

**THE MASTER PLANTER: OR,  
LIFE IN THE CANE FIELDS  
OF HAWAII; PP. 1-197**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649644469

The Master Planter: Or, Life in the Cane Fields of Hawaii; pp. 1-197 by James W. Girvin

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**JAMES W. GIRVIN**

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# The Master Planter

or

Life in the Cane  
Fields of Hawaii

By

JAMES W. GIRVIN

WITH NOTES BY  
LEVERETT H. MESICK



HONOLULU, HAWAII:  
PRESS OF THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE CO., LTD.  
1910

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## POSTHUMOUS.

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In the year 1906, Mr. James W. Girvin was Librarian for the Hawaiian Gazette Company. Through my connection with the same company, I became well acquainted with Mr. Girvin, and he unfolded to me, at divers times, a mind stored brimful of useful knowledge. Any leisure moment I had I considered well spent in converse with him, especially upon affairs Hawaiian, of which he was a veritable walking encyclopedia. At that time he was working on the closing chapters of "The Master Planter," and through our intimacy I learned much of his ideas and aims in regard to the book; and evidently won his confidence, for he submitted the manuscript to me for criticism and correction from a typographical standpoint.

The press work upon the book was well under way at the time of Mr. Girvin's accidental death from drowning on the 11th of December, 1906. Of course, the work came to a sudden standstill then. Later it was decided to publish the book, following Mr. Girvin's known ideas in regard to it as closely as possible—and a large package of proofsheets and manuscript, just as Mr. Girvin had left it, was entrusted to me for disentanglement and completion. I found the closing words had not been written, or if written were not found—so I have supplied them.

A surprisingly large number of books have been published with something Hawaiian for subject matter—generally indicative of a wide-spread romantic interest in these "Isles of the Blest." Mr. Girvin's "The Master Planter," on the