

IN ALL communities and among all nations there are men and families who become leaders in society, and by reason of eminent service, honored heredity, or self-sacrifice for the public weal, become the aristocracy of their country, and stand as the representatives of the best society.

This condition of affairs is well represented in the life and career of Mr. Wilder.

The recent revolution and establishment of the Provisional Government in the Hawaiian Islands has brought to the front and given men a notoriety and a justly earned fame for their sagacity, bravery and consummate tact. It will pass into history as a remarkable crucible as renowned as the great struggles and triumphs of the world. Great emergencies have called forth leaders of men, and master minds, who have proved themselves especially adapted to surmount difficulties and rehabilitate demoralized society.

The subject of this sketch, one of the prominent actors, is the son of Hon. W. C. Wilder, a leading business man and prominent official, a member of the Advisory Board of the Provisional Government, and its Vice-President. Mr. Wilder, the present Consul-General, was born in Geneva, Illinois, and went with his parents to Hawaii in 1869. He returned to the United States and attended the Miami University, Ohio, from which he graduated in 1884. He afterward attended the Northwestern University of Illinois for a year, returning to Honolulu in 1885. He immediately commenced service as a clerk and bookkeeper with Wilder & Co., and was connected with the extensive business of the Wilder Steamship Co. and the Kahului Railroad Co., until he was appointed Consul-General of the Provisional Government by President Dole with full powers in June, 1893.

Mr. Wilder was Captain of Company A of the Honolulu Rifles during the disturbances in 1887, and during the late revolution was Captain of the first artillery company formed in the islands.

Although Mr. Wilder has not yet reached the age of thirty, he has shown himself to be the right man in the right place, during the disturbing times which have passed during his term of office. He has displayed splendid business qualifications and has made a friend of every one, both in business and other circles, by his tact and gentlemanly bearing. His liberal education and close connection with all the large and material interests of Hawaii have given him peculiar advantages in filling the delicate and important duties as Consul-General, and he has gained the reputation of being one of the most efficient officers ever accredited to the United States from the Hawaiian Islands.

His high social position at Honolulu, and the record of honorable service attached to his family name during the Rebellion, and his brother, Gardner K. Wilder, being now the Deputy Attorney-General of Hawaii, and other members of the family prominent in Hawaiian affairs, he seems to stand as a representative of the best society in the Hawaiian Islands, and the land of his birth, the United States. He has a fine address, martial bearing, is a good conversationalist and a born diplomat. His scholastic attainments, social standing and ripe business experience have given him great influence and popularity. He is courteous to every one with whom he comes in contact, and is possessed of that clear intellect, coolness of judgment and self-reliance, that make him an astute official in times of great excitement.

His official acts and policy have been so wise and discreet, that it may be properly said he has added another tie to the already close bond between San Francisco and the Hawaiian Islands. His marked ability, heredity, association and environment is such, that the handwriting upon the wall points to higher and more responsible official duties for him in the autonomy of the Government he represents or in council in changes that may occur between the United States and the Hawaiian Islands.