Article
written in 1899.

No. 24 Vol 8.

Subject
Rights and action of the U.S.
in the
Philippine Islands.

"The Rights and Duties of the United States Government in the Matter of the Philippine Islands."

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In estimating the character, condition and ability of a country it is wonderful how many things, some of them apparently trivial, must be taken into consideration. I can never forget my visit to Panama many years ago. When early in the morning I looked out upon the broad streets of a charming tropical city, with its curious constructions ~~all~~, its ornamental shrubery and other adornments, all bathed in the ~~beautiful~~ bright, warm sunlight; I said to myself, how ~~beautiful~~ beautiful! how delightful it must be to live here! But I soon noticed a want of vigor on the part of the people as they walked along the different thoroughfares. Every woman who could afford it had a large parasol, and every man an umbrella spread over his head, and everybody moved along from place to place with a snail-like pace. I spoke of this want of energy to my comrades of voyage, as I walked with them I was stepping out with my usual elasticity and quickness ~~of step~~. But Before three days were over I had changed my clothing to the thinnest possible; had an umbrella over my head, ~~when~~ whenever I ventured into the sunshine after nine o'clock in the morning, and walked as slowly and deliberately as old people do ascending a hill.

~~I notice that~~ Joseph Stevens, a few years ago, did similar things after his arrival in the Philippines. He says that almost in the outset, "after the noon-day tiffin (lunch) it is always customary to stretch out in one of the long bambo chairs and read oneself to

sleep. This is, indeed, a land where laziness becomes second nature!"

Again, if you want a book, paper or other article ~~was~~ out of reach instead of rising and waiting on yourself, he says: "Oh, No! you ring a bell twice as far ~~as~~ off, take a nap while the boy comes from a distance, and wake up to find him handing you them with a graceful "Aqui Senor!"

It strikes me that Manila ten times ~~as~~ larger than Panama has many similar features ~~similar to Panama~~. Every visitor offers descriptions of ~~Every body describes~~ Manila, that city of the Orient, that Malay capital, where there are well filled shops, clothing establishments, drug stores, tram-ways, parks, chruches, schools, opera houses, gas-ometors and electric lights, descriptions that remind the weatern traveller of Jacksonville, Mobile, ~~or even~~ and even of New Orleans; but there are odd things enough to make Manila of special interest ~~the city interesting~~. For example, the sight of what they call buffalos, half amphibious oxen, which now make up our extra bull teams ~~oxen~~ for conveying supplies. They have snakes also of large size carefully nurtured, bought and sold, and kept above or beyond the ceiling of houses for the purpose of catching and consuming rats and mice, replacing the terriers and cats of other cities.

The mosquitoes are not larger nor worse than in Florida; it is true ~~but~~ but ~~the~~ numerous roaches ~~of large size~~ and sizable bugs of different discriptions abound; and as Stevens says: a good many lizzards are hanging by their eye-teeth to the walls, or are walking about ~~inconcernably~~ unconcernedly upside ~~down~~ down on the ceilings. . . . and, now and then from piazza-roof or ceiling a hairy catipillar will drop on your face!" The ponies, too, are a curiosity. I conceive them to be tough like our Indian half-breeds of the West, snug built, swift and strong but often petty resentful

and viscious dispositions.

The accounts of Manila, as visited by our people before the Spanish war, indicate a great metropolitan city which had already advanced considerably in the line of modern civilization, but presented, as it naturally would from the great variety of its population, a kaleidescopic effect & many contrasts garnering in, as it has done, specimens of every race, quality, and condition of mankind. The Spaniards who governed in their way all the Philippines and their church officials had not been idle during their long years of occupation, and there was about the same development indicated in Manila as in the Mexican Capital before the present regime and in any other American city which has been for a century or more under Spanish control.

