To His Majesty,
Kamehameha V,
King of the Hawaiian Islands.

Great and Good Friend:

I have read with feelings of profound sorrow your Majesty's letter of the 5th December, last, announcing the death on the 30th of the preceding month, of His Majesty, your Brother, Kamehameha IV, and conveying also the pleasing intelligence of your Majesty's constitutional succession to the Throne of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

Your Majesty's anticipations of sympathy from me in the double
bereavement which you have experienced in the death of your Sovereign and Brother are fully realized. Not only I, but the whole American People are deeply moved by the intelligence of the event with which God in His infinite wisdom has afflicted your Majesty and the Hawaiian Nation; for whom this Government and people have ever entertained sentiments of almost paternal regard, as well as of sincere friendship and unchanging interest.

It is gratifying to know that His Majesty’s place on the Throne and in the hearts of the Hawaiian people is occupied by one who was
allied to him by the closest ties of blood, and by a long participation in the affairs of the Kingdom. These influences, controlled by the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, whose guidance your Majesty invokes, and by those aspirations which your Majesty cherishes for the good of your subjects, cannot fail to assure the well-being and prosperity of the Hawaiian Kingdom.

Your Majesty may ever firmly rely upon my sincere sympathy and cordial support and upon the abiding friendship of the people of the United States in the execution of the lofty mission entrusted
to you by Providence.

Commending Your Majesty, and
the bereaved widow and People of
the late King to the Fatherly pro-
tection and comfort of the Almightly,
I remain

Your Majesty’s Good Friend,

Abraham Lincoln

By the President:
William H. Seward
Secretary of State.

Washington, February 2, 1864.