

followed by ninety thousand others, and to-day some scare-mongers are trying to stampede the United States into thinking that these are preparing to rise up some nice morning and invite Uncle Sam to move on.

Captain Cook, in a British ship, discovered and explored these Islands and met his death on Hawaii. Captain Geo. Vancouver, to whom British Columbia owes so much, twice visited them and was the adviser and friend of Kamehameha the first great king. He introduced cattle and sheep and is still remembered as a friend and helper of the people. In the archives at Honolulu is a letter from Captain Vancouver to the British Sovereign, describing his dealings with the natives and his plans for them.

Later, for some months, the British flag flew over the Islands, but they were restored again when the authorities in Britain were convinced of the injustice of the seizure. Among the first white settlers were a number of British people and the Hawaiians have always looked with admiration and affection upon Great Britain. The old Hawaiian flag was based upon the Union Jack. Hawaii might easily have been a British possession had the Home Office so desired. Her ultimate absorption by some power was a matter of course. Because of her strategic position the sailors of all nations made her the football of their passions and caprices and made the steady development of the nation economically and morally impossible.

It was well for her and well for the United States when that great Republic annexed Hawaii. Henceforth she is sure of stable conditions and an ample market for all she produces. Though the monarchy has passed away and the old, care-free days are past, the best of the Hawaiians are glad to be a part of the United States.

The American people have so much faith in the strategic importance of these islands that they are spending ten million dollars fortifying Pearl Harbor, and other millions in establishing three great military posts on Oahu, the capital Island of the group. Everywhere you go the sailor and the soldier is in evidence, and the varied life of the community is rendered still more picturesque by their presence. It is said that Hawaii is soon to become the Pacific naval and military base. With its increasing commerce and grow-