Manila, however, by no means affords a faint conception of what may be found in the archipelago at large. Few tourists ever went far into the interior of that one island of which Manila is the capital. And even if the few accounts like those of Prof. Worcester, J. E. Stevens, or minister Barrett be taken into consideration, still the reader feels that he has but a meager knowledge of the country - part of the Islands, and greatly desires that he might travel, from one end of Luzon to the other, and also penetrate the different islands, valleys and Mountains held and cultivated by over 8,000,000 of inhabitants. There, as elsewhere, a visit to a single city or village is insufficient to obtain any breadth of, or desirable, knowledge of a country now plainly within our jurisdiction. There are at least twelve islands of such such as Luzon, Mindanao, Samar, Panay, Palawan, Mindoro, Leyte, Negros, Cebu, Masbate, Bohol, and Catanduanes varying from 41,000 square miles to the last named of four hundred and fifty.

The total area including all the Islands is estimated to be 114,000 square miles. The extreme length of our possessions in the Pacific, such as they are, is about a thousand miles; while the breadth will not exceed six hundred.

Admiral Dewey's aide, Mr. Stickney, gives us a careful account of the dry season and of the rain. He says: "The southwest winds usually bring the rains." They begin in April or May. "Rivers often overflow their banks during the months of the rains, and extensive floods occur; but even these are much less feared than the destructive whirling storms of wind and rain, known as typhoons". The hurricanes are more frequent in the northern islands of the archipelago. During some of these "The force of the wind is almost ~~incredable~~ incredible; huge trees are uprooted, houses are unroofed or carried away, and the stanchest ship may suffer destruction if it be in the vortex of the storm."

It may be well to notice that in Manila the average temperature is about 80°, - the thermometer never falling below 60°.

"Through the winter months the nights are usually fairly cool, but during the hot season there is little relief from one week's end to another. As nearly as I can judge with reference to the climate it is more wholesome as a rule than ~~the~~ that of Cuba or Porto Rico. Malaria exists in some of the islands and in some parts of Luzon; but many islands and distinctive localities are ~~already~~ declared to be entirely free from it. But Worcester ~~remarks~~ asserts that the climate of the Philippines is severe in its effect on white women and children." But he adds that, "malaria and digestive troubles aside, the health of the colony is fairly good, and the danger from epidemic desease is

comparatively slight. Now and then earthquakes shake the islands, and volcanoes are so frequent that excursions are made to them during hblidays by European residents. The mountain ~~ranges~~ stretches of Luzon are becoming familiar to us, and ~~they~~ similar ranges are found upon all the larger islands. Some of the peaks are as high as our St Helens in Oregon ~~Mount Hood~~. ~~Those that are not now open volcanoes~~ The non-volcanic regions are usually rich and there are many of them in soil and covered with vegetation. . In the islands of Mindanao and Luzon we already are aware of fresh water springs, rivulets ~~riverlets~~, rivers and lakes. Some of the rivers are navigable but mostly are ~~impeded~~ troubled near their mouths with a shifting sand, like the bars of the Columbia on the Pacific coast. Deep draft vessels have difficulty in passing the bars. Of course, with the yet thinly populated stretches along the foot hills and mountain ranges much of the country is covered with forests, where the growth is abundant and as yet untouched. There, as in our rich home districts of American ~~as everywhere where~~ men have settled and undertaken to cultivate the land and have found an abundant return for their labor. No artificial helps like our ordinary dressing and manuring are ~~is~~ necessary. Crop after crop springs up and comes to maturity apparently without ~~apparently~~ sapping or injuring the soil. * [5½. introduce]

The strange ~~novel~~ trees, the odd flowers, the new kinds of ~~strange~~ birds and ~~new kinds of~~ insects and even of fish have especially interested our American travellers. The wild buffalo, that they call the timarrau, ~~which~~, when caught, by trappers, will never eat. He ~~Which~~ can never be tamed ~~tamed~~ and destroyes his ~~its~~ own life in efforts to get away. It is said that these little savages will in fights invariably kill the larger buffalos, the carabaos, of which we have spoken, whenever they can get at them.

