

IN THE INTERIOR OF LUZON ISLAND

SCENES OF A RAILWAY TRIP FROM MANILA.

The Island's Extraordinary Beauty and Fertility and Agreeable Climate—An Orderly and Peace-Loving Population and Its Characteristics—Possibilities of Enormous Wealth.

The Manila correspondent of the London Times writes interestingly of a trip of 22 miles made recently by him in company with Horace L. Higgins, the manager of the railroad which connects Manila with the interior of the island of Luzon. Says he:

The line had been cut by the insurgents in the month of May, and during the frequent conflicts with the Spaniards the station at Dagupan had been burned, a long stretch of the road nearby had been ruined by wrenching the rails from the ties, the contents of several stations had been destroyed, a stationmaster here and there had been killed or kidnapped, siege guns had been posted on the roadbed near Manila, and, in general terms, the railway had been a large sufferer during the last few weeks of the revolution. For some time Mr. Higgins had been in communication with Aguinaldo in regard to opening the line for traffic, and only after a good deal of trouble had he succeeded in getting from the wily leader an order to his subordinate generals commanding the insurrectionary forces in the northern provinces to permit the necessary repairs to be made and the trains to be run from the Manila station.

We left Manila station at 10 o'clock on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 3, with a small train consisting of an engine, a goods van and an inspection coach, a very comfortable and ingeniously arranged carriage, with room enough for the six people of our party to dine comfortably in the small saloon. The road is three feet six inches gauge, and the carriages are proportionately smaller than those of the British standard size.

FIRST TRAIN SINCE MAY.

The fact that this was the first train out of Manila since the railway was cut in May created no stir at the station, probably because the event was not advertised, and the guard of United States regulars on the platform and a few station hands were the only spectators of our departure. The station at the extreme northern limit of the town and beyond it a few or no habitations are seen except native huts and an occasional two-story house of the usual type with corrugated iron roof and shell windows. About two miles out of town the line enters a tract of country identical in general character as that which was occupied by the opposing forces south of the town—small swamps with bamboo thickets and hedges and frequent impassable jungles of undergrowth. Here close alongside the railway stands blockhouse No. 1, a plank structure of the regular type, about twenty feet square, with an embankment around the lower story, a nine-inch belt of Portland cement around the upper story and a small cupola for sharpshooters on the roof. The whole is surrounded by an admirably constructed earthwork, with traverses and covered ways, and makes an almost impregnable position against infantry.

SIGNS OF WAR.

Not over two hundred yards away the insurgents had a large smoothbore ship's gun in position on the line near a large native house, and they said themselves that they had fired this piece two hundred times without hitting the Spanish blockhouse once. Their earthworks were of the same sort, left through the bamboo thickets, well hidden by the dense vegetation, the position marked only by the ragged bamboo clumps, which have been fairly mown off by Mauser bullets since a dozen feet above the ground. In the past the rough ground, Calocan, the village where the railway company's shops are situated, is soon reached, and beyond this point a more open and fertile country begins. The insurgents were out in full force along their lines, in the old Spanish trenches and the blockhouse. The guard presented arms as we passed, while here and there a whiteclad native with a Mauser rifle and a bag of cartridges would pop out of the undergrowth near the track and watch us as we went along, apparently uncertain whether he should challenge us or not.

CLIMATE.

Beyond Calocan the country opens out into a wide valley bounded on either side by high mountain ranges, the Mariveles, or west coast range, forming a jagged barrier not unlike the Dolomites in outline, while in the east a succession of low hills, in the Caraballo range, large and bold in line, rise high above the lower stratum of cumulus clouds which always drift along their flanks in fine weather. The day was perfect, a bright sun was shining and the sky was as soft and clear as in midsummer in England. The temperature, moreover, was not more oppressive than an average warm August day in the Midlands, and the landscape in general character gave little suggestion of the tropics. Immense broad rice fields, of a rich green shimmered like young corn in the warm sunlight, and the rounded forms of mango trees, accentuating with their dense, dark foliage the higher masses of the cultivated groves, gave all the appearance of a pleasant farming country in England. The mountains alone, and particularly the long extinct volcano Arayat, which arises from the plain a solitary, isolated cone, disturbed the impression of a home landscape, as seen from the distance at least.

