\*0:15 A. ML

\*7:00 P. M.

## FARMING LANDS OF PHILIPPINES

Odd Features of Country Life Observed by Correspondent Carpenter-Indomitable "Joe" Wheeler.

(Copyright, 1900, by Frank G. Carpenter.) caribou now, with a great white crane PANIQUE, Feb. 7, 1900.—I have been ridg all day through one of the richest, other, with a crow on its back. Each bird PANIQUE, Feb. 7, 1900.-I have been riding all day through one of the richest valleys of this Island of Luzon. I have come with General Wheeler and his staff from Manila over the railroad to the little town of Panique, where the General now has his headquarters. We are 83 miles north or Manila and within 40 miles of the end of the railroad on the Gulf of Lingayen. This island reaches for 156 nlies north of that point, and below Manila its tall extends out to the southeast a distance of at least 250 miles further. From this you may get some idea of the great size of Luxon. If a railroad were to be built from its southernmost point to the extreme north it would be longer than the distance between New York City

The biggest part of the Island is north of Manila, where it is on the average over 100 miles wide, and longer than from New York to Washington. It has an area fully as great as that of the State of Ohlo, and an enormous amount of good land. I have met during my stay in the Philippines men from nearly every part of it, and all speak of its fertile valleys and rich rolling foothills. It has mountains covered with valuable timber and deposits of copper and gold. Some of the officers who have just returned from the extreme north tell me the savages there showed them gold nuggets, and quilis of gold dust and coarse gold. They say the people wear rude rings made of pure gold, and that the Chines: travel to the north and trade with them for the precious metal. I expect to make an expedition north before I leave the Philippines, when shall be able to give a fuller detail of its mineral resources.

#### Valley North of Manila.

I wish I could show you the rich valley which extends all along both sides of the ratiroad from Manila to the Gulf of Lingayen. It is a vast flat rice field from o to 50 miles wide and more than 100 mi es long. Here and there is a little patch of corn, and above Calumpit some few piantations of pale green sugar cane, but the rest is all rice, rice, rice. There are few fences. I saw none except some about the cane fields. You can look over miles of level fields now gray with the harvested rice, but green where the vegetation is sprouting up through the cut-off stalks. Near the ratiroad at least there is no

The fields are very small and each is surrounded by a little mud grass grown wall to keep the water, but the water comes from the floods of the rainy season, when it rains for days and days sometimes dropping the water aimos; in streams. I am told that the rainfall in parts of the valley is as much as eight feet in a year, so that if all the water was held in it would almost cover the head of the average Filipino standing upon the shoulders of one of his brothers. Now

everything is comparatively dry.

The warls about the helds are usually about a foot high and not more than eigh nches wide. They form the paths through the country us the water fails, and som of them are quite worn. Some parts of the valley have a slight slope and in such places the fields are terraced, rising gen-

tly from one platform to another. The vailey is spotted with groves and clumps of tall bamboos, great bunches of branches which quiver with every pass-ing breeze. You see but few houses. They are in most cases hidden by the bamboos which shade them. The people do not live on their farms, but in villages and towns scattered along the roads just as do the farmers of France and Germany. Many of them walk several miles to their work every day. I am told that the roads are nearly everywhere lined with ho that some little towns consist of a single street several miles in length.

### Queer Country Scenes

But let me give you some pictures of our Filipino subjects as they work in their fields. You must first imagine the beautiful valley made up a great patchwork of these little silver gray patches sewed together with wide strips of green and mbroidered with wild flowers. You must add magnificent mountains as blue as the Blue Ridge or the Alleghanies, rising and ing in rugged vo.canic beauty away off at the right and left, and through the Upon this as a background the Flitpinos stand or rather stoop, more picturesque even than their surroundings. There are hundreds of women dressed in queer clothes in which bright red often forms the principal color. They have great round hats like bread bowls turned upside down bort jackets which always seem to be just about to fall off their shoulders, bag-like skirts which are often tucked up so that half a leg shows, and bare feet, men wear their shirts outside their thin on trousers and many of them have on great hats like the women. There are also children of all ages, some dressed much like their parents, and a few with almost no clothes at all. See that boy over there. He has a white shirt, the tail which just touches his hips, with a ick belt round his waist. The rest of his body is as bare as when he

The most of the rice has been cut some weeks ago. The heads have been taken off by one, tied up in bundles not much one by one, then up to bigger than a good-sized bouquet, and carried home to be threshed. Half of the straw, for some reason, is left in the field, and people are now going thro and cutting the stalks. They tie them it bundles and shock them up in low wind rows and small piles. Each girl has a hook like a knife, with a long handle, and she bends over low as she cuts. Some of the girls are quite pretty, and visions of Ruth as she gathered the straw for old Boaz come before you.

