

**"HERE," THE LAND OF THE HUMMING
BIRD, BEING A SKETCH OF THE
ISLAND OF TRINIDAD. SPECIALLY
WRITTEN FOR THE TRINIDAD COURT
OF THE WORLD'S FAIR, CHICAGO**

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"Iere," the Land of the Humming Bird, Being a Sketch of the Island of Trinidad. Specially
Written for the Trinidad Court of the World's Fair, Chicago by Henry James Clark

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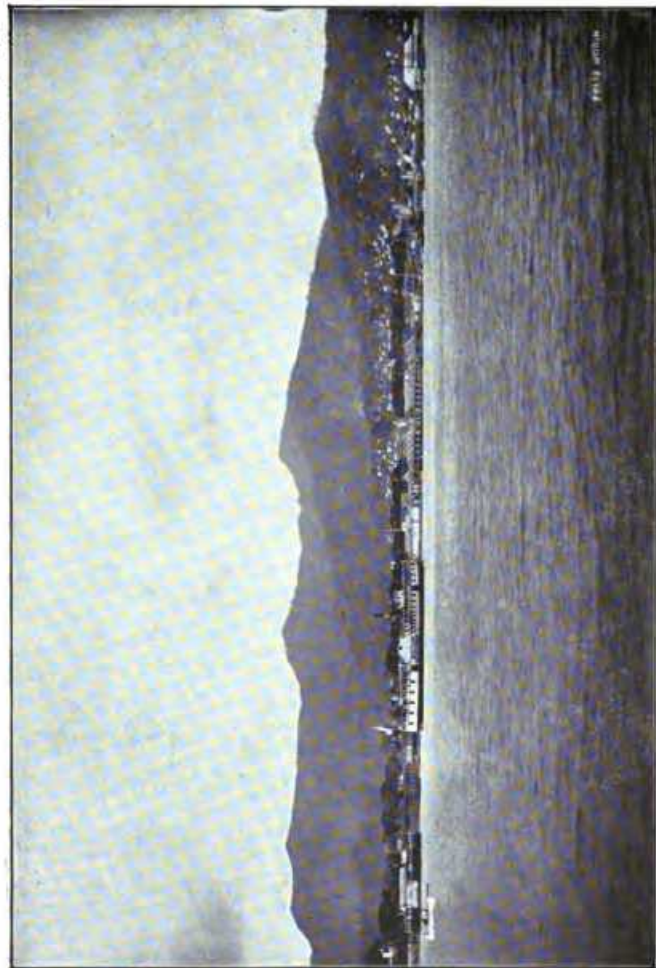
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HENRY JAMES CLARK

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UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA



PORT-OF-SPAIN FROM THE HARBOUR.

"I È R E,"

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BEING A

SKETCH OF THE ISLAND OF TRINIDAD.

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE TRINIDAD COURT

OF

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BY

HENRY JAMES CLARK, F.S.S.

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INTRODUCTORY.



READER: Have you ever seen a humming-bird? No! not a stuffed specimen, even were it the peerless trophy of the taxidermist's art: No! nor even one of those wonderful art-productions that adorn the more recent monographs of the *Trochilidae*; but one of these lovely feathered gems as they are to be seen in the bright warm sunlight of a tropic clime; now darting with lightning speed from flower to flower, anon poised in mid air under some favourite *Bignonia*, the bill buried in the recesses of the flower, the vibrations of the wings so rapid as to make them almost invisible, while the sheen from the plumage of the diminutive body and crested head makes it appear like some natural pendent, studded with a thousand gems all set with the matchless skill of Nature's lapidary.

If it has been your good fortune so to view these tiny-feathered gems in all their natural life and loveliness, you will be able to form some idea of the beauty and brilliancy of the scene that met the view of THE GREAT DISCOVERER, when,

instead of the parched and sterile land he had expected to find as he approached the equator, he gazed for the first time on the mass of gem-studded foliage and flower that clad with perpetual verdure the hills and vales in the new found land which he called "LA TRINIDAD," but to which the natives had given the name "Ière" or "The Land of the Humming-bird," from the number and variety of these tiny creatures that had made their home in the island.

It is to this beautiful island—"the gem of the Caribbean Sea," the "Ière" of the Indians, the "Trinidad" of to-day—that the writer invites your attention, in the hope that in the following sketch, brief and imperfect though it be, you may find something to interest you—something that will awaken a desire for a more extended knowledge of, if not a personal acquaintance with, the vast resources and almost unlimited capabilities of a colony which can justly claim to be one of the most beautiful, most healthy, and most highly fertile of the many tropical possessions of the British Crown.