TROPICAL SCENES.

Close to hand the native habitations, for the most part built of nipa huts raised on posts five or six feet from the ground, the busy natives working in the rice fields in the scantiest of garb, and the uncouth water buffaloes everywhere wallowing in the muddy pools, made us realize that we were in the tropics. The Spaniards, fearing, as they did in Cuba, the assistance the natives would give to the rebels, instituted a system of reconcentration among the peasants and obliged them in certain provinces where the rebels were most active to leave their huts, which were scattered all over the country, and to assemble in large villages in the open areas, where they could be under easy inspection and control. Therefore, there are found at long intervals from one another immense congregations of small huts of the cheapest construction crowded together in the open fields, where the peasants, un-

able as yet to return to their old habitations, still live in some discomfort far away from their tillage grounds. The stations on the line, always of the same size and construction, following the oppressive Spanish regulations, are tidy enough buildings of brick and wood, having a comfortable second story with shell windows and wooden inside blinds, and are quite as numerous, apparently, as the traffic demands. There are twenty-seven in all, including the terminal stations. The officials, neatly uniformed in white, with gold-laced caps, are active, intelligent and reliable servants.

RICH FARMING LAND.

Broadly speaking, the first third of the line runs through a purely rice-producing district, the second third through a sugar-cane country and the last part through a more tropical territory, where coconut palms are very abundant, some coffee is grown, and peanuts and other minor products of the soil are cultivated. For the larger extent of the line water courses are abundant, and in only one place, a short distance north of Tarlac, one of the most important towns through which the railway passes, is there any high ground touched, and here for only a mile or two, where there are a few slight grades and a single cutting through a stratum of volcanic stone.

About 4 o'clock in the afternoon we reached the goods station at Baustita, a little village near the town of Bayanan. Here is situated a large rice mill belonging to the firm of Smith, Bell and company, and in the house of Mr. Clarke, the manager, we were to pass the night. The huge corrugated iron structure, with its ugly chimneys and adjacent godowns, is the principal feature of the landscape, and dominates with irritating ugliness the long straggling village of native huts, which are bunched together near the road, but made stream. The country all around is most fertile, and a large part of the good land is under diligent cultivation. Here, in the heart of the insurgent territory, we had an excellent opportunity of studying the life of the natives, undisturbed, as it now is, by the turmoil of the revolution.

PEASANTS OF THE INTERIOR.

Here the peasant bears all the marks of a rural tiller of the soil. The type is stronger, a trifle coarser and more brutal than is met with in the neighborhood of Manila, and there is a notable mixture of Chinese blood in the race. He is industrious, frugal, and up to a certain point, possesses the quick, keen intelligence of the true Oriental. The prominent characteristics of his nature makes him an excellent and capable workman. He learns easily, and has distinct talents for mechanical work, and he has a love for music, in his predilection to acquire what is not strictly his own, and in his trading instincts reminds one a little of the gypsy of Europe. The women, at least those of pure Indian stock, are often dotted before the court and jewelry, and have a fine profile, with a well-formed but broad nose, fine cut mouth with excellent teeth, well-set dark and expressive eyes, a strong but small chin, and a low forehead, from which the sleek black hair is drawn tightly back and twisted into a simple knot.

NATIVE DRESS.

Their dress is very simple, and consists of a petticoat of bright-colored stuff, with an overskirt of dark color made of a rectangular piece of cotton stuff wound around and tucked in at the waist in the same way that one fastens a towel in a Turkish bath. A white cotton chemise, low-necked and short-sleeved, covers the body, and outside this is commonly worn a broad, loose-sleeved jacket of the thinnest possible fabric, lined with hair, and fastened by a large kerchief of the same material. Very few ornaments are seen among them; indeed, in the provinces we visited there were few or no personal decorations to be seen except a few rings and bangles. The men dress according to the status of the laborer, often wearing all day long in the hot sun nothing more than a breechcloth, and those in the villages affecting loose trousers and simple jackets, always of white cotton. Both men and women habitually go barefooted, but the former often make use of wooden clogs, particularly in wet weather. Women are never seen with a hat or any more protection to the head than the baskets or bundles they carry with exquisite grace and ease. The men sometimes even push the fashion of headgear as far as the exaggerated umbrella-like palm-leaf disks which the coolies wear.

