KAPIOLANI: A TALE OF HAWAII

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Kapiolani: A Tale of Hawaii by M. E. Welsh

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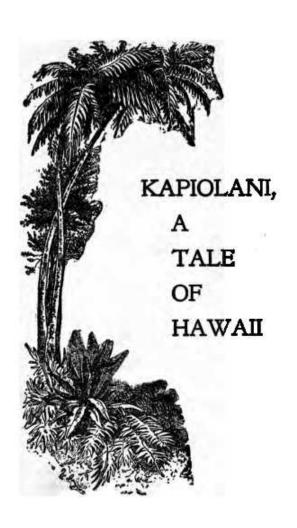
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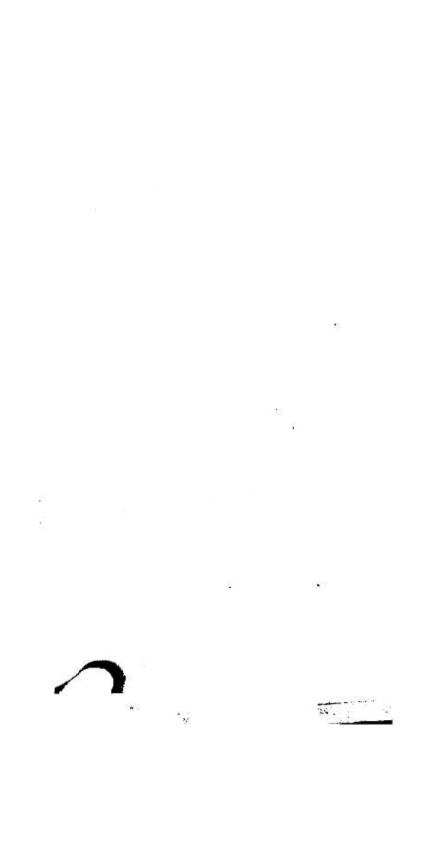
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M. E. WELSH

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KAPIOLANI.

I.

WHERE the island of Hawaii

Is encircled by the great sea,
And the fires of Mauna Loa,
Like a deep and red aurora
On the midnight sky reflected,
Mariners have oft directed
From afar upon the ocean,
There with violent commotion
The plutonic agitation
Held in fear a savage nation.

Breaking from the seething fountain

Breaking from the seething fountain Molten lava down the mountain Rushing like a fiery river Overflowing plains that quiver, Falls at last from high cliffs pouring With a strange and mighty roaring.

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Kapiolani,

And the snorting floods retreating Toss their manes in wrathful greeting. There with triple guard surrounded Burns and smokes a lake unsounded, Where, 'twas said that, Pele raging And in hellish dance engaging With the demons that attend her, Vengeful 'gainst each bold offender Of her dread tabu, from the surging Of the fiery waves emerging And the flaming billows swelling Of KILAUEA, her dwelling, Oft with death and devastation In her passionate elation Shaking all the land and ocean, Rushed with great terrific motion,

There amid the rolling thunder Of the lava heaved asunder, Molten mass on black walls dashing, Lurid flattes in frightful flashing, Hurled by them by Pele bidden, From the cavern deep and hidden, Angry flames in fitful gleaming, Cut the murky vapors steaming





A Tale of Hawaii.

From the pit, its depths concealing.

And where o'er the ledge congealing
Streams the shrouds of Pele's long hair
In the rarified and cold air
Dark clouds hung her wrath reflecting,
So that all her power respecting
Came with off'ring and oblation,
Came with tribute of a nation
To avert her wrath impending,
Stay her anger death portending.

There upon the isle Hawaii Brave, dark queen, Kapiolani, Subject of my rhyming story, Won herself immortal glory.

Kapiolani,

And the snorting floods retreating Toss their manes in wrathful greeting. There with triple guard surrounded Burns and smokes a lake unsounded, Where, 'twas said that, Pele raging And in hellish dance engaging With the demons that attend her, Vengeful 'gainst each bold offender Of her dread tabu, from the surging Of the fiery waves emerging And the flaming billows swelling Of KILAUEA, her dwelling, Oft with death and devastation In her passionate elation Shaking all the land and ocean, Rushed with great terrific motion.

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Of the lava heaved asunder,
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