

**Inventory of Records**  
**of the**  
**Chamberlain**

Hawaii State Archives  
September 2002

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# RECORDS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN

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## RECORDS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN

### ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

**TITLE:** His Majesty's Chamberlain (to 1891)  
Her Majesty's Chamberlain (1891-1893)  
Ka Haku Pu'uku  
Pu'uku

**DATES:** 1845 - 1893.

**FUNCTIONS:**

The function of the Chamberlain predates the creation of the office in 1845 by the Hawaiian Legislature. The Chamberlain was an officer of the royal household appointed by the monarch and confirmed by the Privy Council. He was responsible for the royal household and the private estates of the monarch. The Chamberlain was entitled to draw upon the Minister of Finance for money to maintain the royal household up to \$6,000 a year and had the discretion to pay out, manage, and control the accounts of the expenses of the royal household. He made entries and maintained the record books of the private royal expenditures, responded to requests for audiences with the royal family and coordinated events such as visits by foreign heads of state, the coronation of His Majesty Kalakaua, and funerals of members of the royal family.

The overthrow of the monarchy in January 1893 ended the office. The Chamberlain and other household staff, however, continued to serve the royal family.

**Sources:**

Second Act of Kamehameha III, An Act to Organize the Executive Departments of the Hawaiian Islands Chapter II, Article V. – Of the Public and Private Rights of Piscary, Section XII. Chapter III, Article V. -- Of the Audit and Settlement of Accounts in General, Section V. Chapter VI. -- Government Realizations, General Provisions, Sections IV, V, VI, VII. *Statute Laws of His Majesty Kamehameha III, King of the Hawaiian Islands: Passed by the House of Nobles and Representatives, during 1845-1846, volume 1.* Honolulu, Oahu: Charles E. Hitchcock, Printer, Government Press, 1846.

*Laws of His Majesty Kamehameha V...Passed by the Legislative Assembly, 1864-1865.*  
An Act to Relieve the Royal Domain from Encumbrances, and to Render the same Inalienable.

Archives Card File - Office Holders by Office - Chamberlain.

Correspondence and Record Books of the Chamberlain, 1840 - 1895. Series 429.

Records of the Privy Council, 1845 - 1893. Series 421.

## RECORDS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN

CHAMBERLAINS, 1846 - 1893 [Incomplete]

### Chamberlain

### Dates of Service

Kealiihonoʻi	September 6, 1846 - May 26, 1847
Abner Paki	May 26, 1847 - March 31, 1848?
John Young	June 10, 1857 - July 18, 1857
Mataio Kekuanaoa	August 31, 1857 -
Charles Gordon Hopkins	December 19, 1863 -
David Kalakaua	February 18, 1864; reappointed August 20, 1864.
Henry Prendergast	n.d.
Horatio Gates Crabbe	January 13, 1873
W L Moehonua	April 15, 1874
Edwin-H. Boyd	November 2, 1874 - September 8, 1875
F.W. Beckley	September 8, 1875 -
Charles H. Judd	July 6, 1878 -
E.W. Purvis	August 26, 1882 -
Acting Chamberlain	
Curtis P. Iaukea	August 30, 1886 -
Antone Rosa	April 12, 1887 -
Vice-Chamberlain	
James William Robertson	September 27, 1888 -
Vice-Chamberlain	
George W. MacFarlane	December 17, 1888 -
James William Robertson	March 2, 1891 -

## RECORDS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN

**Series No. :** 429

**Series Title:** Correspondence and Record Books of the Chamberlain

**Date Range:** 1840 - 1895

**Quantity:** 3.75 linear feet. (0.25 linear foot of Correspondence, filed in 1 3-inch Hollinger box. 35 volumes in 6 5-inch Hollinger boxes. 9 oversize volumes).

**Creator:** His Majesty's Chamberlains to Kamehameha III, Kamehameha IV, Kamehameha V, Lunalilo, Kalakaua, and Her Majesty's Chamberlain to Lili'uokalani

**Physical Characteristics:**

Handwritten letters and record books in fragile condition. Acidification, discoloration, fading of and insect damage to the records have occurred

**Content Description:**

Correspondence consists of letters between the Chamberlain and Hawaiian government officials, foreign officials and dignitaries, and local and foreign business people. Letters between government officials and dignitaries contain requests for an audience with the King and / or Queen, grants of requests for an audience, invitations to various official and social functions, notices announcing the return of the King from journeys abroad, funeral notices, and notices of visits by foreign heads of state. Letters to business people contain inquiries about products and payment, and orders for goods.

