

Nature.¹ The natives cut solid wheels for their buffalo carts directly out of these natural living planks, and the large circular window-like holes left in the roots at the bases of the trees are curious features in the forest. When traversing the forest one was constantly put on the alert by the rustling of what sounded like some large animal amongst the dead leaves, and expected every minute to get a shot at a deer, but at last it appeared that the animal disturbing the silence of the forest was a huge Lizard (probably *Hydrosaurus marmoratus*) which bolted up the trees when approached, and sat in a fork to gaze at the intruder. The forest was full of these reptiles. In the same forest occurs the well-known aberrant flying insectivorous mammal (*Galeopithecus philippinensis*), which, like a flying squirrel, has membranes of skin (patagia) stretched between its legs and out on to its tail; so that, supported on this as by a parachute, it skims through the air in its leaps from tree to tree with a partial flight. On one of a group of trees standing isolated, not having been as yet felled in the process of the formation of a clearing, after much search, a Kaguan (*Galeopithecus*) was seen hanging to the shady side of the tall trunk. It was an object very easily seen, much more so than would be expected, and moved up the tree with a shambling jerky gait, hitching itself up apparently by a series of short springs. It was found when shot to be a female with a young one clinging to the breast, and was in a tree at least 40 yards distant from any other, and must have flown that length to reach it. The guide said that numbers of the animals were caught when trees were cut down in clearing. They are especially abundant at the island of Bohol, north of Mindanao, and their skins were for sale at Zebu at four dollars a dozen.

Close by on some lower trees were seen several Flying Lizards (*Draco volans*), which similarly have a flying membrane, but in their case supported on extensions of the ribs. The little lizards were seen to spring several times from tree to tree and branch to branch, but they pass through the air so quickly that the extension of their parachute is hardly noticed during the flight. Several of them were kept alive on board the ship for a day or two, where they flew from one leg of the table to another. It was curious to find two animals so widely different in structure, yet provided with such similar means of flight, thus occurring together in the same grove and even on the same tree.

While the ship was absent at Port Isabella coaling, a party of officers and naturalists, with three men, remained at Samboangan and made an excursion to the high land about seven miles distant, where they pitched a tent in a beautifully wooded valley and were engaged during the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th February in various collecting and hunting expeditions.

Monkeys (*Macacus philippensis*) and Hornbills were very numerous in the valleys, and the woods continually resounded with their cries and calls. A large number of specimens were collected. Among twenty-two species of birds preserved were five new

¹ A. R. Wallace, *Tropical Nature and other Essays*, p. 31, London, 1878.