

# Civilizing Wild Tribes in the Philippines



(Copyright, 1912, by Frank G. Carpenter.)  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.—Have en-  
 titled this letter "Uncle Sam's  
 Civilizer." It deals with the  
 wild tribes of the Philippine  
 islands and shows what we  
 have done with them after  
 thirteen years of civil and military rule.  
 The work so far has been that of our  
 government, but the Philippines would like  
 to have a hand in it. Some of them are  
 now attempting to make it a political  
 issue and to have these savages ruled  
 by the active assembly at Manila. But  
 Uncle Sam knows better. He questions  
 whether the Philippines are able to even  
 govern themselves, and the civilization  
 of the wild men will be continued by  
 the national government.

**One Million Semi-Savages.**  
 As it is now, fully one-eighth of the  
 population of the Philippines is semi-sav-  
 age. The people have been counted by  
 our census enumerators and we find some-  
 thing like 700,000 who rank from the lowest  
 stage of barbarism, as shown by the  
 Negrito pigmies, up to the Igorrot and  
 Ifugao of northern Luzon, who have  
 irrigated rice fields, villages with public  
 buildings and other things showing a  
 considerable degree of civilization. We  
 have also 300,000 Moros, who are a sort  
 of degraded Mohammedans, and of whom  
 I shall write later on.

Let us first take the wild men outside  
 the Moros. They are scattered all over  
 the islands; they infest the mountainous  
 districts, and vast tracts of country are  
 devoted entirely to them. Some of them  
 are head hunters, many have been slaves  
 and not a few are as savage as the poorest  
 and meanest negro of the wilds of the  
 Congo.

I saw a great many of these people  
 during my stay in the Philippines. The little  
 black pigmies peeped out from behind rocks  
 at me as I rode through the mountains,  
 and away down in southwestern Mis-  
 canao I had a chance to buy a black  
 slave girl for \$10. She was an Aeta, 12  
 years old, and she only reached to my  
 shoulder. She was half naked, and I  
 could see that she was as plump as a  
 partridge, notwithstanding her size.

**Among the Bagobas.**  
 In that same region I was shown men  
 belonging to tribes where one could not  
 marry until he had killed a human being.  
 These were the Bagobas, and associated  
 with them were the Gullakas, a class of  
 special murderers appointed by the chiefs.  
 They had the right to wear the turban  
 which looked for all the world like a  
 red bandana handkerchief. The turban  
 was a headdress to kill, and one of the  
 wearers told me he had twenty heads to  
 his credit.

The Bagobas file their teeth and  
 blacken them. They are polygamists, and  
 formerly held human sacrifices on the  
 slopes of Mount Apo, the great volcano  
 not far from Davao. I was told that  
 they prayed to the mountains, and their  
 exact methods of sacrificing humans to  
 it was shown. They were very revenge-  
 ful, and carried on a vendetta from  
 generation to generation, launching or  
 sparing their enemies on sight.

I have just gotten a report from that  
 part of the Philippines. It is from Major  
 Henry Gilhouser, the governor of the  
 Davao district. He says that the Bagobas  
 have stopped murdering their fel-  
 lows, and are taking to farming. Many  
 of them have been brought together in  
 villages, where they have schools with  
 regular teachers. In other places the  
 wild boys are taught by the scouts and  
 the police. In the town of Davao, which  
 was practically wild at the time I vis-  
 ited the islands, there is an agricultural  
 and industrial school, attended by the  
 boys of the surrounding tribes. Military  
 drill is given and the boys are taught  
 farming.

When we took possession some of the  
 Bagobas had little farms and they raised  
 hemp for their own use. They tore the  
 fibers apart and wove their clothes from  
 them. I saw hundreds of men and women  
 who were dressed in grass jackets and  
 pants. The pants of both sexes reached

only to the knees, and the men wore  
 strings of bells about the leg at the same  
 place that the American girl wears her  
 garter.

**They Raise Hemp for Export.**  
 Today the Bagobas are farming in  
 earnest. Major Gilhouser says they are  
 now bringing in something like 150,000  
 pounds of hemp a month and that his  
 whole district exports ten times that  
 amount.

Many of the other tribes bring in gums  
 and wax, and not a few of the wild men  
 are laboring on the plantations owned  
 by the Christians.

The greater part of Mindanao is wild,  
 and some of the people far in the interior  
 are so savage that very little has been  
 done with them. There are fifteen differ-  
 ent tribes near Davao, some of whom  
 still live in trees, making their homes in  
 the branches forty or fifty feet above  
 the ground. These people are much afraid  
 of the foreigners, but they are gradually  
 beginning to have confidence in the new  
 conditions and to learn that they will  
 not be robbed or murdered.

The government has been opening up  
 trails all over Mindanao. It is making  
 roads and clearing out the rivers and  
 streams, so that the wild people can go  
 from place to place in their canoes.  
 There are mounted police almost every-  
 where, and life and property are now  
 comparatively safe. In some places the  
 wild men are used to police their own  
 country. Human sacrifices are being done  
 away with, and this is also true of the  
 animal sacrifices. Down at Davao roads  
 and bridges have been made throughout  
 the whole district. There is a wireless  
 telegraph station there and telephone  
 will soon be put in.