Record books include a letterpress copy book, diaries, account books, cash books, day books, expense journals, inventories of household items and the King's horses, ledgers, payroll and personnel lists, and the 'Iolani Palace night watch schedule.

The copy book contains a few outgoing correspondence of Chamberlain David Kalakaua to Major W.L. Moehonua. These are in Hawaiian and have not been translated. Most of the letter book is blank. The diaries are daily calendars of Chamberlains David Kalakaua and Curtis P. Iaukea with brief notations of events or tasks completed. Account book entries contain names of businesses and people who sold products and provided services to the royal household and include date, account name, specific items purchased or service provided, amount charged and amount paid. The account books also contain sales transactions of the Crown Lands of Kamehameha III, IV, and V. The transactions are recorded until 1865 when Kamehameha V approved an act which made the Crown Lands inalienable and placed them under the

## RECORDS OF THE CHAMBERLAIN

administration of the Board of Commissioners of Crown Lands. Lease rents from the Crown Lands of Kamehameha III, Kamehameha IV, Kamehameha V, Lunalilo, Kalakaua, Queen Lili'uokalani and Queen Kapi'olani are also recorded in the account books. Day books, daily journals and expense journals note transaction dates, amount paid, and payee. Cash books note transaction dates, amount paid, payee, and cash balance. Inventories list furniture, dishes, and personal items of the royal household. The inventory of the King's horses provide physical descriptions and pedigree of horses in the royal stable. Payroll and personnel lists contain names of people serving the royal household and their salary. The Night Watchman's Book is the 1890 watch schedule of 'Iolani Palace security personnel. Volume 44 contains a list of personal possessions of Kapi'olani and lease rents from her private lands. The latest entry is dated 1895.

**Arrangement:** Series is organized into Correspondence and Record Books, thereunder chronologically.

**Access:** Access is unrestricted.

### Notes

1. Many of the records are in Hawaiian and have not been translated.

**SERIES 429 - CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORD BOOKS OF THE  
CHAMBERLAIN**

**RECORDS CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Box and Folder No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
429-1-1	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1867 - 1868.
429-1-2	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1874.
429-1-3	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1881.
429-1-4	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1882.
429-1-5	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1883.
429-1-6	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1884.
429-1-7	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1885 - 1886.
429-1-8	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1887.
429-1-9	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1888.
429-1-10	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1889.
429-1-11	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1890.
429-1-12	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1891.
429-1-13	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1892.
429-1-14	Correspondence of the Chamberlain, 1893.

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Volume Number and Title</u>
429-2	429 v. 1. Daily Journal, 1840-1842.
429-2	429 v. 2. Account Book, 1843-1844. Contains index.
429-2	429 v. 4. Buke Dala Pono i ka wa o A. Paki, Ka Haku Puuku. Account Book of Kamehameha III's Chamberlain A. Paki, September 9, 1846 - January 2, 1850.
429-2	429 v. 5. Unbound bills and trial balance sheets, dated 1858, 1859, 1861. Separated from 429 volume 5, refer to page C-3.
429-2	429 v.7. Buke Kauoha a Kamehameha III ia A. Paki e Noi i Dala no Kona Pilikia. Hoomakaia September 7, 1851. Record of Names of Contributors to Pay for the King's Debts, September 7 - 10, 1851.
429-2	429 v. 9. Day Book of His Majesty's Household Expenses, February 1, 1853 - October 31, 1856.
429-2	Assorted Bills, May 1855 - May 1857, from 429 volume 9.
429-3	429 v. 10. Wages Book of Servants in His Majesty Kamehameha III's Employ, January 1, 1853 - August 1, 1856. Kept by Henry St. John.
429-3	429 v. 11. Journal of His Majesty Kamehameha 3 Private Lands, August 4, 1853 - August 24, 1856.

