

## FACTS ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES.

THE Philippines are essentially heterogenous. Some of the islands are mountainous, and others are flat; some are muddy, swampy, and feverish, others are porous limestone, well-drained and healthy; some are entirely wooded, some are entirely bare.

The inhabitants present like divergence. The Moros of the south are warlike, active, intelligent, with a civilization as advanced as Turkey's. The Negritos are a diseased and dying pigmy tribe, absolutely animal in their existence, less advanced than any known people. The term "Filipino" embraces Manila rabble and secluded islanders, mountaineers and seamen, priests and the cannibals. It is necessary, therefore, to use only the broadest terms in describing the group collectively.

The archipelago is a group of 1,200 islands situated in the Pacific Ocean, extending from latitude 21 degrees north to 4 degrees 45 minutes north. Its length is thus about 1,000 miles; its greatest width is 640 miles; the total land area, approximately, 115,000 square miles. The nearest mainland is Asia, 300 miles to the northeast. San Francisco is 8,000 miles to the west. The archipelago lies wholly within the line of Capricorn and the equator. Its characteristics, food products, and people are tropical.

The climate is hot and moist; regular observations have been taken only at Manila, where the temperature has been found to vary between 60 and 100 degrees. The excessive humidity makes this degree more difficult to endure than in the temperate zones. As one progresses toward the swampy, low-lying islands farther south the heat, and especially the humidity, increases greatly.

There are two seasons, the wet and dry—the former lasting from June to November—being the most disagreeable and dangerous to health. Fever and dysentery are the diseases most dreaded by foreigners, but dangerous localities are known and may be avoided.

The Philippines are the seat of nature's passions. Earthquakes are common and violent; the volcanoes are the most dangerous in the world. Luzon is the cradle of that terrible sea storm, the typhoon.

### Islands' External History.

On Aug. 10, 1519, there started from Spain with a fleet of five ships Fernando Magellan, a Portuguese navigator. His object was to discover a passage from Europe, west to the Pacific. Magellan had vainly endeavored to interest the King of Portugal in his project; had become a naturalized Spaniard, and had obtained from Charles I., of Spain the wherewithal to equip his fleet.

He reached the western coast of South America in December and turned south. As the season became harsher and the weather colder the ships' commanders mutined, desiring to winter on shore. One was executed, another marooned. However, one ship did desert and another was wrecked. With three ships the great explorer continued south, and on Oct. 28, 1520, passed through the Straits of Magellan to the waters of the Pacific. He now shaped his course west by north, and in midsummer, 1521, reached Mindanao, of which he took possession in the name of the King of Spain. He next landed at Cebu, in August, 1521, and was welcomed by the king of the island. This monarch was baptized and took the oath of allegiance to Spain. Shortly after Magellan became involved in a factional quarrel between two native chieftains and was killed. Many members of the expedition had died, but the remainder, with two ships, again sailed west and discovered Palawan. Later one of the two was lost, but the other pluckily continued its way and made the first complete journey around the world.

In 1565, under the direction of Philip II., the second Spanish expedition reached the islands. The object was the saving of native souls; inquisition methods were employed, and conversions, though not valuable, were numerous. In 1571 Manila was seized and proclaimed the capital of the islands, to be called henceforth the *Islas Filipinas*, in honor of King Philip.

The Chinese Emperor resented the intrusion into celestial domains. Between 1573 and 1575 he sent forth ten expeditions to oust the Spaniards. Severe battles followed, but the Europeans managed to keep their foothold. They never, however, forgave the Chinese these attempts. At various times fits of resentment against Chinese blood would sweep over the Spaniards and crusades were organized in order to kill or drive them out. In 1603 23,000 were murdered, and in 1639 35,000. In 1762 England took Manila from Spain, but peace was soon proclaimed, and the islands were returned.

The natives have been apt to revolt at any time. When they did so Spain used fire and sword liberally, not only to subdue, but to punish after surrender.

### Resources of the Islands.

The resources of the islands are varied. Rice was introduced from

China centuries ago. It has since become the staple food of the natives on account of the ease with which it is produced. The quality is excellent. At present all the rice produced is consumed in the islands, but much good land is not cultivated.