A NATIVE HOUSE.

The native house of the common type is a small structure built entirely of bamboo, and thatched with palm leaves ingeniously folded over bits of sticks and tied to the rafters by rattan. The eaves are broad, and the window openings are raised up high. There are usually two rooms in the house, and the furniture consists chiefly of sleeping mats, pillows and a few wicker stools, perhaps. The simplest and most primitive utensils are in use in the kitchen. The stove is an earthen affair like a brazier, with projecting knobs to hold the cooking vessel. Frequently this simple dwelling—which is, indeed, as a rule, as clean and tidy as constant scrubbing can make it—is extended, according to the taste or ingenuity of the owner, into quite an elaborate arrangement of platforms, little storerooms and shelters. The whole structure is built around tall posts, which, as is the case with all the houses here, even with the elaborate and expensive granulars, are firmly fixed in the ground, and extend to the wall-plate supporting the rafters. The living and sleeping rooms are, as I have before remarked, raised five or six feet above the ground, a custom which prevails in all the architecture here. The space under the house is inclosed by mats, but it is often left open and is used as a storehouse for the large earthen water-jars and the great flat washbasins hollowed out of a large block of wood.

CLEANLINESS OF THE PEOPLE.

One thing always strikes even the most casual observer, and that is the cleanliness of the people. They are always bathing and washing, and it is the rarest thing to see soiled garments.

**Hood's Pills**  
Cure all liver, bile, and stomach troubles, headache, sour stomach, indigestion, constipation. They act easily, quickly, and safely. Sold all druggists. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

IS IT A TRIFLE?

THAT COMMON TROUBLE, ACID DYSPEPSIA OR SOUR STOMACH.

Now Recognized as a Cause of Serious Disease.

Acid dyspepsia, commonly called heartburn or sour stomach, is a form of indigestion resulting from fermentation of the food. The stomach being too weak to promptly digest it, the food remains until fermentation begins, filling the stomach with a gas and a bitter, sour, burning taste in the mouth is often present. This condition soon becomes chronic and an every day occurrence and is given but little attention. Because dyspepsia is not immediately fatal, many people do nothing for the trouble. Within a recent period a remedy has been discovered, prepared solely to cure dyspepsia and stomach troubles. It is known as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, and is now becoming rapidly used and prescribed as a radical cure for every form of dyspepsia. Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets have been placed before the public and are sold by druggists everywhere at 60 cents per package. It is prepared by the Stuart Chemical Co., Marshall, Mich., and while it promptly and effectually restores a vigorous digestion, at the same time it perfectly harmonizes and well not injure the most delicate stomach, but on the contrary by giving perfect digestion strengthens the stomach, improves the appetite and makes life worth living. Send for free book on Stomach Diseases.

LABOR SAVING MACHINERY.

Effects Its Introduction Has Had Upon Hours and Prices.

From a Government Report.

Ten ploughs which cost \$24.48 by hand and on which two men were employed a total of 1,958 hours, cost, when made by machinery, \$7.99 and took 52 men a total of 37 hours and 25 minutes to make. One hundred blank books cost \$25.75 when made by hand, and on them 3 men were employed a total of 1,572 hours. The same number of books made by machinery cost \$6.95, employing 20 men 245 hours. Tinting 100 reams of paper by hand took one person 4,309 hours, and cost \$40, while one person did the work by machine in 2 hours and 45 minutes, costing only \$5 cents. One hundred pairs of men's fine shoes, made by one person by hand in 2,275 hours, cost \$56.24, while by machinery it took 237 hours and cost \$4.66. To make 100 dozen of brooms by hand took nine men a total of 445 hours' time and cost \$22.19. By machinery the same work was done in a total of 245 hours' time and cost \$47.95, with 105 hands employed. One gross of wire-drawn brushes cost \$16.75 when made by hand, employing 12 men a total of 399 hours. By machinery the same work was done in a total of 37 hours' time, employing 25 men and costing \$2.70. Forty gross of vegetable ivory buttons cost \$11.25, employing six men a total of 115 hours, while by machinery the same work was done by nine hands in a total of 14 hours' time and cost \$1.95. One thousand yards of body Brussels carpet by hand cost \$70 in a total of 14,672 hours, 18 men being employed. By machinery the same work was done by 81 men in a total of 509 hours and cost \$91.25. One hundred and twenty yards of rag carpet made by hand took six persons a total of 97 hours and cost \$14.45. Done by machinery the same work cost \$2.28, employing 19 persons a total of 21 hours' time. One thousand axle clips made by hand took 2 men a total of 666 hours' time and cost \$23.33. By machinery it took 9 men a total of 23 hours and cost \$4.27. A large reduction in cost and hours of labor is exhibited in the manufacture of carriage hardware and equipments. The cost of a buggy made by hand, 6 persons being employed a total of 209 hours, was \$45.96. By machinery one can be made at a cost of \$8.99, employing 116 hands in a total of 39 hours. To make 1,000 watch movements by hand it cost \$69.82, while by machinery they can be made at a cost of \$1,799. The hundred men's fine coats cost by hand \$992.91, while by machinery they can be made for \$291. Engraving a wood cut 7 1/2 inches by hand cost \$47.80. Made by machinery the cost was \$14.40. Fifty dozen files cost when made by

