

forces.

HAWAIIAN COMPLICATIONS.

The report of Secretary Gresham to President Cleveland concerning the establishment of the provisional government of Hawaii reveals a state of affairs extremely discreditable to the United States. It appears from this report that the Queen was actually deposed by aliens and confiscationists, assisted by the American Minister with the protection of the United States troops.

The unblushing manner with which the committee of public safety, consisting of thirteen men, a majority of whom, including five Americans and citizens of the United States, were aliens, announced their appointment for the creation of a provisional government, "to exist until terms of union with the United States of America have been negotiated and agreed upon," would arouse a suspicion in an unbiased mind of a conspiracy, which it will be difficult for Minister Stevens to disprove, or to convince the people of the United States that he had no part in promoting.

It would seem to be a violation of all precedent and a most unwarranted and outrageous infringement of the rights of the deposed Queen and of the government of which she was the head. All Americans not blinded by party opposition will be inclined to view the matter in the light in which it is presented by Mr. Gresham, namely, "that the treaty which was withdrawn from the Senate should not be resubmitted for its action thereon," and that "the great wrong done to a feeble but independent State by the abuse of the authority of the United States should be undone by restoring the legitimate government."

The American people are too just and are too fond of fair play to permit a weak, but independent, State to be destroyed, and its territory confiscated through force supplied by American arms under the protection of American agents.

What the position of President Cleveland will be upon this subject has not yet been announced, but the American people will be inclined to favor full reparation for the wrongs that have been done to the deposed Queen and full restoration of the authority which was so unwarrantably taken from her without an apparent shadow of an excuse.

To proceed with the annexation of Hawaii under such circumstances would be to blacken the fair name of this nation, to say nothing of the question of expediency which would be involved in acquiring a territory so far removed from our coast, and of a new State policy which would afford a precedent in the future that might lead to the introduction of elements of citizenship utterly hostile to the spirit of our institutions and utterly incapable of being amalgamated.

Rome was mistress of the world, until she undertook to absorb the world, at which time her downfall began, and continued until finally the world became mistress of Rome.