The different kinds of deer, some rare and strange, the wild-pig, which are highly valued in Luzon, the hump-cattle

The aboriginies such as the Negritos and the Mangyans who ~~have~~ have hardly come in contact to any extent with civilization raised grains and vegetables as most of our Indian tribes in America have done. They also have gathered various kinds of roots and caught birds, wild-cats, rats, monkeys, serpents, lizzards, and fish, and fed upon them. Occasionally they have been able to mastered a crocodile and make food of his flesh. The wild hog in many places they have killed, ~~xxx~~ dressed and cooked as ~~the~~ our Apaches do the deer. Juging from their food and their avoidance of civilization they appear to be about as high in the scale of humanity as ~~you~~ our Digger Indians. The more civilized throughout the country districts have produced hemp. The Manila hemp is famous in every part of the field of commerce.

Sugar is no small industry but tobacco raising and cigar making give employment ~~hundreds of~~ to thousands of people. Here we find coffee of an excellent quality . Native frabrics such as c-me from the pine-apple leaf, shell-bracelets ~~and~~ Shell-necklaces, shell-window panes; bamboo constructions, like ~~of~~ bows, arrows, forks, water pipes, cups; ~~and even~~ fences and bridges ~~from them~~ made from the Bamboo; the rattan for large uses; the coconut-raising where the fruit is rafted fo market; the castor-oil bean, the long staple cotton corn and potatoes which grow when planted; all these products are rich enough and abundant. Rice prevails in great varieties ~~of~~ including both high land and low land yields; this has furnished a staple crop two or three times each year.

and other animals ~~which are abundant in all~~ that belong to the tropics are found on different islands, especially in Luzon. ~~Odd enough~~ Strange to tell, nearly six hundred species of birds have already been discovered and catalogued.

~~Now,~~ Much is said of the mineral wealth of this region. Thus Worcester remarks: "The gold has long been known to exist in the Philippines". But ~~the~~ mines have hardly been touched owing to the rough and old fashioned ways in which the gold-bearing quartz has been handled. ~~It~~ The quartz has been "ground between heavy stones turned by buffaloes and then washed." The shafts are ~~bailed~~ bailed by lines of workmen, who pass small water-buckets from man to man. Even by these primitive methods they obtain the precious metals in considerable quantities. There are lignite, copper, quick-silver, platinum, tin, and rich iron ore. There are also large deposits of sulphur and arsenic, slate, borax, granite, coral-rocks, and lime-stone. We find also a record of gypsum in abundance, good marble, excellent building stone, soft and hard, what is denominated natural-paint, and wells of petroleum springing up here and there to reward diligent prospectors.

When we take even a birds-eye view of this vast area that has come into our possession, and find here a land that is capable of every production, which can be used for the benefit of mankind, it would be strange if the restless and the enterprising did not go forth from our country to probe it's resources, ~~opening~~ open up its mines, and increasing its yield. The eye of commerce ever eager, ever contentious and monopolizing, will not rest satisfied until it has penetrated every beautiful valley, hill and mountain, low-land and up-land of all ~~the~~ this archipelago. Still every lover of humanity, every patriotic citizen of this ~~land~~ country, and every true statesman hopes that ~~neaiter~~ neither the restlessness of the idle, the ambition of the enter-

prising, nor the outreaching grasp of commercial men will be willing to pass over in the slightest degree the rights, ~~and~~ privileges and proper immunities of the present inhabitants of those islands of the sea.

Let us now take a glimpse at ~~these inhabitants~~ the people themselves, who in one way and another are day by day being brought under our observation. McCutcheon, the artist correspondent says: "Among many of the natives of Iloilo there is an established belief that the Americans are indians with long hair and an abnormal thirst for blood. This impression has existed because most of the natives have never seen an American." We may ask ourselves if, a short time ago, our own knowledge of the Philippines was not about as meager as that. I never noticed myself the name Iloilo till I saw that my long-time friend, Gen. Marcus Miller was on his way ~~there~~ thither with a garrison, and I donnot yet know how the ~~natives look~~ negritos and the mestizos who make up the bulk of the population of that island appear. But from pictures & published accounts they are ~~but probably very~~ much like the Hotentots ~~and~~ of South Africa and the Malays of Siam. Existing encyclopedias give the island of Luzon a population of two million five hundred thousand; the Bissayan group under our treaty one million five hundred thousand; Panay seven hundred and fifty thousand; Cebu 150,000; The districts of Basilan, Basuanga and nineteen other smaller islands, 100,000.