THE LADRONE ISLANDS.

From the Review of Reviews.

The Ladrone Islands.

A perfectly direct line drawn from San Francisco to Manila passes through the Ladrone group, Honolulu lies some distance south of that line. Nevertheless, a direct line from Honolulu to Manila also passes through the Ladrone group. The Ladrone group extends from north to south in a row 40 or 50 miles long, and as usually held to comprise about twenty islands. They lie directly north of the Caroline group, which it will also be our duty to claim and protect, and they are numerous. They have a varied topography, with mountains and valleys and abundant rainfall, and they are extremely productive. Under American exploitation, and under American agriculture, such as the United States would easily introduce, the already important exports of the Ladrone group would be very rapidly increased. They are exceedingly salubrious, and would yield large supplies of products, both of the temperate zone and of the tropics, under American exploitation. A direct cable line to Manila would naturally find a halting place at San Ignacio de Agaña, which is the capital of the islands, and is situated on the largest of the group, Guajan, which is of a rounded contour and thirty or forty miles long.

THE ONLY THING HE FEARS.

I am a walking delegate, and whatever may befall me, I will not be afraid.

In going up and down the earth I take the sunny side. And though I am not very old I many have seen me. And there is just one thing on earth of which I am afraid.

No millionaire can frighten me, no matter how he talks. I claim that I am just as good as any man that walks.

Not, unless he is a walking delegate. And yet an awful dread I have I cannot overcome.

I do not fear a thousand men, no matter what some say. And when I order them to strike they quietly obey.

The longer they keep from work the more I get of cash. With which the walking delegate can cut a brilliant dash.

I do not fear a thunder storm nor any of the things which men are afraid of. And cannon balls and dynamite I do not fear the least.

I do not fear the tomahawk, nor yet the sharpest dirk. But just one thing I fear on earth, and that one thing is—Work!

—Thomas Freeman Porter, in the Sun.

Hand \$131. Made by machinery the cost was \$28.

Lithographing 1,000 copies in 10 colors, size 10x12, cost by hand \$92.57, and by machinery \$52.75. One thousand feet of pine lumber cut by hand cost \$2,668.66, while the work done by machinery costs only \$52.75. The figures given above as the cost of articles is for labor only.

CLEVER RUSSIAN COUNT.

He Found a Way of Beating a Persian Creditor's Unique Method.

From Fall Mail Gazette. In Persia, when a creditor fails to get his money in any other way, he appears in the debtor's house and sits down. Then he does not move away until the delinquent pays up. He enters the debtor's sleeping apartments, if possible, and has his meals brought in. A few years ago a Persian held an unsatisfied claim against the British government, and he presented himself before the British minister one day and camped out in his private office. The minister did not see the joke, and sent for a policeman. That made a lot of noise and trouble, and the Russian representative in Tehran evidently learned a lesson from it, for he managed a case of the same kind much differently a few weeks ago.