**SERIES 429 - CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORD BOOKS OF THE  
CHAMBERLAIN**

**RECORDS CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Volume No. and Title</u>
429-3	429 v.12. He Buke no na Waiwai of Kamehameha 3 ma Hale Ali'i, Hoomakaia Dekemab 17, 1854. Inventory of Personal Property of the King at 'Iolani Palace, December 17, 1854 - January 31, 1855.
429-3	429 v. 13. His Majesty Kamehameha IV Private Lands Account Book, September 10, 1856 - December 29, 1860.
429-3	429 v. 14. Buke a ka Moi, 1861 - 1868. King's Land Agent Account Book, March 6, 1856 - January 29, 1877.
429-3	429 v. 15. P. Nahaolelua Account Book with Prince Lot Kamehameha, Kamehameha V, and R. Keelikolani. December 1859 - December 1876.
429-3	429 v. 16. Expense Journal, April 23, 1863 - September 1, 1863.
429-3	429 v. 17. Expense Journal and Commissioners of Crown Lands in Account with His Majesty's Land Agent. December 1, 1863 - May 8, 1872.
429-4	429 v. 18. Iolani Hale Ali'i, Chamberlain's Copy Book, February 20, 1864. March 25, 1864 - May 6, 1864. Very Fragile.
429-4	429 v. 19. Chamberlain's Cash Book, January 14, 1864 - November 1, 1869.
429-4	429 v. 20. Diary of Chamberlain Kalakaua, 1867.
429-4	429 v. 21. Estate of Kamehameha V Disbursements, 1872 - 1874.
429-4	429 v. 22. Daily Journal, May 1, 1874 - August 31, 1875.
429-5	429 v. 23. Buke Dala. Cash Book Lunalilo's Lands, June 1868; August 1874 - May 1877.
429-5	429 v. 25. Record Book of the King's Horses, 1875 - 1884.
429-5	429 v. 26. Personnel Lists and Payroll Accounts, 1876 - 1882.
429-5	429 v. 27. Cash Book, July 9, 1878 - January 14, 1882.
429-5	429 v. 28. Day Book, July 1878 - August 1882.
429-5	429 v. 29. Account Journal, August 1882 - June 1884.
429-6	429 v. 30. Daily Journal of Chamberlain Iaukea, 1882.
429-6	429 v. 31. Account Book, 1882 and 1886.
429-6	429 v. 32. Pay Roll of People in 'Iolani Hale, 1882 - 1885.
429-6-4	429 v. 33. Notes and Bills Payable, February 1888 - April 1889.
429-6-5	429 v. 34. Day Book, July 1, 1884 - August 31, 1886.
429-6-6	429 v. 35. Accounts Journal, September 1, 1886 - December 31, 1886.

**SERIES 429 - CORRESPONDENCE AND RECORD BOOKS OF THE  
CHAMBERLAIN**

**RECORDS CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Volume No. and Title</u>
429-7-1	429 v. 36. Payroll, September 1886 - January 1889.
429-7-2	429 v. 40. Account Journal, July 1888 - January 1891.
429-7-3	429 v. 41. Payroll, July 1889 - January 1893.
429-7-4	429 v. 42. Na Helu Ku Waki Po, 'Iolani Palace. Night Watchman's Book 'Iolani Palace, April 16, 1890 - November 10, 1890.
429-7-5	429 v. 44. Inventory of Personal Items of Her Majesty Queen Dowager Kapi'olani, 1891. Lease Accounts of Crown Lands at Puoina, Honolulu, and other locations, ca. 1892; July 1894 - April 1895. Pages 51-71 and others were removed from record book.

**OVERSIZE RECORD BOOKS**

<u>Volume</u>	<u>Description</u>
429 vol. 3	Daily Journal of the Royal Household, 1846.
429 vol. 5	His Majesty's Chamberlain's Ledger Book and Agency of the King's Private Lands, 1850 - 1861. Note: Unbound bills and trial balance sheets, dated 1858, 1859, and 1861 are filed in box 429-2.
429 vol. 6	His Majesty's Chamberlain's Accounts Book and Agency for the King's Private Lands II, 1850 - 1861.
429 vol. 8	Ledger Showing Accounts of Receipts and Disbursements of His Majesty's Household, 1853.
429 vol. 24	Cash Book, March 1874 - July 1878.
429 vol. 37	Account Journal, January 3, 1887 - August 31, 1888.
429 vol. 38	Accounts Ledger, January 1887 - August 1888.
429 vol. 39	Poi Account, 1887 - 1888.
429 vol. 43	Cash Book, February 28, 1891 - September 30, 1892.