Now allowing to the other sizeable islands an average of forty people to the square mile we have a total of 1,150,000 in these. This will make the aggregate of the Philippines 8,000,000. of inhabitants.

The aborigines being driven back by the Malays, called Negritos as before mentioned, still occupy the more inaccessible mountain districts and live much like our Navajos with fixed abodes. The Tagals or Tagalogs and the Basayans divide the next influx of peoples between them. They take on the various names of Malays, Moros, Magnolians, and Chinese. There is a sort of union of races in the Mestizos, a cross between the Malay, the natives and the more recent immigrants from China. Chinese immigrants have united in marriage with the native women and the resulting families are these Mestizos who are said to form the most influential part of the population of the island of Luzon.

There are hundreds of languages still spoken in the Philippines. The various European nations ~~have followed~~ came in after the Spaniards, but of course are not so numerous nor even ~~now~~ so influential. As nearly as I can estimate by all the accounts the Tagalogs and about one fifth the insurgents with their families and connections do not exceed one tenth of the population of the island of Luzon. Among these the Mestizos or mixed breeds ~~being~~ are the most intelligent and the ~~most~~ best educated; they are ~~on~~ in the lead. To give an idea of a single community or village with its surrounding lands we may pause and introduce the experience of Mr. Stevens in one of his journeys made a few years ago before the Spanish war.

"Thursday and Friday before Easter in the village of Pagsagnan are tremendously sacred days ~~in the Philippines~~, and no carriages of any discription are permitted to move about. The little town up in the mountains was as still as death, and the early morning hush

was only broken now and then by the wierd caterwaulings of the peculair ~~Passion~~ Passion songs which the natives sing during Lent. Later on groups of women began coming out of the various houses and directed their steps churchward. Most of them were gorgeously dressed in all colors of the solar spectrum. It was instructive to see an expensively gowned Indian woman immerge from a shabby little nipa-hut that didn't look as if it could incubate such starched freshness ..... even that piña handkerchief ~~es~~ often cost one hundred dollars ..... ~~We~~ The were invited to a hospitable ~~entertained~~ at evening after returning ~~from our~~ an excursion. A pretty Indian girl who spoke Spanish very well entertained our party of six with as much grace as an American bell. As we walked through street after street each house window presented at least seven curious faces. Dogs barked, fighting cocks crowed and the occupations for the moment were suspended. After dinner we looked at the church parades ~~a~~ a good deal like our torch light processions. ... In this affair there were a dozen or more folks, each one bearing a Saint, an Apostle or somebody else and each decorated with very costly drapery ornaments, and elaborate candlebra illuminators. Scattered all along between the floats, straggled natives carrying poles on which were images of candle, a hand, a spear, a pair of nails, a cock a set of ~~gra~~ornaments, and other symbolic articles relating to the crucifixion. Then came Peter carrying in his hand the tradition a bunch of keys. Then a decent from the cross, with two apostles standing up on step-ladders. Next came the band of the procession, three men singing to the tune of an old violin - and finally the Virgin Mary, with glass tears rolling down her wax

cheeks. On each side of the line from start to finish trooped the populace, mostly women dressed in black and carrying candles. ..... We strolled across a very primitive bambo bridge over a branch river and wandered through a luxurious coconut grove, beneath whose tall trees were situate a couple of very rudimental coconut oil-mills and the houses of the operators. The machinery was very crude. One might think he was back in the days of stone knives seeing the simple contrivances, the awkward levers, the foot-power grindstone and the old pots and kettles. In the river near the mills were thousands of coconuts ready to be tied to gether in rafts for floating down to Manila"

There were exercises which showed intense superstition but the people speaking for the most part the Tagales language were kind and hospitable and apparently contented with their life and peculiar customs.