

towns of Zamboanga and Ilo Ilo are mostly of closely similar pattern. They stand in like manner on piles, though on dry ground, and have a platform usually at one end. This is reached by a short steep ladder, with widely separated and irregular rounds, up which the house-dogs, from practice, run as nimbly and easily as the children and their mothers. The platforms are now used for drying clothes upon, and such purposes.

The first process of modification of the pile-dwelling gone on shore, is the putting up of a fence of palm leaves in the lower part of the spaces between the piles supporting the house. A pen is thus formed in which pigs or other animals are kept. Then well-made mats or reed walls are put up, entirely enclosing the space between the piles, with a regular door for entrance, and the place becomes a convenient store-house. As a further stage, boards are nailed between the piles, and a secure chamber is obtained.

A further step again, is the adoption of stone pillars for the wooden piles. Wooden houses thus supported on stone representatives of piles, may often be seen with an iron railing, passing from pillar to pillar beneath, and in this way forming an enclosure. From stone pillars the step is easy to arches, supported on pillars of masonry as a substructure; and some houses of business, although their upper structures have ceased to be wooden, and are built of more solid materials, are still to be seen amongst the rest, supported thus on the descendants of piles.

In the last stage the arches are discarded, and continuous walls of masonry substituted as a support to the wooden superstructure. Even then the ground-floor is often still used only as a store-house or piggery, but in many cases is regularly occupied.

Thus, in these houses, what would seem almost an impossibility is nevertheless the fact. The ground-floor is an addition to the first story, which latter is the older, and preceded it. The verandah is the representative of the platform originally intended for the inhabitants to land on from canoes.

I watched the building of one house, which when finished looked perfectly two-storied, the lower part being neatly boarded in, and provided with a door and windows. Nevertheless, in the construction of the house, the history of its development was exactly recapitulated, just as is the case familiarly in natural history. The roof and first story were first built complete upon the piles, and the lower structure added in afterwards.

I could not help being struck by the remarkable resemblances of many of these Malay houses to Swiss *châlets*. In