

## RACES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

**Descendants of the Conquering Malays Are the Most in Evidence.**

Of the seven million inhabitants of the Philippines, very few of them are Spaniards, less than one-fortieth of them live in Manila and about one-seventh of the entire population are believed to be unconquered natives. Among the natives are found representatives of seven distinct races. The aborigines were probably the Negritos, a diminutive, dark-hued race, with features resembling the American negro. They are still found in limited numbers, a harmless, nomadic people, very fond of the dog and of a cigar, which they frequently smoke with the lighted end in the mouth.

The aboriginal people were gradually conquered and driven into the interior by invading Malays, whose descendants now form a large proportion of the population. The Tagals and Igolotes are the most important of the Malay tribes, the latter being law-abiding and devoted to agricultural pursuits. The Tagals, with more war-like propensities, occupy the lowlands, living near the water in picturesque, elevated huts. They are in full possession of the interior of Mindanao, where under the sovereignty of their own sultans they are free to enjoy the cock-fight, dancing and music, for which they seem to have a great aptitude. They have strongly stockaded villages on the mountain sides, and while they acknowledge the suzerainty of Spain they do not pay taxes nor permit Spanish officials to reside among them.

Besides these two races there are in the Philippines many Indians and native Caucasians, with a large number of Chinese and Mestizoes. The laziness of the natives in times of peace is proverbial, but this is not to be wondered at when we know that nature has furnished the islands with a wealth of vegetation which may be used for food. Their indolence is probably increased by the climate, which is hot and enervating. The heat is, however, greatly moderated by alternating land and sea breezes, and a more healthful climate is unknown in tropical countries.—John A. Osborn, in Chautau-

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