**Work Among the Negritos.**  
 Before I speak of the work which has  
 been done in Luzon and other large  
 islands where there are semi-civilized  
 tribes I want to tell you about the  
 Negritos. These little people are about  
 the lowest and most barbarous of our Phil-  
 ippine cousins.

They are the aborigines, and are much  
 like the pigmies of the Andaman islands  
 and the little dwarfs which inhabit the  
 wilds of the Congo. They are about the  
 smallest of mankind. I have met full-  
 grown men who could walk under my  
 arm and have seen old men who did not  
 reach up to my shoulder. The officials  
 of the census measured nine full-grown  
 men and the average height was four  
 feet eight inches.

These people are as black as your hat,  
 and their hair is as woolly as that of  
 the little men of the Congo. They have  
 wide nostrils, thick lips and flat noses.  
 Their teeth are black, made so by chew-  
 ing the betel.

The Negritos are scattered all over the  
 islands. They have no language except  
 that of the people about them. They  
 have no tribal relations to speak of, and  
 it is hard to get hold of them except in  
 isolated cases. The government has en-  
 deavored to get them into the schools, but  
 they are usually timid and will run from  
 the stranger. I saw some of them in the  
 Zamboanga mountains while General Fred  
 Grant was in charge of that region. They  
 were almost naked, and their houses were  
 bark shelters or holes in the ground.  
 The most of their living came from hunt-  
 ing and fishing, and they were expert  
 trappers of game. They use bows and  
 arrows and tip their arrows with poison.

As to the future of the pigmies, the  
 government does not expect much. The  
 Negrito is not numerous enough to be  
 an important quantity, and the probabili-  
 ty is that he will be swallowed up by the  
 other tribes and the Philippines and will  
 disappear.

**Mangyans and Tagabanes.**  
 Another low tribe is the Mangyan and  
 another is the Tagabanes. These people  
 are mixed with the Negritos, but they  
 are a little more advanced in civilization.  
 The government is now investigating them.  
 There are many of them in Pala-  
 wan and Mindoro, where they live in  
 the woods, engaged in hunting and fish-  
 ing. They have little patches of farms.

We have American governors in Pala-  
 wan and Mindoro who are now organ-  
 izing these tribes and beginning the work  
 of civilizing them. I am told that they  
 have an alphabet and that it will be  
 possible to get many of them into the  
 schools. In the past they have sent  
 messages to one another on pieces of  
 bamboo.

**Our Head Hunters in 1912.**  
 But I want to tell you what has been  
 done among the head hunters. When we  
 took hold of the islands we had ten  
 thousands of savages who made a regu-  
 lar custom of killing human beings that  
 they might eat off their heads and keep  
 them as trophies. This custom was not  
 confined to one tribe, but it was common  
 to the wild men of the northern part of  
 Luzon. Our government officials have  
 taken photographs of the victims, hav-  
 ing found them shortly after the heads  
 had been cut off. I have seen one of a  
 man tied to his shield with his bloody  
 neck hanging down.

They have also photographs of houses  
 ornamented with human heads, and I  
 have before me a picture of two men

clad in nothing more than a g-string  
 who are pounding on gongs the handles  
 of which are the jaws of the human  
 beings they have probably killed. The  
 teeth in the jaws are plainly visible.

There are some of these head hunters  
 today, but the American governors of  
 the tribes write that the custom has been  
 almost wiped out. During 1911 there were  
 no heads taken by the Ifugao, and very  
 few among the Igorrot or Kalingas.  
 Lieutenant Governor Hale was warned  
 that he would lose his head if he visited  
 one of the Kalinga settlements. He went,  
 nevertheless. His head is still on.

**In the Mountain Province.**  
 It is right in this region of head hunters  
 and others that the government has now  
 organized what is known as the mountain  
 province of northern Luzon. That coun-  
 try is as big as Massachusetts and Con-  
 necticut combined, and it is inhabited by  
 wild or semi-civilized people. It has  
 altogether about 600,000, many of whom  
 have been head hunters, and practically  
 all of whom are the descendants of head  
 hunters.

The province has a governor, who lives  
 at the capital, which is Bontoc, and it  
 has seven lieutenant governors, one over  
 each of the subprovinces into which the  
 mountain province has been divided. It  
 has altogether about 600,000, many of whom  
 have been head hunters, and practically  
 all of whom are the descendants of head  
 hunters.

**The Ifugao and Their Rice Fields.**  
 Every one in the United States has  
 heard of the Igorrot and some of them  
 were seen at the St. Louis exposition.  
 They have a number of tribes in northern  
 Luzon, and notwithstanding their head  
 hunting, they have had a high degree of civi-  
 lization. They have farms and grow coffee  
 and rice and raise stock. From reports  
 which have recently come from Dr.  
 Merton Miller and other ethnologists of  
 the bureau of science at Manila I learn  
 that these people are rapidly improving.  
 They are beginning to send their children  
 to school, and hundreds of little Igorrot  
 boys, clad in nothing but a cap, jacket  
 and a string around the waist, may be  
 seen trudging along with books in their  
 arms.