Sugar cane is grown extensively throughout the archipelago. Of late years beet sugar has cut into the profits of this business, but with the removal of the various Spanish export taxes, with the superseding of buffalo power by steam, and with the opening up of the back country by railroads, or at least highroads, the Philippine plantations will reduce the present Haue-meyer prices.

Abaca, or hemp, is grown widely. The gathering of abaca is an operation necessitating considerable care and conscientiousness. The natives possess neither of these qualifications, and, employing primitive methods, ruin the finer fiber of the plant. Observers say that machinery capable of preserving these delicate fibers is feasible. In that case abaca could be used for garments, napkins, sheets, and even handkerchiefs. At present the hemp is used chiefly for sails, doormats, and rope. The Philippines will probably retain a practical monopoly of this crop; its cultivation has been attempted in many other places, but never successfully except in the extreme northern part of Borneo.

Native tobacco has always been indigenous to Luzon, but the quality is strong and bitter. Early in the seventeenth century missionaries introduced the Mexican plant with great success. Tobacco plantations multiplied; the business became more and more prosperous until in 1781 it was made a state monopoly. Laws were enacted that all sales should be to the government. A planter might not smoke a cigar of his own make under penalty of \$7 fine. The government was not always prompt to pay for goods received; natives refused to cultivate their land and fled to the mountains; soldiers followed and killed whom they found; at night the natives returned again and fired the crops in the field. In this way Mindoro's once flourishing business has been annihilated. Spain now took another step; not only must all tobacco raised be sold to the state buyers (on credit), but every family should own and care for at least 4,000 tobacco plants. The abuses resulting from this last statute became so horrible that even Spanish officials protested to the home government; the Castilian statesmen, realizing the sponge was squeezed dry, repealed the monopoly

laws in 1882. Even under such auspices the tobacco remained excellent. Since the business has been open it has increased tremendously. Manila numbers scores of factories—native, Chinese, and Spanish; several of them have over 500 operatives.

Coffee is grown to a considerable extent; the quality is unusually good. Little, however, finds its way out of the archipelago. The cocoa plant was introduced from Central America early in the seventeenth century. Philippine chocolate is always spoken of well by returned travelers.

Various minerals are found in paying quantities. Especially is this true of Luzon and Mindanao. Gold and sulphur will prove of value to prospectors; silver, mercury, copper and tin have furnished returns, but the extent of the deposits is a matter of investigation.

On many islands the ax has never been raised against the immense virgin forests; in few have its depredations been extensive. Over a hundred different varieties of wood have been classified. Among them we find teak; naga, resembling mahogany; tipolo, for musical instruments; lanitan, for guitars and violins; boxwood, ebony and bamboo.

**The Inhabitants.**

The inhabitants of these islands are a strangely mixed lot. Malay characteristics generally prevail throughout. The many attempts to classify the peoples into various district tribes and races have failed, for the reason that pure blood of any sort is rare.

It is safest to divide the native Filipinos into Christianized Malays, pagan Malays, and Mohammedan Malays. The first named comprise five and a half millions of the total population of eight millions. They resemble our negroes in many ways. They are music lovers, fond of the sunshine, superstitious. Though usually good-natured, they are subject to fits of murderous passion. Nature in the tropics is so industrious that man need not assist her to any great extent in order to live comfortably. The Filipino will not work as long as he is not about to starve. When he has made enough to live on for a month or two the ex-laborer retires to his thatched hut, smokes his cigarettes, fights his gamecock, strums his guitar, and sings love songs to his wife or sweetheart.

The natives of the northern islands are called Tagalos. They are the smallest and least brave, but also most treacherous and tricky of the Filipinos, and always have been reckoned as the poorest fighters; have always been most completely under Spain's domina-

tion, and have suffered most accordingly.

The central group of islands is termed the Visaya group. The inhabitants—called Visayos—are somewhat larger, stronger, more independent than the Tagalos. The difference, however, is far less marked than between our different Indian tribes. Travelers, in order to strengthen the force of their distinctions and comparisons, are apt to push them a little far. The sharply drawn distinction between the Tagalos and the Visayos is not justified.

