ALICE'S VISIT TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

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Alice's visit to the Hawaiian islands by Mary H. Krout

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MARY H. KROUT

ALICE'S VISIT TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS



ECLECTIC SCHOOL READINGS

ALICE'S VISIT

TO

THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

BY

MARY H. KROUT

AUTHOR OF "HAWAH AND A REVOLUTION," "A LOOKER-ON IN GONDON," FIG. ____

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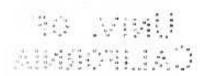
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KROUT'S HAWAIL

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EDUCATION DEPT,



PREFACE

Since the Hawaiian Islands have now become a part of the United States, and henceforth their history will be a part of our own, it is important that the children in our schools should learn something of the geography of these islands, and of the manners, customs, and history of the people who inhabit them.

In writing this imaginary journey to the Hawaiian Islands I have described the country and the people as they were studied by me during two actual visits. The volcano of Kilauea was at the time of my visit in a state of great activity, and the account which I have given of the wonderful spectacle was prepared from notes written within sight of the crater.

The history of the Hawaiian Islands, though restricted as to scene of action, has been as stirring and as dramatic as our own. Within a century the islands were conquered and brought under one government, during which time the race advanced steadily from barbarism to civilization.

The people are now to undertake that last and greatest of political experiments, self-government, for which their alliance with the United States during the past fifty years has been an excellent preparation. The study of Hawaiian evolution affords such a variety of incident that it is somewhat difficult to decide, in the preparation of a book for children, what to reject and what to utilize. It is necessary, on the one hand, to consider the importance of customs in shaping the destiny of the people, and, on the other hand, to bear in mind the consequence of filling the impressionable minds of children with painful images and with facts that they cannot reconcile with justice.

What has been said of the influence of the American missionaries, as the first educators and lawmakers among the Hawaiians, is simply a statement of facts which may be corroborated by reference to the archives of the country.

Among books that have been especially helpful in the preparation of this work have been J. J. Jarves's "Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands," W. D. Alexander's "A Brief History of the Hawaiian People," Mrs. Judd's "Honolulu," Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop's "Six Months in the Sandwich Islands," and "The Hawaiian Annual."

M. H. K.

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ALICE'S VISIT TO THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

I. THE VOYAGE

IF, at the time when this story begins, some one had come to Alice Earle and offered to fulfill her dearest wish, she would have asked, without a moment's hesitation, for a trip to Ha-wai'-i. For there was nothing in the world she liked better than traveling, and lately she had heard so much about Hawaii that this was now the place of all places she most longed to see. Imagine her delight, then, when she was told that her parents had decided to take her with them on a visit to the Ha-wai'ian Islands.

Alice was a clever little girl, who knew much more about geography than most children of her age. She was fond of searching for strange cities and countries on the maps in her father's library. She had been told that the Hawaiian Islands lie almost in the middle of the great Pacific Ocean, and, after a careful search, she found them on the map, — a cluster of tiny specks not so large as the letters of their name. The specks were so very small that it was hard for her to realize that Hawaii, the island for which the group was named, is as large as the state of Connecticut, and that upon another island of the group,