GLEANINGS FROM THE GOLDEN STATE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649313754

Gleanings from the Golden State by Elvira Haskins Holloway

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

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FROM THE

GOLDEN STATE

"A Queen beside the Western Sea Awaits a glorious destiny"

ELVIRA HASKINS HOLLOWAY

Author and Publisher



PRESS OF H. S. CRUCKER COMPANY SAN FRANCISCO

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

The Pioneers of California

46 Native Sons and Daughters
OF THE GOLDEN WEST,"

COM SHEETING THE COMMENTS

BY THE AUTHOR.

Preface.

N the pages of this book, as the title indicates, are glimpses of the beautiful State of California; glimpses of her sublime and picturesque scenery; of her majestic mountains, her noble forests, her mighty cataracts, and natural wonders of the Yosemite Valley; her beautiful lakes that gem the mountains, her mines of virgin gold, her grand and beautiful rivers, her magnificent harbors, her wide-stretching fertile valleys, her fruitful vineyards and her orange groves; her vast domain of everything lovely in Nature, where all the tints of the most beautiful skies that have ever been are seen; the emeralds of all the seas, glorified with the silver light of celestial stars; the glowing purples of all the hills, the exquisite radiance of Orient dawns, the magnificent splendors of golden sunsets, and the ten thousand rainbow glories of the beautiful flowers, strewn with a prodigal hand over this broad Empire of the "Golden West!"

ELVIRA H. HOLLOWAY.

Thanks.

To the OVERLAND MONTHLY, the OAKLAND HOME INSURANCE Co., and others who generously assisted the writer with illustrations for this volume, I desire in this public manner to express my earnest thanks and grateful appreciation.

Also sincere and grateful thanks to Miss BAKER for the figurative, artistic design of the frontispiece. Very sincerely, E. H. H.



"QUEEN OF THE PACIFIC."

"Queen of the Pacific."

A Queen beside the Western Sea Awaits a glorious destiny;

Her sandals flecked with glistening spray, From white-caps tossing on the bay.

Her face uplifted, like a star, Gleaming above the heights afar;

She guards the commerce of the sea, And waits her glories yet to be!

Upon her brow a crown of gold That sunset rays with glory rolled;

Her purple garments trailing o'er The silver sands along the shore;

Her vesture broidered o'er with flowers From nature's lovely fragrant bowers,

She thus in proud array doth wait, Enthroned within the Golden Gate.

From coffers rich at her command, Bestows her wealth with gracious hand;

Where e'er distress is hovering nigh, Her golden eagles quickly fly!

While nations far and near, I ween, Pay tribute to Pacific's Queen.

California.

Amid the beauty of the sunsets beside the Western sea,
There is a land of glorious promise,—fair California!
Where, with majestic grandeur mountains lift their summits high,
Unto the azure realms of a peerless, sunlit sky;
And purple walled they stand amid the sunset's golden glow,
Looking down on grand old forests and the ocean far below.

Looking down on wave-like hills, sleeping amid the dreamy calm Of the beauteous summer time, and on the stately palm, With green fronds rustling in the breeze wasted from o'er the sea, With balmy breath of odors sweet, from far off India;—While Flora smiles with wealth of bloom, with grace and beauty rare, Crowning the hills and sunny vales with garlands fresh and fair.

Her silken tresses rivaling the sunbeam's molten glow,

Wreathed o'er with amaranths that bloom near mountains veiled

with snow;

With lilies of the valley twined with roses fair and sweet, And purple heather blooms from Diablo's vine-clad feet; Her trailing emerald robe with meadow daisies starred;— She walks in sunshine o'er the hills, her banner crimson barred.

Looking down on fertile valleys, over fields of waving grain, On golden-fruited orange groves that skirt her vast domain, On orchards with their scented bloom, and on the thrifty vines That bear rich promise of the yield of sparkling ruby wines, On crystal streams that flow o'er gleaming golden sand. On singing rills and fountains that rejoice the grateful land,