Editor's Preface

The manuscript of *Nine Doctors and God* was presented for publication after Dr. Halford's death. Examination of his files indicated that it had been condensed from a version nearly twice its present length. Further condensation was found unnecessary. The editing consisted largely of reorganizing the material from a strictly chronological order into one in which a chapter is devoted exclusively to each of the nine physicians, a change which was not without certain structural disadvantages.

Dr. Halford's correspondence showed that he had searched diligently but unsuccessfully for a photograph of Dr. Blatchley. He, Dr. Chapin, and Dr. Andrews are the only doctors of the nine without living descendants. The author failed also to locate a picture showing Dr. Andrews at the time when he practiced medicine in Hawaii. The only likenesses available show him as he appeared long after he returned to New England. New efforts by the editor met with no greater success. Thus the book contains no photographs of these two physicians.

Blatchley is the spelling which appears in most printed references to the Islands' second missionary physician. However, the author's spelling has been changed to Blatchely, which is the way the doctor signed himself in letters to be found in the Hawaiian Mission Children's Society Library.

Dr. Halford must have been aware that regarding many of the episodes which he related there were variant and sometimes contradictory versions, each with its own defenders. The editor has respected the version which the author chose for his account.

Dr. Halford's files contained only a fragmentary bibliography and few references other than those in the text. The bibliography which appears in the appendix was built up from names of authors and publications referred to in the files and is by no

means representative of the extensiveness of Dr. Halford's research. Quotations in the text have been checked with recognizable sources, though in many instances this was impossible because their origin was unknown and time did not permit the exhaustive research necessary to locate them. The files reveal the names of many persons who gave the author advice, assistance, and encouragement. Among these were Miss Bertha Bloomfield-Brown, Mr. Keville Larson, Mr. Nard Jones, Mrs. Sally Pullman, Dr. Arthur V. Molyneux, Miss Gwenfread E. Allen, Mr. George Mellen, Dr. and Mrs. I. S. Ravdin, Miss Sadako Mimura, Meiric K. Dutton, and the Reverend Henry P. Judd.

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