

**THE TRANSFORMATION OF
HAWAII: HOW AMERICAN
MISSIONARIES
GAVE A CHRISTIAN NATION TO THE
WORLD. TOLD FOR YOUNG FOLKS**

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The Transformation of Hawaii: How American Missionaries Gave a Christian Nation to the World. Told for Young Folks by Belle M. Brain

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The Transformation of Hawaii

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How American Missionaries
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to the World

TOLD FOR YOUNG FOLKS

BY

BELLE M. BRAIN

Author of "Fuel for Missionary Fires," etc.



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1893

*To the
Dear Young Girls
of the
Alexander Proudfit Mission Band
First Presbyterian Church
Springfield, Ohio
These stories of Hawaiian missionary history
are affectionately dedicated by their leader
"Aloha! Aloha!"*

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I
THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

ALOHA!

The sweet and expressive Hawaiian word *Aloha* means "Love to you!" It is not only a salutation and a farewell, a good-night and a good-morning, but a convenient term that can be fittingly used on every occasion where one wishes to convey all the kindness and good will that can be expressed in human speech.

The Transformation of Hawaii

I

THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

THE Hawaiian Islands, which by the adoption of the annexation resolutions on July 6, 1898, became a part of the United States of America, were added to our territory, not by purchase, nor by conquest, but by the vote of the Hawaiian people, who offered them to us as a gift.

They lie at the "crossroads of the Pacific," more than 2,000 miles from San Francisco and about 3,400 miles from Yokohama, and are the central point in the great network of ocean highways between the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America on the east, and China, Japan, the East Indies, Australia and the islands of the Pacific on the west. They are, therefore, of great importance both commercially and politically.

This new possession of the United States, which is called by the natives Hawaii-nei, orig-

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inally consisted of eight islands, Hawaii, Maui, Lanai, Kahoolawe, Molokai, Oahu, Kauai and Niihau; and four uninhabited islets, Molokini, Lehua, Kaula and Bird Island. The number now included in the group, however, is somewhat larger, the Hawaiian government having increased her territory by annexing several small rocky islands to the far northwest. The aggregate area is 6,640 square miles, a little less than that of the state of New Jersey.

According to Captain C. E. Dutton these islands are the "summits of a gigantic submarine mountain range, their highest mountains rising to nearly 14,000 feet above the ocean, and their bases extending downward to from 15,000 to 18,000 feet below it. Referred to the bottom of the ocean these islands are higher than the Himalayas." They are largely of volcanic origin and have many volcanoes, among them some of the most noted in the world.

Hawaii, the largest island, is ninety miles in length and seventy in breadth, and its area is nearly 4,000 square miles, almost two-thirds of that of the entire group. It boasts the highest mountains of any island in the Pacific, its two snow-capped peaks, Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, each having an altitude of nearly 14,000 feet.