### A Human Threshing Machine.

But what are they doing in that field over there? A man and a woman, facing each other, are hanging on to a pole natied bamboo stakes in the ground, and jumping up and own on the rice straw which lies under their feet. That is the man threshing machine of Luzon. They are ireading out with their weight the rice left in the straw. The crop itself is threshed when the grain is first cut. The little bundles are slacked up about the but, or placed, with their heads downward, on the ground inside an inclos When thoroughly ripe the heads of the stalks are put in a mortar made by hollowing out a block of hard wood, and men or women pound upon them with great wooden pesties, thus threshing the rice from the straw. The winnowing is dane by the wind, the rice being thrown that the air again and again caught in a ray.

We look in vain for cows and horses We look in vain for cows and horses a the fields of this valley. The ponies of Luzon are raised in other sections, and the only animals visible are the water buffaloes or caribou, and now and then an ugly black pig. The caribou are everywhere. They drag great farm carts with whoels a yard in diameter; they haul sleds brough the rice fields, for the ground is so soft that no wagons are used there. You see them plowing, going slong with their heads down, dragging cude one-handled plows like those of the Scriptures. They are ridden as well as driven. The men usually mount their backs of go home from the fields. You see them ridden by the children and see them ridden are the see that the property of the see that the second see the ridden and the second see the ridden the second see the ridden the second see the second see the ridden the second second second second second see the ridden the second sec me from the fields. You see them rid-a by the children, and, still stranger,

they are ridden by the birds.

is pecking at its buffalo, but the buffalo understands it. He realizes that the birds are good fly-catchers, and that they live

Battle of the Rice-Pounders.

off the insects which are trying to live off

sugar lands along the track. It has also other territory which it taps, connecting the northern part of the island with Man-Soldiers Run the Rond.

At present the road is run entirely by the soldiers. They are the brakemen and the engineers, the mail clerks and the station men. Every train has guards in unifrom upon it, and at every station there is a company or so ready to defend any attack. Now and then some one shoots at the cars as they go flying along. We had one such shot on the way to Panique, but no one was hurt. Until recently none but soldiers were allowed to travel on the road

to both passengers and freight of all kinds, and it may be that it will be handed back

SCENES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

well, notwithstanding his age, is an evidence, so he thinks, of the salubrity of the climate of the Philippines. He cays these islands are as healthful as any part of the United States. He tells me he has not had a sick day since he came here, and that, notwithstanding he has marched for days with his clothes wet to the skin, has siept on the ground and undergone

all sorts of hardships.

At one time I am told that some of his officers objected to allowing the troops to march further on a certain day. The General thought it was important to reach the next town, 12 miles distant, and he said: without a pass, but it will soon be open Speaking of threshing rice reminds me of an incident which created quite an excitement in General Wheeler's brigade some weeks ago. The pounding of the pestle in the present in the prese

under fire directly in front of the enemy's fortifications. He was in a number of a guard, who had noticed skirmishes, and it was a great regret to him that he was not given General Lawton's command in the south after that hero was killed.

The fact that General Wheeler has kept the phenomenon of the graze moving and came to investigate the phenomenon. A kick in the ribs applied Casey that his plan had been discovered. The guard took Casey, and put him heating lock and key

FEW NATIVE TO AMERICA. early All Vegetables Have Their Or-

igin Elsewhere. . "How many housekeepers picking over the vegetables on the stall know anything about them"? asked a contemplative cus tomer of a friend, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, as he watched his green grocer

fill a small measure with potatoes.

