

What I Saw in the Tropics: A Record of Visits to Ceylon, the Federated Malay States, Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Republic of Panama, Colombia, Jamaica, Hawaii (Classic Reprint)

Henry C. Pearson



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Excerpt from What I Saw in the Tropics: A Record of Visits to Ceylon, the Federated Malay States, Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Republic of Panama, Colombia, Jamaica, Hawaii

I Hate to write a preface, in fact I always resolve not to, and then do it. When I brought out "Crude Rubber and Compounding Ingredients," a captious friend complained that it was too matter of fact, - that it "lacked imagination." As it was practically a dictionary of methods of rubber manufacture, I did not care, that is, I did care, but didn't show it. This book is different. The story of rubber planting is most romantic and at the same time as a whole is sound and successful. I should like to stop a bit just here to say to a lot of good fellows who smiled at my predictions ten years ago - "I told you so." But they have forgotten, and if they haven't, - whats the use?

Starting again, this book is not a scientific treatise. It contains the personal experiences of the author "dished up in his inimitable style" (note the quotation marks), in his search for rubber planting information in the tropical world.

As a scientific treatise it may be scorned by some intellectual ones who have a string of letters following their names - (I wish I had them myself) but whose attenuated digestive organs preclude the possibility of wedding fun with fact.

At all events the statements regarding rubber made herewith are facts and can be gambled on. As to my personal experiences and adventures, think of them as you like.

Another word - I want to thank planters the world over, for their interest and hospitality, but then they know that too, and if I called them all by name here this book would contain a three hundred page preface.

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