

“Statue of Kamehameha, Honolulu”

(located at in the Hawaiian Islands)

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According to this article:

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Peggy B. Perazzo
Email: pbperazzo@comcast.net
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Statue of Kamehameha, Honolulu.

Among the few examples of statuary in the Hawaiian Islands, the best is that of Kamehameha, of which we give an illustration. It stands in front of the National Palace at Honolulu, the capital of the Sandwich Islands. The statue represents an early specimen of the genus "King," who exercised the functions pertaining to that office over these islanders. The base or pedestal is constructed of granite, the statue itself is of bronze, as are also the bas-reliefs. It is life size, and the monument stands about 25 feet high. A curious history attaches itself to this statue, and it is the second casting made of the figure, the first one having suffered shipwreck and supposed loss. The second casting was ordered and was set up, about a decade ago. But it afterwards happened that the sea gave up its treasure in the shape of the original, and this was erected on another of the islands of the group.

The Hawaiian islands have little of interest in the way of monumental work. The history of their civilized life is of so comparatively short a period, and the natural characteristics of the country and people are such, that it is only since trade with this country began to develop in magnitude that anything in the shape of permanent buildings have been erected in the capital city of Honolulu. A few stone structures in the business parts of the city and the government buildings stand to attest advancing business prosperity, but beyond this, and the scattering warehouses at the centers of production, the semi-tropical conditions prevail. The climate is so delightful, and the natives generally so simple in their tastes that the dwelling houses of the masses are primitive. They live mostly out of doors. The Anglo-Saxon foreigners, of course, indulge in more civilized methods and control the conditions to meet their necessities. Trade is grow-

ing, but the resources of the islands, except in sugar, are not yet developed to any great extent. Shipping facilities have greatly increased, the tonnage having been bought from the United States, with which a large amount of the commerce of the islands is done.

On the subject of the shipping trade, it appears that whereas in 1875, the inter-island trading business was done by a few schooners and one small



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steamer, it has now twenty-two steamers and a number of sailing vessels. Since that time the United States has sold to Hawaii nineteen steamers and twenty sailing vessels for internal trade alone, at a cost of \$1,003,500. In all the American ship-builders have built thirty-nine vessels for the inter-island and twenty-six for the foreign trade, for which they have received \$3,189,500.