The Persian who demanded money from the Russian (Count Kolomeisow) was a holy man, a dervish, and when he sat down in the Russian's ante room to wait till the latter paid his disputed claim, Count Kolomeisow knew that he could not get rid of him without much fuss and explanation. It is against the laws, or at least the custom, which is just as firm, to touch a creditor who takes this means of collecting money, so the count did not throw him out. He thought over the matter, and one morning he sent for a lot of masons. Then he ordered them to build a wall around the dervish, who was sitting in the middle of the room. The dervish watched them placidly at first, but when the wall grew, and it became apparent that it would be completed soon, he jumped over it, ran away, and has not been seen since. They say that the count is the first man in Tehran who has beaten a creditor of this kind without recourse to the police.

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OF GOOD CHARACTER.

From Case and Comment.

The following cross-examination of a witness in a court in western North Carolina is sent us as an actual record: District Attorney—Now, Mr. Williams, you swear before the court and jury that you know the defendant's reputation in the community in which he lives, and that he is generally reputed an upright, peaceable, law-abiding citizen? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—Now, Mr. Williams, don't you know that Late Higgins has never done anything but eat, drink and drink moonshine, whiskey and fight? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that he abuses and beats his wife terribly? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that he broke up the Pigeon river circuit meeting last winter and whipped the circuit rider? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that he kicked his old father down the steps and out of the yard and nearly killed him? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that he was convicted in this very court three years ago of maliciously shooting Deacon Smith's hog? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that he has once been arrested for stealing a horse, and that the owner of the horse and the principal witness for the prosecution were killed just before the trial? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—And don't you know that his neighbors all know these things? Witness—Yes, sir.

District Attorney—Then how can you sit there and swear that this defendant's reputation is good in the community in which he lives? Witness—Why, mister, a man has to do a heap worse things than that to lose his character in our neighborhood.

One Thing.

From the Chicago Post. There had been some harsh words from each on the faults of the opposite sex, and she finally gave what she thought would be a parting shot. "You call at us," she said, "and make fun of us, but what, I ask you, would you do without women?" "Get rich," he replied promptly, and she was so indignant that it took her three weeks to make up her mind to ask for a new bonnet.

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A quality of writing paper that you'll not be ashamed to use; 24 sheets of paper and 24 envelopes to match, nicely put up in boxes. About what you'd pay a shilling for in other stores.

Maslin Kettles, 5c Each

Full 3-quart size, and positively never known to have been sold under 19c. Friday only we offer them at above price.

Black Beaver Jackets, \$1.65

Women's Black Beaver Jackets with high storm collars, fly front and stretched seam back. Garments that have every detail of style, fit and finish, and which are positively worth at least \$3.00. SECOND FLOOR.

Women's Cambric Wrappers, 89c

A good quality of Cambric Wrapper, rounded yoke, braided lined, full ruffles over shoulders, wide skirt, body lined. These come in all the newest shades and are positively worth \$1.25.

Nottingham Lace Curtains, 98c Pair

Three and one-half yards long, full width, very choice quality and never offered by any house under \$1.75. Complete with pole and fixtures on Friday only at the above price. THIRD FLOOR.

Boys' Knee Pants, 41c Pair

All wool and extra desirable quality, they come in eight patterns, of fine colors; non-ripping; all seams taped; extra strong bands, and worth by all fair standards 75c. SECOND FLOOR.

Oxford Teachers' Bibles, 89c

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Will do our customers, and if combined with this, they can find style and wear at a nominal price, what more can an article of footwear offer? These qualities we guarantee in our new \$3.00 shoes for women. Also, as a special inducement for this month, we offer our \$1.25 Boys' and Girls' School Shoes at the little price of

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MOUNT PLEASANT COAL

Coal of the best quality for domestic use and of all sizes, including Buckwheat and Birdseye, delivered in any part of the city, at the lowest price. Orders received at the office, first floor, Commonwealth building, room No. 9; telephone No. 924 or at the mine, telephone No. 572, will be promptly attended to. Dealers supplied at the mine.

W. T. SMITH.

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MADE ME A MAN

AJAX TABLETS POSITIVELY CURE ALL Venereal Diseases—Painful Menstruation, Impotency, Gonorrhoea, etc., caused by Abuse of Mercury, Excess and Indecencies. These tablets are sold everywhere. They quickly and surely remove all Venereal poisons from the system, and they are safe for men, women and children. For sale in Scranton, Pa., by Matthews Bros. and H. C. Sanderson, druggists.