"Lots of them." promptly replied the other marketer. "Why, here are the potatoes in my hand, for instance. They are native American."

are native American.
"I guess not. They went to Europe from the hills of South America, and a strange matter of fact, when you come to think of K. is that in the United States none save maize and the ground artichokes are native products."

"Nonsense," said the amazed Yankee. "No nonsense, said the amaged tankee.
"No nonsense about it." continued the contemplative customer. "Europe, Asia, Africa and South America are all more fiehly endowed than we. I used to think the watermelon was ours, but bless you the North African tribes grew the big, thick fellows and gave us our first seed. juicy fellows and gave us our first seeds. As to the muskmelon, it is a vegetable of such ancient lineage that, like the cabbage and lettuce, nobody knows just who were their first wild progenitors. The meion came out of Persia as a developed table delicacy, while the Adam of the cabbage family flourished 'way back in Central Asia. The Romans ate cabbage salad. "There is another Roman delleacy," continued the customer, pointing to a box of beets. "They do say that the Greek philosophers thought a dish of boiled

The fact that General Wheeler has kept him behind lock and key.

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Every other buffalo you see in the fields as bird on its back. There is a black. There is a black. There is a black. There is a black borhood of 5000 square miles of rice and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in November, and at Banban his troops were the fight at Angeles in the fight at

TRAVELERS' GUIDE,



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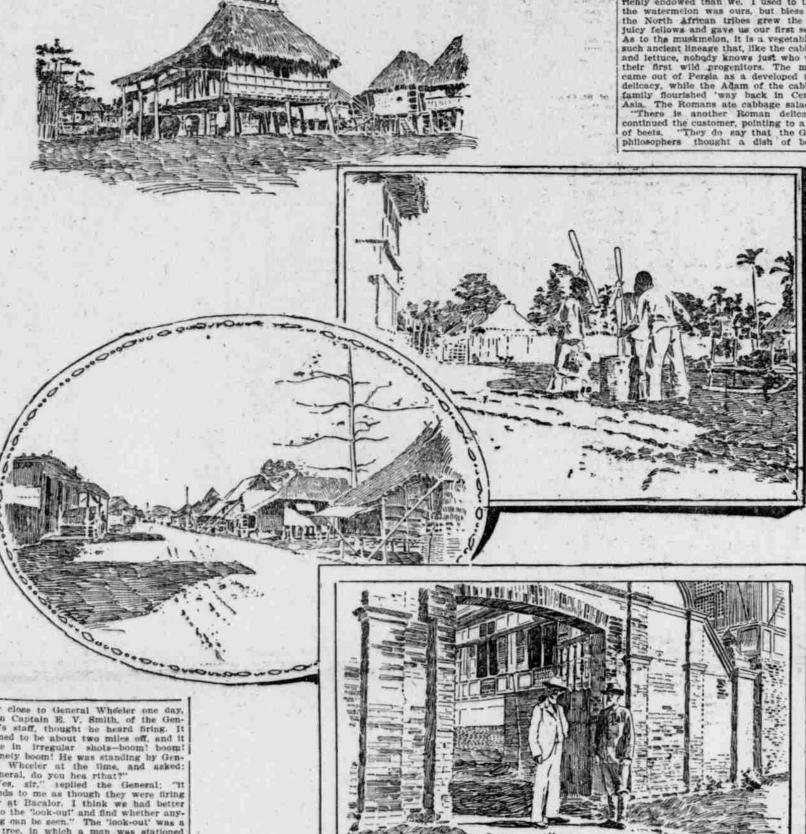
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eral's staff, thought he heard firing. It boomety boom! He was standing by Gen-eral Wheeler at the time, and asked: "General, do you hea rthat?"

Yes, sir," he was certain there was firing about two

work, and that was all. Since then the incident has been known in Wheeler's brigade as the battle of the rice-pounders.

that General Andy Burt sent to the men orders for them to forward him a list of

Only Railroad in Philippines.

were the ones who did the most damage to the railroad, its depots and rolling stock.

