

# THE BLOOD HOUNDS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

All About the Macabebe Scouts Who Have Been Used by Our Soldiers to Hunt Down the Tagalos.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

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Macabebe Land, July, 1900.—Have you ever heard of the Macabebe scouts, the stealthy hounds of the Philippines? We have almost one thousand of them in our army. They form a part of every brigade, and in every march a company of them goes ahead to develop the enemy. With bolos and rifles they slip along through the densest jungle, and they climb the steep mountainsides, and they climb the high grass, fairly smelling out the Tagalos who are lying in ambush. When on the scent they

"Manila, P. I., February 22, 1899. "Sir: I beg to advise you that I have this day tendered to Maj. Gen. E. S. Otis the services of about 500 Macabebes, including my own, for use in such capacity and under such circumstances as he may deem wise.

"From a personal conversation with you I know that you are fully conversant with the history and character of my people, and I therefore dare to hope and ask that you will interest yourself in our behalf and speak such words of commendation as you may see that we deserve. Should you do this I promise, for both my comrades and myself that

have been considerably ahead of the American soldiers. When they were first organized they lacked discipline. And it is still hard to keep them together, but they are always ready in time of battle. They usually march in their bare feet, carrying their shoes, which they put on when they come into the towns.

IN MACABEBE LAND.

The war has made things rather lively about Macabebe land. This country is situated in the province of Pangasinan. It is a beautiful strip of level land, containing some tens of thousands of acres, lying between the Rio Grande river and the Zambales mountains. It

waved his hand and said "good morning." Even the babies had been taught to say "good morning" and we often heard the words "Americanos mucho bueno." Every one seemed glad to see us and all went out of their way to show it. It is the same in the town. The people can't do enough for us, and the experience makes me long for the time when the Filipinos really know that the Americans are their friends, and we shall have a condition like this over the whole archipelago.

THE CAPITAL OF THE MACABEBES.

Macabebe is the capital of Macabebe land. It is a town of about 4,000 people made up of hundreds of good-sized bamboo houses with roofs of palm palm. The houses are built high upon poles. They are close to the street, along wide roads, which meet in a great plaza in the center. Upon this plaza are an enormous church, a temporary structure which has been built upon the ruins of the burnt cathedral; the bell tower, which calls the people to prayers; the quarters in which our soldiers are stationed for the protection of the town, and the bazaar or market, in which the most of the business of Macabebe is done.

THE PUBLIC GAMBLING HALL.

But stop; I have forgotten one very important part of the plaza. This is the public hall and the gambling room. These fill the best building of the whole town, and they are right in the center of the town. Like all the Filipinos, the Macabebes are fond of games of chance. They will bet on anything at any time. The scouts, after fighting all day, will sit up half the night and gamble. The children gamble, the men gamble, the women gamble. You see women playing cards upon the street in front of their stores. Every other man has a game cock, which he is willing to back against all comers, and every day the gambling goes on in the center of the plaza. The stakes there are high, and I saw several hundred dollars change hands in one game one afternoon.

The greatest gambling of Macabebe town takes place Saturday night. At this time there are immense tables put up in the plaza, and every one comes out to take his part in the game. On one of the tables the different games of chance are played, and on the other are the dice of salado, fish, meats, oysters, etc. The man who wins at certain of the games has a right to select any one of the dishes on the table, and he can take his home for Sunday, or, if he prefers, treat his friends on the plaza. The participation in the gambling is general and all the officers of the municipality are present. The band plays, and the people come out and promenade up and down.

HOW THE MACABEBES DO BUSINESS.

I have been much interested in watching the girls shop in Macabebe town. There are no stores except the sheds or booths in the plaza. These sheds have bamboo floors and walls and roofs of loose thatch. They form, in fact, a great bazaar of cells opening out upon the plaza.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

Now visiting the Paris Exposition.

The street, each of which is a store. The merchants are all women and many of them very pretty women. Each merchant sits down on the floor among her goods. If she is selling cloth it is piled up about her. Pieces of bright-colored calicoes are hung on poles over her head and sides so that she is framed, as it were, in dry goods.



There is a great difference, however, in the people. In Tagalo land the men and women are sullen. If they smile you can see that the grin is a forced one and their politeness is cringing and servile and treacherous. Here everything is open. Every man, woman and child that we met on the road

is surrounded by Tagalos, and the Insurrectos have been hovering about it for the past year and making raids upon the people. During the Insurrection and his army burned a large part of the town of Macabebe, destroying the magnificent cathedral, a church covering two or three acres of ground, and the houses of the houses and the houses of the houses, so that today no Macabebe can utter the name of Aguinaldo without a curse.

In coming to Macabebe I had to have guides with me. I came from Manila to Calumpit by train. Here was one of our army posts and connected with it a company of Macabebe scouts. Lieutenant Chadwick, one of the commanders of the company, offered to go with me, and we took two of the scouts as an escort. The scouts had guns and revolvers and we were each armed with six shooters. We rode for six miles down the Rio Grande river watching the clumps of bamboo which the Insurrectos had passed very carefully for fear of an ambush. We next got a dugout and had ourselves ferried across the river. When we stepped on the other side we were in Macabebe land.

