

**AN ACCOUNT OF THE POLYNESIAN  
RACE: ITS ORIGINS AND MIGRATIONS,  
AND THE ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE  
HAWAIIAN PEOPLE TO THE TIMES OF  
KAMEHAMENA I, VOL. I**

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An Account of the Polynesian Race: Its Origins and Migrations, and the Ancient History of the Hawaiian People to the Times of Kamehamena I, Vol. I by Abraham Fornander

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**ABRAHAM FORNANDER**

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AN ACCOUNT

OF

THE POLYNESIAN RACE.

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AN ACCOUNT  
OF  
THE POLYNESIAN RACE  
ITS ORIGIN AND MIGRATIONS  
AND THE  
*ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE  
TO THE TIMES OF KAMEHAMEHA I.*

BY  
ABRAHAM FERNANDEZ,  
CIRCUIT JUDGE OF THE ISLAND OF MAUI, ILL.

VOL. I.

LONDON:  
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1878.

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"As made up of legendary accounts of places and personages, it (mythology) is history; as relating to the genea of the gods, the nature and adventures of divinities, it is religion."—*Native Races of the Pacific States*, H. H. Bancroft, vol. iii, p. 44.

"It is now a recognised principle of philosophy, that no religious belief, however crude, nor any historical tradition, however absurd, can be held by the majority of a people for any considerable time as true, without having in the beginning some foundation in fact." . . . "We may be sure that there never was a myth without a meaning; that mythology is not a bundle of ridiculous fancies invented for vulgar amusement; that there is not one of those stories, no matter how silly or absurd, which was not founded in fact, which did not once hold a significance."—*Ibid.*, vol. iii, pp. 16, 17.

"The fact of an immigration, and the quarter from which it came, are handed down from father to son, and can scarcely be corrupted or forgotten, unless in the case where the people sink into absolute barbarism."—*Essay ii.* book vii. of *Herodotus*, edited by G. Rawlinson.



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TO MY DAUGHTER  
CATHERINE KAONOHIULAOKALANI FORNANDER,

**This Work**

IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED,  
AS A REMINDER OF HER MOTHER'S ANCESTORS

AND AS

A TOKEN OF HER FATHER'S LOVE.

AER. FORNANDER.



Stephen Spaulding Mann, Coll  
Patten Co  
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3 vol.

## PREFACE.

—•—

WHEN a gentleman, whose genius and talents have secured for himself one of the curule chairs in the republic of letters, introduces a blushing aspirant, his name becomes a voucher for the respectability of the latter, and his "*favete linguis*" ensures an attentive hearing until the close of the performance. But we are not all born with a silver spoon, and many an author, like myself, has had to bear the double burden of introducing himself as well as his subject. But when a writer presents himself with new discoveries, and new ideas based upon them, the reader has a right to inquire who the writer is, and if his discoveries are genuine, before he exercises his judgment upon the ideas submitted for his acceptance. It is meet and proper, therefore, on entering upon ground so little travelled as that of Polynesian Archaeology, on presenting myths and legends to the inspection of the literary world some of which have never darkened a sheet of paper before, that I should state my right to present them, how I came by them, and also the lights which guided and the aids which assisted me on the journey.