Kamehameha V

mpressions or views of Kamehameha V have been written by historians as well as those who knew the king. The famous writer Mark Twain was in Hawai'i in 1866 and wrote:

"There was no royal nonsense about him, he dressed plainly, poked about Honolulu, night and day, on his old horse unattended; he was popular, greatly respected and even beloved."

Kamehameha V was often compared to his younger brother, Kamehameha IV.

Charles de Varigny, the king's minister of foreign affairs, described Lot's attitude toward Alexander:

"The two brothers were united by a most tender and sincere friendship; and indeed, though he was the elder, Prince Lot looked on without the least feeling of jealousy when the partiality of their uncle singled out the younger brother as heir to the throne. He was perfectly contented to become merely his brother's first subject, and this attitude was never, even for a moment, contradicted."

To British Commissioner William W. Synge, Alexander Liholiho had the refinement and manners of a gentleman. But in energy, perseverance and strength of will, he found Lot Kapuāiwa superior.

Historian A. Grove Day wrote that “Kamehameha V was not as brilliant as his brother, but he had a better control of practical matters.” Lot was business-like and paid his bills each day. In fact, one of the first things he did when he became Kamehameha V was to pay off Kamehameha IV’s debts.

Following Lot’s succession to the kingship in 1863 he was to move into Hawai‘i’s royal palace, then called Hale Ali‘i. Lot chose to have the palace renamed ‘Iolani to honor his brother Alexander Liholiho ‘Iolani.



Kamehameha IV
(reigned 1854–1863)



Kamehameha V
(reigned 1863–1872)

Noted Hawai'i historian Ralph S. Kuykendall wrote:

"Alexander had the outlook and manners of a European gentleman; Lot was more Hawaiian in his point of view. ...he permitted and even encouraged the revival of some old Hawaiian customs such as the *bula* and *kabuna* practices."

Kuykendall ranked Kamehameha V as the most able of the Kamehamehas who succeeded Kamehameha the Great:


“Kamehameha V has not been appreciated by historians. I consider him to have been the greatest of the Kamehamehas except the first. He was well-educated, forceful, an honorable businessman and a thoughtful student of his problems. He was a man who was well informed, who kept an active hand in the affairs of government and chose his ministers with the greatest care. He was much like his grandfather, a despot, a King in the ancient manner, who felt it his duty to direct his people.”



Kamehameha V

Photo courtesy of Hawai'i State Archives

‘Onipa‘a: Immovable, Firm

amehameha V's motto was "*‘Onipa‘a*," which means immovable, firm, steadfast, determined. It was a fitting motto for someone so firmly rooted in Hawaiian values. Throughout his life the king was *‘onipa‘a* and worked diligently for his people and the kingdom of Hawai‘i.

Early on he had developed the habit of hard work. He encouraged his people to work and not be idle.

Though Kamehameha V always believed he had good reasons for doing what he did the king was not always popular. He had decided, for example, to separate those with leprosy from their families even though it angered many of his own people.

Lot Kapuāiwa Kamehameha faced many problems. In most cases his solutions to those problems showed wisdom and understanding. He opposed annexation and kept Hawai'i free and independent. His Constitution of 1864 lasted for twenty-three years, longer than any other Hawaiian constitution.

Most important of all was the deep fatherly love Kamehameha V had for his people. That love permeated every decision he made for the kingdom of Hawai'i.

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