

Queer Gossip and Story About the Wild Men of Borneo, Who
Are Cousins to Our Filipinos.

Singapore—The ancestors of a large part of our Filipinos came from Borneo. Our Mohammedan Meros are first cousins to the Dyaks, and there are today thousands of Sulu Islanders living along the Borneo coast. Until within the present generation the sultan of Sulu owned a vast part of North Borneo. His people claim kinship with the people there and they have many things in common. We have tribes in Mindanao who dress like the hill tribes of Sarawak. The Gaddanes of Lunen hunt heads just as the Dyaks do, and were it not for the restraint which has been exercised first by Spain and then by the United States the more savage inhabitants of these islands would probably be going head hunting together.

In order to understand the savages of the Philippines we need to know something of their Borneo ancestors and relatives. There is a vast number of wild men on our islands. Some of them are practically unknown. I am of the same with Borneo, whose natives are savage to any people on the face of the globe. I have heard much of them down here, but have not seen them down here. The Dutch send out regular expeditions from Batavia, and they have collected a great deal of information about their parts of the island. The English possessions are the Malay Peninsula, Singapore, and Java. They usually meet travelers here who have come on the steamers which ply between this port and Sandakan. I got some information about the Dyaks at Jolo from our military and naval officers. They are a very interesting race to North Borneo. Jolo is about a hundred miles from Sandakan and Bongo and Tawi-Tawi are about forty miles away.

There is no doubt that head hunting as followed by some of our Filipino savages comes from Borneo. The practice is common throughout the whole island. Among many of the lowland tribes it is still considered really marriage until he has killed several people and cut off their heads, and men frequently cut off a head to celebrate a funeral. The warriors have regular baskets to carry the heads in, and even the women have an importance in the head-hunting. The heads are hung as trophies upon the wall. Different tribes have their own ways of cutting off human heads and curing them. In Mindanao the Moros use a knife called the *candao*, and even the *lucids* and *lucids* are probably originated in Borneo. It is a long, straight sword as sharp as a razor, with which you can slice off a head at one stroke. The *Sey Dyak* have one something like it. They say that the head of a man being practiced to keep the jaws perfect. They take out the brains through the nostrils and hang the head up over the fire to smoke and dry. They use a net for this purpose and are careful to keep the head from the fire. We understand so well how to cure heads that their heads will last for ages, and a head once taken is considered an heirloom of the family. It is willed to the children, and the latter are very proud of it. The *Sey Dyak* and the young *Sey Dyak* has a fight with one of his fellows he frequently tauntingly tell him that he does not amount to much, and asks him how many heads his father or his grandfather took. The father or grandfather takes honor to gather the heads of men only, and they prize those taken in battle more than those captured on the sly.

Others of the Borneo Dyaks are not so particular in their head hunting. All heads are heads that come into their nets. They lie in wait for the natives to come, and then they kill and kill them if they can catch them alone or in small parties. They even capture women and children to butcher them for their heads, and sometimes slaves that they may cut off their heads. Some of the slaves are condemned to death by the Dyaks will bring more at auction, because he can be executed by the man who killed him, and his head be thereby added to his family treasures. Some years ago there was a family in the Sulu islands. The people died in large numbers, and at one time about 4,000 were carried to Borneo to be sold as slaves. It was found that the chief purpose of the purchases was to acquire the heads of the Sulus, whom they killed on this account.

ATED.

No one knows whence head hunting came. The custom has been common in Borneo for ages and the natives cannot give any information as to its origin. It is largely connected with religious superstition. Some of the tribes say that the persons whose heads they take will become their slaves in the next world, and others that the accession of a fresh human head means prosperity to the family by which it

It does not cost much to build a house either in Mindanao or in Borneo. Here is a description of a Moro house, which I made while sitting before it in the village of Datto Mandi in Mindanao. The house is a bamboo house, the floor is made of bamboo like a straw stack about twenty feet square, raised upon poles as high as my waist. Its walls are of bamboo poles and the roof is of Nipa palm leaves. The leaves are wide and flat like a fan, and they are laid one to two to that they overlap one another like the shingles of a house. They are perfectly waterproof and withstand the floods of the rainy season. The walls are made much the same way, the poles are laid one to the other, overlapping one another like weather boarding. The floor is of split bamboo poles, laid upon bamboo studding, and the roof is there with rattan strips.

There is no door, the entrance with rattan. There is not a nail in the house and everything is done by sewing and tying. The house has thousands of stitches in it, but it can be made so rapidly that it could be built in three days. The cost of the house was \$20, the cost and am told that it was about \$30 in silver or about \$10 in gold.

WHERE OUR MOROS GET THEIR
WIVES.

Many of the Moros get their wives from the hill tribes. They are Mohammedans and some of them have more than one wife. In the past their warriors have captured Visayan, Tagalo and even Spanish women, and in Mindanao they have taken their wives from the savages of the interior.

As to slaves, they get them from the same source, and they treat the slaves just about the same as the masters do in the United States. The slaves usually live with their masters, and have about as much consideration as the rest of the family. Slaves there are acquired by war, by purchase and by the non-payment of debts. They are sold and these are the same as the master and more or less themselves. The practice of slave owning is discouraged by the Dutch in the central and southern parts of the island, and also by the English in the northern part. In the Spanish time the Sulu and the Moluccas were the source of slaves, and today slaves are taken from the Sulu to Borné.

I hear everywhere stories of the big game to be had in Borneo. The North Borneo company is encouraging hunting. It has recently issued laws which regulate the season for shooting big game, but at the proper time the planters are ready to get up a hunt for any stranger who comes properly introduced. Some of our soldiers have been over to Sandakan, and there are others who are planning to go to shoot the elephants and rhinoceroses which are still to be found in the interior. The wild buffaloes, wild pigs, deer and bear as well as plenty of crocodiles

dead monkey for bait. A tough stick, to the center of which a rattan rope is fastened, is concealed in the body of the monkey, the other end of the rope being tied to the throat. The crocodile swallows the monkey, and at the same time the stick, which goes down easily, but which once inside of the crocodile, the monkey flesh being digested, turns crosswise of the throat. The stick has sharp points, and the more the reptile tries to get rid of it the more firmly it becomes fastened in his throat. The crocodile is then killed by the hunters, who are watching, catch hold of it and drag him to the shore, where he is decapitated with an ax.

The orang-outang is often very dangerous and when angry it will not outang of Borneo is exceeded in size only by the gorilla. It is as large as a man and has arms of enormous length. It can jump from limb to limb, catching hold of the branches by its hands. It has strong teeth with which it tears the flesh of its victims.

The orang-outang is the next step to Darwin's connecting link, and there are traditions that the real connecting link exists in Borneo. Indeed, I have

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For advice and literature, address, giving symptoms, "The Ladies' Advisory Department." The Chattanooga Medicine Company, Chattanooga, Tenn.