The Moros or Mohammedan Malays aggregate less than a million. They inhabit the Sulu group at the south of the archipelago, parts of Mindanao, and the southern third of Palawan. One Sultan, whose residence is Sulu, is acknowledged throughout these islands. The Moros are a fierce, fanatical, seafaring race, who were never conquered by Spain. It is unsafe for a white man to venture among them. To kill Christians is part of their religious belief.

The aborigines of the islands are the Negritos, a puny, miserable, dwarf race. As the Malays swept up through the archipelago the Negritos were driven into the most remote and unexplored parts. Though not of true negro stock, they are much blacker than the Malays, and their intelligence is far lower. The total number is estimated at 50,000.

**Island of Luzon.**

Luzon is the largest, most populous, most developed, and most civilized of the Philippines. It has an area of 42,000 square miles, or over one-third the whole area of the archipelago, about five-eighths of the whole population, the only railroad, and the only factories. It is the seat of the capital, and it contains fifty times as many foreigners as all the rest of the islands put together. Luzon is supposed to support 5,000,000 inhabitants. Of these, 80 per cent. are civilized to a certain extent.

In development, Luzon, though the most advanced of the Philippines, is disgracefully backward. There is one little, badly managed railroad, 120 miles in length. The highroads, twenty miles inland, are either lacking altogether or are merely trails. There are no flat-bottomed steamers on the larger rivers, though they could do a thriving business. The sugar mills are operated by buffalo power. In consequence, partially exhausted sugar land near Manila, or other ports, brings over \$100 an acre, while further back in the country land a third more fertile brings \$30.

A coincidence is the antiquated plea of the plagiarist.

COMPREHENSIVE MAP OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.



## HONORS A HERO.

Pennsylvania's Tribute to Hartranft, Soldier and Statesman.

The statue of Gen. Hartranft, which stands in front of the new Capitol Building, in Harrisburg, Pa., was recently unveiled with proper ceremonies and a large attendance. Gen. Hartranft and members of the cabinet were present.



GEN. HARTRANFT.

This monument has been erected by the State of Pennsylvania at a cost of \$150,000. The sculptor has not modeled the hero on the field of battle leading his division in a charge or encouraging his men during one of the many sanguinary struggles fought with varying success by the Army of the Potomac. The "hero of Fort Mifflin" is represented returning to his



THE HARTRANFT MONUMENT.

native town amid the plaudits of the populace, who strew the way with laurel and with palm. The gesture of the soldier proclaims that he is answering the salutations of the people; the motion of his hand containing his cap is arrested at the end of the sweep that lifted it from his head.

## GREATEST BEAUTY OF PARIS.

Leaves a Music Hall to Become the Bride of a Proud Russian Prince.

The most petted and admired beauty in Paris, La Cavalleri, is now a princess. For months past Prince Bariatinski, a young Russian of a famous family and of great wealth, has been wooing the pretty Parisienne, and



LA CAVALLERI.

finally won her hand and heart. After their marriage the couple went to Rome.

Prince Bariatinski comes of a family that is now and has long been very prominent in Russia. The Bariatinskis are now very rich and possess estates, mines and other properties throughout Russia.

The Princess Bariatinski, who has hitherto been known by no other name than La Cavalleri, is a rare beauty. For a long time the Parisians have been raving over the beauty of this woman. As a singer she was not much of a success, but her remarkable beauty always attracted a large concourse to the hall where she appeared.

## No Long-Distance Wooer.

Rudyard Kipling's maternal grandfather was Rev. George E. Macdonald. It is related of him that in the days when he was courting the lady whom he afterward married the father-in-law-to-be—an aged Methodist, with extremely strict notions in regard to the proprieties—was injudicious enough on one occasion to enter the parlor without giving any warning of his approach. The consequence was that he found the sweethearts occupying a single chair. Deeply shocked by this spectacle, the old man solemnly said: "Mr. Macdonald, when I was courting Mrs. Brown she sat on one side of the room and I on the other." Macdonald's reply was: "That's what I should have done if I had been courting Mrs. Brown."

## Quick Photography.

A Sheridan (Mo.) photographer says he has discovered a process by means of which a proof of a photograph may be taken within a few moments after the sitting.

What has become of the old-fashioned woman who laid aside the cakes and fruit she received at a party to take home to her children?

If a man leaves no debts to his children he leaves an inheritance that is good enough.