This railroad has been in operation for This railroad has been in operation for about eight years. It was originally built on a guarantee of 8 per cent from the Spanish Government. But the first contractors failed, and those who followed claimed they had to pay so much to the government in the way of bribery that they could make no money. The original capital was to be less than \$5,000,000, but the road is now bonded up to the neck, and what will be done with it when mace and what will be done with it when peace

very close to General Wheeler one day, when Captain E. V. Smith, of the Gen-

ounds to me as though they were firing wer at Bacalor. I think we had better go to the 'look-out' and find whether any-thing can be seen." The 'look-out' was a tail tree, in which a man was stationed with a pair of glasses to scan the country and guard against surprise. Upon being asked as to whether he saw anything, the sentinel replied that he did not, but that

Upon this the General and his staff started with the regiment in that direc-tion. As they came nearer the sound they were able to locate it, and they found that the shots came not from muskets, but from the pounding of the rice. There were a half dozen women and one man at

surgents. use of the road. It is a question whether anything should be paid, for the road, I am told, was operated by Filipinos, and the Filipino employes of the company

The railroad is 120 miles long. It goes through a country as flat as a floor, and its construction must have been compara-tively easy and cheap. It has 56-pound rails, a gauge of 40 inches, and rolling

They are old, box-like affairs, uncom-fortable to an extreme. There is first, sec-ond and third class, the first not being better than that of our immigrant cars. The roadbed is, I should judge, not over three feet above the surrounding country,

A somewhat similar case of premature excitement occurred just outside Manila, near La Loma Church, in which the Twenty-fifth Infantry formed the actors. was when the regiment was new to the Philippines. The soldiers had been placed there on guard, when they saw what they thought were signals, flashing here and there through the darkness. They shot at them, only to learn afterward that they had been fighting the fireflies. It is said

The railroad which goes through this valley is the only rallway of the Philippines. It is now in bad condition, having een torn up again and again by the in-Many of the stations are in ruins, and there are eight locomotives lying near Banban in one of the rivers which cross the track. You see the re-mains of intreachments at every few miles, and in some places the fortificamiles, and in some places the forthca-tions thrown up by our soldiers, behind which they lay and shot at the enemy. The railroad belongs to an English syn-dicate, which will undoubtedly attempt to make the Americans pay heavily for their

stock from England. The cars have been repainted and labeled with the brand of the United States Government.

and it seems to be enough to preserve from the floods of the rainy season.

Wheeler at his headquarters in the field. His vitality is wonderful. He is as active at 33 as he was when he was at the head of the cavairy forces of the Confederacy, now more than 35 years ago. He spends a part of each day in the saddle, and has been in active service ever since he came here. He has been in 14 different engagements and has done remarkable service ments and has done remarkable service. ments, and has done remarkable service in his dashing military way. At Porac last September he charged over the enemy's breastworks and took the town, driving the insurrector into the mountain permanently comes is not known. It should be a very valuable property, for it runs through one of the richest paris of the islands, and must have in the neighthus the islands, and must have in the neighthus the insurrents into the mountains. He was in the thick of the fight at Angeles in

A Country House. Rice Pounders. Panique, Luxon-Typical Tagalog Village. General "Joe" Wheeler and Correspondent Carpenter.

anywhere. The common people are not travelers. ordinary man does not know any thing about the country 10 or 15 miles beyond him. Not long ago a priest was asked if there were not some men in his village who could guide one of the regi-ments over the mountains. He replied that he supposed there was not a man in the town who had ever been in the mountains. Only the fewest of the Filipinos of North-ern Luzon have ever visited Manila, and,

as a rule, the average man seldom goes five miles away from home. Outside the savage regions, the houses of he people are much the same everywhere. Every village has a plaza or open space in the center, with the church, the govern-ment offices and some of the best houses facing it. Back of this, often running for miles into the country, the roads are lined with thatched buts, made of poles of hamboo and having walls of woven bam-hoo and roofs of nipa palm. These huts are usually from three to six feet above the ground in order to be out of the way of the water during the rainy season They are so high up that the water buf-

falo and other livestock of the owner can stabled under the hut. This often forms a shelter for the farming tools, carts and sleds. The houses of the better class have a first story of stone and a second story of wood. There is no plaster in any of the houses. The walls are of boards and the windows, which are very large, usually consist of a inttice work, filled with thin oyster shells. The best houses of the country towns, as well as Manila, use the ground floor for the stable, and the lady or gentleman who goes out to call on a rieh Filiphon friend has often to walk carefully by the horses

in order not to soil his or her dress.