**Savages Who Are Worth \$350.**  
 The same is true of the Ifugao, an-  
 other agricultural people. The Ifugao  
 have rice fields which are faced with  
 stone walls. The walls are built to hold  
 back the earth and in some places rise  
 up the hills like gigantic stairways, run-  
 ning hundreds and sometimes thousands  
 of feet over the rivers where they begin.  
 In such little terrace rice grows, and the  
 land is so valuable that the people are  
 among the richest semi-savages of the  
 world.

Their wealth is said to be about \$500-  
 000 American dollars or \$100 per capita.  
 The Ifugao have their own religion  
 and their own priests. They think the  
 world is divided into six regions, all of  
 which are inhabited by both spirits and  
 human beings. At first they were much  
 afraid of the Americans and looked upon  
 them as magicians. One time a party of  
 them came to Manila and Dean Wolf-  
 easter gave each of them a piece of lead  
 and told them that in America water  
 became like that in winter. The men  
 handed the lead, and one said he was  
 going to take his piece home and show

like these pictures and they are do-  
 ing considerable good.

The tribal lines are fast disappearing  
 among these savages of the north. In the  
 mountain province there now exists 700  
 miles of good trails. Cars are being run  
 from the coast to Cervantes, and in a  
 short time they will reach Bontoc, the  
 capital. In Ifugao there are 2000 men  
 who each did ten days' work on the road  
 last year. The old trails have been wid-  
 ened and improved, and it is expected  
 that 800 miles of new roads will have  
 been completed during this fiscal year.  
 This road work is going on in Mindoro  
 and elsewhere.

**The Americans Versus the Philippines.**  
 In closing I would say that the wild  
 men are afraid of the Philippines and that  
 there is a mutual distrust between the  
 two classes. The Filipino despised the  
 wild man on account of his ignorance,  
 and fears him for the vengeance he has  
 shown in the past. A war of prejudice  
 and hatred has risen up between him and  
 the semi-savage, and it is said that he  
 has taunted the latter with the statement

that the American government is to be  
 only temporary and that in time all the  
 tribes will be ruled by him. This wild  
 man fears and he has come to the Ameri-  
 can again and again and begged him to  
 stay and continue to give him his right  
 in the courts and the other great advan-  
 tages which he now has.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

**Humorous Women.**  
 The Wandering Willie had received  
 plentiful inward repairs at a generous  
 farm house had a mile down the road,  
 and when he came to the next he might  
 have passed on, but he was in still fur-  
 ther need, and he knocked at the kitchen  
 door. A kind woman responded to his  
 knock. He was such a ragged specimen  
 that her heart was moved before he  
 spoke.

"Why, you poor man!" she exclaimed.  
 "Come into the house! We haven't got  
 much just now, but you can have enough  
 to keep you and soul together."  
 "Thank you so much, lady," he re-  
 plied, sticking out a foot in a dilapidated  
 shoe, "as it is something to keep upper  
 and sole together, I'll be obliged to you."  
 He laughed at his joke, but the woman  
 did not. Women have no sense of humor.  
 She slammed the door in his face.—Judge.

## What's the Matter With Your Baby?

The young mother—and many an old  
 one, too—is often puzzled to know the  
 cause of her child's ill nature. The  
 loudness of its crying does not neces-  
 sarily indicate the seriousness of its  
 trouble. It may have nothing more than  
 the matter with it than a headache or a feel-  
 ing of general dullness. It cannot, of  
 course, describe its feelings, but as a  
 preliminary measure you are safe in try-  
 ing a mild laxative.

Nine times out of ten, you will find it  
 is all the child needs, for its restlessness  
 and peevishness are perhaps due to ob-  
 struction of the bowels, and once that  
 has been remedied the headache, the  
 nervousness and the many other evi-  
 dences of constipation and indigestion will  
 quickly disappear.

Don't give the little one salts, cathar-  
 tic pills or laxative waters, for these will  
 act as purgatives, and they are too strong

**Over-ness Con cerned.**  
 Fat, or even fatter, women readers who  
 want to be in the mode this year must  
 understand that the demand is for lined  
 not curves, and govern themselves ac-  
 cordingly.

This means OFF with the fat. It has  
 become a duty. Many are trying exer-  
 cise or dieting, but it is certain they will  
 find these methods too slow, and unde-  
 sirable. The cheapest and safest way to  
 get in form for the Dioretic mode is by  
 means of Marmola Prescription Tablets.  
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 generous supply, for seventy-five cents,  
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 to make a decided impression on your  
 excess fat. Many have lost as much as  
 a pound a day.

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 strictly in accordance with the famous  
 Marmola Prescription, they are, of course,  
 quite harmless. They are rather bene-  
 diction than otherwise, in fact, never dis-  
 turbing the stomach or causing a wrin-  
 kling of the flesh.

## ASTHMA

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ful for the rest of your life. J. G. Mc-  
Bride, University Place, Lincoln, Neb.

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**BABY'S FACE ALL SCALES**

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