

**PARADISE IN THE PACIFIC;
A BOOK OF TRAVEL,
ADVENTURE, AND FACTS
IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS**

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Paradise in the Pacific; a book of travel, adventure, and facts in the Sandwich Islands by
William R. Bliss

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WILLIAM R. BLISS

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A Book of

TRAVEL, ADVENTURE, AND FACTS

IN

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

BY WILLIAM R. BLISS.

"Mariner, mariner, furl your sails,
For here are the blissful downs and dales,
And merrily, merrily carol the gales,
And the spangle dances in bight and bay,
And the rainbow forms and flies on the land,
Over the islands free.
Oh! hither, come hither and furl your sails,
And sweet shall your welcome be."

TENNISON.

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1873.

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THE AUTHOR TO THE READER.

I SAILED to the tropics to escape from a Northern winter, not knowing in what port I should finally anchor. I moored at Honolulu, in the Sandwich or Hawaiian Islands; and this book is a result of my sojourn there.

The book is small; but so is the country and so are the people of which it treats, while it is really larger than the importance of that country to any possible future of commerce or civilization. The Hawaiian Islands have occasionally attracted the attention of the American people on account of a political value which they are supposed to possess by their position. They have had the reputation of lying directly in the path of every thing that sails on the Pacific

Ocean. This reputation they have not deserved; for they actually lie remote from the track of all commercial ships, except those carrying coals from Australia to California; and these rarely pass within sight of the group.

Their geographical relation to the line of commerce between our Pacific coast and Asia is analogous to the relation of the Bermuda Islands to the commerce between England and New York, — merely a possible place of refuge. They are a long distance south of the great circle courses steered by steamers between San Francisco and Japan, and by ships sailing east from China to our Western coast.

But they offer a delightful exile and a peaceful life to Hawaiianized Americans, whether invalidated in health, purse, or otherwise. Here I found the true Castle of Indolence, —

“Where labor only was to pass the time;
And labor sore it was, and weary woe.”

Here men and women are unadorned, skies and seas are charming, the daily newspaper is unknown, and it is folly to be wise. And I rep-

ture to think that my book, small as it is, contains all that the reader can desire to know of the people and things in that curious pin-head kingdom of the Pacific, and in its very pleasant capital city of Honolulu.

As a record of TRAVEL, ADVENTURE, AND FACTS IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, I hope the book may be useful to those who journey thither, as well as interesting to that larger number of travelers who must always remain at home, and look at foreign scenes through another's eyes.



