

The Biography
of
Hon. Robert William Wilcox

His young days; in the legislature; education
in Italy; in good graces of Italian nobility;
as an officer in the Italian army;
as a commander in the Italian army;
his return to his birthplace;
the beginning of his aloha for his land
the war of loyalists in July;
the enthusiasm of the people in electing
him representative;
songs composed for him
sung throughout
the islands.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY THOS. K. NAKANAELA

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Kingdom of Hawai‘i Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands

Preface by the Publisher

The first Commandment is that you shall love God, the second that you shall love your parents, and the third, that you shall love the land of your birth. The man who neglects any of these lessons from heaven, says the Great Book, is a man without sincerity.

In releasing this historical account to the public, it is our hope that it will be received and soundly cherished by the Hawaiian nation throughout the islands, for it is well known that ordinary people earlier knew much about and were familiar with ancestral lines in the native land. The writing and setting into print of the account in this book has been carried out carefully and exhaustively, according to the things known by our Hawaiians, and much effort has been made to explain all matters.

When one gives attention to the reputation of certain men of knowledge and wisdom in Hawai‘i today, perhaps none of these have attained the reputation of Hon. R. W. Wilcox. This is a man whose ideas are known, the soldier, the strong supporter on the side of his own people and his native soil, and in acceding to the wishes of the people, there has come the thought of publishing the history of this remarkable man.

His full story will be known from this book. Since he has been known by the people as a public servant, he has applied his knowledge to shape government policy. He has been a great help, and because of his strong support, the rightful claims of the Hawaiian Kingdom have continued to this day. After discussion and counsel with some prominent people of the Kingdom, they gave us the faith and encouragement to publish the history of this unique man.

Some of the important speeches of Hon. R. W. Wilcox will be known from this book, the story of his trial and that of the people arrested in the struggle to take over the Kingdom. Added to this is the testimony that the commander-in-chief of the Honolulu Rifle Association, Col. V. V. Ashford, delivered to the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the events of that day of bloodshed, July 30, 1889.

Appended are some *mele* composed with artistry for him and chanted from the portals where the mountains meet the sea. These are *mele* enabling native Hawaiians to cherish him greatly and not forget him. Uppermost in our thoughts is that Hawai‘i should not turn away from Hawai‘i, rather since it is in her destiny to have originated in the realms of the gods, so it is that

acceptance of this book is like the accepting of the most beautiful *mele* for this most famous child of the Hawaiian Kingdom. It is true that Wilcox's heart and that of the Hawaiian people is full of patient suffering, because of the contemptible actions commonly carried out against them in days gone by and this is a matter that some people of some foreign governments would not be able to accept patiently had such action been taken against them. However, although these events have met with the contempt of Hawaiians, never has there occurred any action which would have created the impression that there was no aloha for the King, or no aloha for the nation. These are the reasons true Hawaiians cherish him, and as they cherish this book, so do they cherish Hon. R. W. Wilikoki.

Lake and Nakanaela

Honolulu, July 12, 1890

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