I do not know how the country stores look in times of peace. Just now they are very, very small. I should think \$50 w. buy all the drygoods in Panique and leave considerable change after the purchase was made. The average store is a small hut open to the street, the goods being spread out on the floor for sale. The merchant is usually a woman, who squats down among the goods as she waits for

have spent some time with General

Spanish are enough to enable one to trade | hours, and came out of it without being | beets, served up with salt and oil, a great At another time he had charge of the provisions for General MacArthur's division. It was very important that some provisions for General MacArthur's divis-on. It was very important that some 24,000 rations be moved across one of the China, but a scientific journal the other day announced the discovery, from a principal rivers. These rations weighed about 120,000 pounds. The soldiers needed them immediately, and there was no bridge or boats to get them across the river. When the General arrived at the stream he found that the soldlers had built a raft which would carry only about 200 pounds at a time. He saw that with such means the train would be delayed for days, so he decided to build a pontoon

The only wood was on the other s'de of the river, but he took 20 men with him, and, stripped to the'r skin, they swam the river, with their axes, and cut the hamboo necessary to make the bridge. Notwithstanding that he was several hours without clothes, he says be experienced no evil results from this action. His work resulted in the rations being carried across that river in less than four hours.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

MADE A GRASS COAT. Clad in Vivid Green, a San Quentin Convict Attempts Escape.

Green Casey, a convict at San Quentin,

has won, says the San Francisco Call,

the admiration of his fellow-convicts, for the novel contrivance he invented in order to make his escape from the prison some time ago. Casey was a kind of trusty around the prison grounds, and while working in the vicinity of the prison, he took it into his head that he would like to escape. As he strolled around on the green grass, an idea struck him that, if he could imitate

he grass by some means, he could slude

the watchful sentries and make good his Through convict friends he procured some pieces of burisp, and with the aid of some rope made them into a long coat, that would cover him completely when lying on the grass. He then secured some wheat from the prison stable, and sowed one the first layer of his coat. He cast down carelessly at one end of the pris-n grounds, and watered it daily. In a few weeks the grass grew up through the sack coat, and before a great while the plece of burlap was transformed into a grassy lawn.

He was now ready to carry out his plans, and patiently waited an opportu-nity. At last he succeeded in getting his new contrivance across to the northwest.

translation of Egyptian hieroglyphics, that Pharaoh fed his pyramid builders on radishes. He even went so far as to spend 1906 aliver talents in order to regale his masons with the crisp and spicy root. Again, if you read the Old Testament carefully, you will be sure to come across the announcement that in Egypt the Children of Israel ate melons, beets, onlons and garlic. "Besides the melons and peaches and geraniums," continued the garrulous customer, "for all of which we have to thank productive Persia, water cress comes from her valleys and brooks, and she taught the world how to grow and head lettuce.

However, the Roman gourmands who adopted both these salads ate green peas and stringed beans that their gardeners found growing in France and South Germany, and cucumbers were popular.

"To Arabia honor is due for the burr artichoke. They ate it for live discount.

artichoke. They ate it for liver difficul-ties. Rhubarb, they say, was never known ties. Rhubarb, they say, was never known until the 15th century, when the Russians found it on the banks of the Volga, and if you will believe it, the only European people that appreciate the egg-plant as we do are the Turks. North Africa first produced this fruit. However, the potato had to make a desperate struggle for popularity and for nearly appreciate struggle for popularity and for nearly appreciate struggle for popularity and for nearly appreciate. ularity, and for nearly a century after it was imported and grown in Europe no-

body could be persuaded to touch it." Bailed of Lost Love. The fair Anita has gone away; "She is mad with her lover," the wise ones any,
And never that lover she will recall,
Though his tears like rain in summer

Though his tears like rain in summer fall.
He is doubtless grieving for her today,
"He'll die for love," so the wise ones say.
The fair Anita in grief returns:
Cruel she was, and her proud heart yearns
For the litted loves who weems for her—
So long her sinve sind her worshiper!
But where did her summons that lover find?
Not groping his way through a lost world,
blind. But-playing billiards to ease his mind!

TRAVELERS' GUIDE. WASHINGTON & ALASKA

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