I wish I could describe to you our ride over the Macabebe plains to Macabebe town. The country is as flat as the valley of the Nile. We went through rice fields where the green sprouts were shooting out of the ground. We rode past vast plantations of sugar cane, oceans of palm green, which rose and fell in billowy waves under the fresh wind from the Zambales mountains. The road was lined with a very arbor of bamboo, the feathery stalks rising fifty and sixty feet above the ground and whispering in the wind. Now and then we passed rows of beetle palms, slender silver trunked trees topped with green bunches of green nuts, hanging down like a fringe where the leaves drooped out twenty feet from the ground.

We saw many houses. Nearly all were thatched huts built upon poles. They were unlike the homes of the Tagalos. Indeed, the country and its surroundings are much the same as those of other parts of Luzon.

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OUR SAILORS DRIVE MOBS FROM TIEN TSIN.

Maxim and Gatling guns are in daily use in China's cities, particularly in dispersing mobs.

## LI HUNG CHANG.



No matter what the versatile Sharjah correspondents of London papers may predict about his plans, Li Hung Chang continues to do business at his old stand in that city, and is likely to keep on doing so for some time. He'll get his later!

nut, and the chances are that she may smoke a cigarette or a cigar at the time she is talking to you. I photographed one of the prettiest merchants in the store and afterward persuaded her to step out into the sun, and pose for my camera.

I am told that the women are very good traders. They manage the money matters of their respective families, and there is not one of them who does not aid her husband in building up his income. The storekeepers carry their goods to their houses every night and bring them back every morning. They watch the markets and know when to buy and when to sell.

SOME ARE RICH.

In company with Lieutenant Chadwick I called on a number of the leading citizens of Macabebe town. There are many rich among them and some of the houses which they inhabit are large and well furnished.

The living rooms are on the second floor, the entrance usually being reached by a flight of stairs. There is a piano and in some the ladies played for us, and that as well as the much better than the average girl of the States.

HOW MACABEBE IS GOVERNED.

Later on we called upon the president and had a chat with him and his officials about the situation. He is a straight, fine looking, brown-skinned, smooth-faced Macabebe of about forty years of age. He told me that his people liked the soldiers, and that many of them were studying English in order that they might be better acquainted with us and our government.

VERY RELIGIOUS.

The Macabebes are a religious people. They are Catholics and all attend church regularly. They have native priests and decidedly object to the Spanish friars. Every afternoon at 6 o'clock the bells in the tower of the plaza ring out the Angelus. At the time everyone, whether on the street or at home, bows his head and says his prayers. At home the children salute the father and mother by kissing their hands. They have a curious method of dividing the day into morning and evening, the division being marked by the ringing of the Angelus. Salutation up to that time is good morning; after the Angelus bell rings they say "good evening," and usually repeat this salutation if one another even if they have been together all day.

THE TITHING SERVICE OF THE church is announced with a drum, the bell being used only for important occasions. I spent some time in the church which had been erected to take the place of the burnt cathedral. It is a structure of galvanized iron and bamboo, covering fully half an acre, as big as any church in Washington at 6 o'clock the bells in the tower of the plaza ring out the Angelus. At the time everyone, whether on the street or at home, bows his head and says his prayers. At home the children salute the father and mother by kissing their hands. They have a curious method of dividing the day into morning and evening, the division being marked by the ringing of the Angelus. Salutation up to that time is good morning; after the Angelus bell rings they say "good evening," and usually repeat this salutation if one another even if they have been together all day.

LITTLE MACABEBES.

I am delighted with the Macabebe children. They are very bright and can easily be Americanized. I visited one of the schools here this morning.

It was held in a thatched hut about twenty-five feet square. On one side of the hut was a room for the boys and on the opposite side one for the girls. There were altogether about thirty little girls, ranging in age from five to thirteen. They were brown-faced, black-haired, bright-eyed little women, full of fun and wonderfully intelligent. They looked clean and they were, according to Macabebe etiquette, well mannered.

Strange to say, some of the little girls were smoking cigarettes while they were studying. One had a cigar in her mouth. As I looked at her she evilly thought it was out of place, for she pulled it out, turned it around and again put it in her mouth, with the lighted end inward. It seems strange that her tongue was not burnt, but if so she gave no evidence of the fact.

I asked the school master some questions as to the general education of the people. He told me that only about one in three could read and write, but that the children were very anxious to learn, and that if a common school system was established there would be no trouble in having a very general attendance.

## A CHINAMAN'S IDEA OF WHERE THE UNITED STATES IS.

One night when the local officials of the small village where we were stopping called according to custom, to greet us and arrange for future progress. One of them a dear old gentleman, who had a laugh that would have made his fortune on the stage in any capital of Europe, inquired what land I came from, if it was far from China, and then whether I came by land or sea, each question being punctuated by a delicious laugh. To tell him, who considered me a hundred miles as a long journey, that I had come over 10,000 miles, was to give the impression of a gross exaggeration, as he had no idea of the size of the earth or where America was, as the question whether it was north or south of China indicated. One of his companions finding that his friend was quite at sea, finally summoned up courage and rebuked the questioner by pointing out that America was in the western and China in the eastern hemisphere. After other inquiries the first man brightened up and said, "Oh I know now where your land is; it is between France and Germany." Whereupon the second who had been watching our faces and so perceived that the other was wrong again, repeated his hemisphere remark with a most supercilious and superior air, and as he ventured nothing more, he was a little doubtful that the world's geography, although there was considerable doubt that he really knew anything about it, was the teachings of the fifth century before Christ rather than the nineteenth century after—Harper's Weekly.

## It's Interesting to Watch

the increase in our coal trade. But of course where none of the old customers leave and new ones are being added it couldn't be otherwise.

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