

A Narrative of Life on the Gilbert Islands an Out of the Way Group of the South Pacific.

By Robert Louis Stevenson.

Copyright 1891. BUTARITARI, Aug. 15.—[Special to THE BEE].—At Honolulu we had said farewell to the ...

The whole extent of the South Seas is desert of ships, more especially that part where we were now to sail. No post runs in these islands; communication is by accident.

The two chief places of our stay, Butaritari and Apemama, lie near the line; the latter within thirty miles. Both enjoy a superb ocean climate, days of blinding sun and bracing wind, nights of a heavenly brightness.

The Women Wear Clothes. Women no longer go unclothed till marriage; the wife no longer sits at night and goes abroad by day with the skull of her dead husband.

Populous and independent—warrens of men ruled over by a few chiefs—such was the first and still the recurring impression of these tiny lands.

The laagoon is a shoal. The tide being in, we waded for some quarter of a mile in tepid shallows, and stepped ashore at last into a fragrant stagnancy of sun and heat.

The houses were of all dimensions, from those of toys to those of churches. Some might hold a battalion; some no more than a pair of lovers.

The King the Executioner. The fear of Nakaia filled the land. No regularly of justice was affected; there was no trial, there were no officers of the law.

The Royal Palace. This was our first advertisement of the royal dignity; and presently we stood before its seat and center. The palace is built of imported wood upon a European plan.

The King's Pasture. The canal is formed on the south by a pier or causeway with parapet. At the far end the parapet determines, and the quay ex-

posed, who tolled and waded there like fisher lasses; but the man who was to do the fishing dared not begin till they had finished, lest by chance he should look down and see them.

Fall of the Haram. It was perhaps the last appearance of the harem gang. For some time already Hawaiian missionaries had been seated at Butaritari—Masa and Kanaa, two brave, childlike men.

Behold, the King! In front of this, upon some mats, lolled Teururoa, the king, or behind him, on the panels of the house, two crossed rifles represented faces.

But my love was stronger by far than the love. Of the dude from the Hub could be; and neither the angels in heaven above.

MONARCHS OF THE HEARTH. First Lessons in Religion. New York (The Herald) Little Florence, a year old—her mamma was trying to explain to her infant mind, in reply to her question, "Who is God?"

The Baby. The little tottering baby foot. With fattering steps and slow. With pattering echoes soft and sweet.

Faith in Prayer. A little Detroit girl of 4 years of age, says the Free Press, has been taught to pray for all kinds of blessings, which she would then execute alone and return well pleased with her connubial crew.

A Harem Scandal. In the days of Nakaia the palace was a wretched enclosure. It chanced one evening, while Nakaia sat below at supper with his wives, that the owner of the grove was in a treetop drawing palm-tree wine.

Easy to Guess. "And how old are you, my little man?" "Six years old," he promptly replied.

Trial Before Taking. "Johnny," said the humorous gentleman, "give me your little brother. You don't want him any longer, and I'll make a man of him."

A Sad Excuse. Baltimore American: A small boy in one of our colored schools came to his teacher to apologize for continuing his truancy absence.

Juvenile Giblets. Little Betty's father had just engaged a new gardener, and he had told her his name was Augustus. The next morning the little girl walked up to the new arrival and said very sweetly, "Good morning, April."

George Washington Lincoln Grant Richardson, a Jersey City youth, somnambulant, as it were, and it is thus proven whatever else may or may not be in a name, it is as useless as ballast.

George Kohrbach, a leading youngster of 7 years, weighs 120 pounds and is forty inches around the chest—much more than his father. George, at birth, weighed sixteen pounds, and a year and a half later tipped the scales at sixty pounds.

Tommy—What did you get on your birthday? Jakey—Nothing! Never got anything since the first one, and then I only got born.

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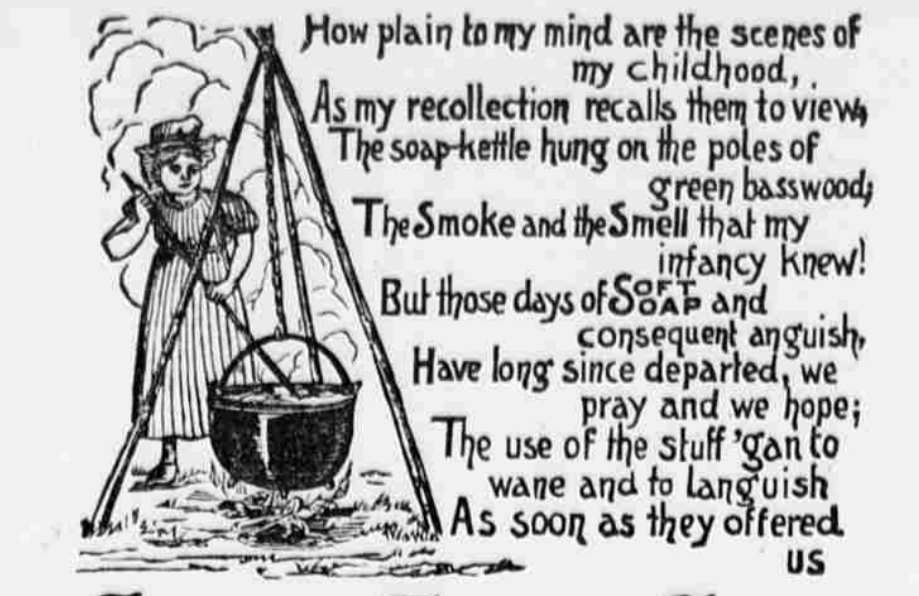
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How plain to my mind are the scenes of my childhood, As my recollection recalls them to view, The soap-kettle hung on the poles of green basswood.

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