OUR TROPICAL ISLANDS.

(Extracts from a letter to our reporter from Mrs. W. B. White.)

MOANA HOTEL, Waikiki Beach
Honolulu, Jan. 7, 1904.

DEAR MRS. MILLER:—

We reached here Tuesday afternoon about two o'clock, after a pleasant and comfortable voyage on the Nippon Marn from San Francisco. We were out six days and a half. I would like to say a good word for this nice little steamer and its officers. She only carries 6,000 tons and sailed over the crest of the waves like a seagull. The ship was most beautifully kept and commanded. Two days before reaching Honolulu the officers, many of the passengers and attendants put on white duck suits, sat on deck without wraps, and the ladies welcomed the return to thin shirt waists.

We had glorious moonlight nights and the reflection and sheen on the water was beautiful. The stars looked larger and the moon brighter, it seemed to me, than I had ever seen them.

As we neared the shore natives were swimming around the vessel calling for money to be thrown to them. They are remarkable divers and seem to get the money every time. One fellow was a splendid specimen of his race. Great sinews and muscles stood out, showing his strength, tawny black hair which every now and then he would shake off his forehead, lustrous black eyes and good white teeth. Altogether a good representative of his race.

We are stopping at the Moana Hotel. It is on the beach and beautifully located. The dining room looks out on the sea, and on the other side of the hotel you get a view of the mountains, with the ever changing lights and shadows. To give you a pen picture of this "Paradise of the Pacific" will require much condensing. It is a perfect paradise. The weather is like our July and August at home with the exception of the trade winds, which gives a balmy atmosphere The temperature varies but little the year around, everything is green the entire year.

Imagine driving for miles over macadamized streets with tropical trees and shrubbery everywhere you look. Pretty cottages of every kind, large and small, with grounds filled with tropical trees, berries of all kinds, large and small, flowers, vines of wonderful growth and beauty. The plume fern, which is so rare with us, grows everywhere here. The people seem to take pleasure in keeping their grounds and shrubbery in nice condition The hedges of poinciana with a vivid red star-like flower, are very attractive. Also a beautifully varigated leaved hedge.

Yesterday Mr. White and I took a very interesting drive over the Pali, which leads up the mountain to the palisades "which reverberated the echoes of the clash of spears, the roar of cannon and the shouts of the men in the mighty battle of Nunanu, where the conquerer, Kauaehameha pressed his foes foot by foot up to and over the awful precipice."

The view from that point was magnificent. The ocean is seen for miles and miles, with white crested waves beating against the beach. One cannot do justice to such a scene.

The native fruits are numerous, the aligator pear, bananas, bread fruit, China orange, cocoanut, figs, grapes, guava lime, mango, ohelo, ohia, opapaia, etc., to the number of 46 different kinds of fruit. A dish called poi, which is served like a cereal for breakfast, is something like a beet in size, only it is light gray in color. It is cooked and mashed, served with sugar and cream, and it is not to be despised.

Originally poi bowls were made of natural wood called Koha, which admitted of a high polish, like mahogony. They are now quite scarce and consequently very expensive. The schools of Honolulu are of the best.

We expect to sail from here the fourteenth of January on the Siberia for Hong Kong, stopping a day at Yokohama, and other places on the way, a day at a time. We will be over twenty days at sea from here to Hong Kong. After some time in China we will come back to Japan. Mr. White is delighted with this tropical climate. Everyone grows indolent here and does not feel like rushing around.

Japanese and Chinese servants are in the majority. The Japs are very neat and competent waiters, and chambermaids, dressed in white, always look neat and clean.

I have copied a poem which describes Hawaii so beautifully I take the liberty of enclosing it to you;

HAWAII.

Where the sunshine only gladdens,
where the rain falls but to bless
Where the breezes, ocean laden, greet
you with a fond caress,
Where the swift canoes are gliding o'er
the emerald tinted waves,
Where, through depth of liquid sapphire opals gleam in coral caves,
Where the "golden shower" is bending
to the zephyr's faintest sigh,
Where the moonlight's silver radiance
floods the cool sea girt lanai,
Where the rainbows span the valleys,
arching o'er the verdure bright.
Where the water leaps to join them,
dancing from its rocky height,
Where the cocoa palms are reaching
heavenward, for evermore,
As, like sentinels, they listen to the serf
beat on the shore.
Where the sunset trails its splendor o'er
the waters of the west,
Where the sunrise, rosy tinted, gilds
the mountains snowy crest.
Where the summer is immortal there,
beneath an azure sky,
Circled by a sea of beauty, floats that
land of love—Hawaii.

—By Anna M. Paris.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE NO. 90.

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the City Council of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, having ordered that Broadway, in said city, from its intersection with the west line of Sheridan Road, otherwise known as Port Clinton Avenue, west to a point twelve and one-half (12½) feet west of the center line of Oak street produced south in its course across said Broadway, and Oak street, from its junction with the north line of the paved roadway as hereinafter provided on Broadway, north to the south line of Walker avenue, otherwise known as Sheridan Road, be graded, drained, paved with macadam and otherwise improved. The ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the City Clerk of said city, and having applied to the County Court of Lake county for an assessment of the costs of said improvement according to benefits, and an assessment thereof having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be had on the ninth day of February, A. D. 1904, or as soon thereafter as the business of the court will permit.

Said assessment is payable in ten (10) installments with interest at the rate of five (5) per centum per annum on all installments from and after date of first voucher. All persons desiring may file objections in said court before said day, and may appear on the hearing and make their defense.

JOHN NEWMAN FINNEY,
Officer appointed to make said assement.

Dated at Highland Park, Ill., January 23 A. D. 1904.

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Insertions in this column.
30 words or less, one insertion. .25
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