

houses of the Moros at this place have already been referred to ; the town was mostly in process of construction by families of Bisayans moved from Zamboanga, and much of it was being built on causeways and made ground constructed with coral rock on tidal mud flats ; some families newly arrived were camped on the sites of the houses they were building.

Separated from Basilan Island by a narrow strait is the very small island of Malamaui. This island is mostly covered by a dense forest of lofty trees, many of which have the curious vertically projecting plank-like roots which are so fully described by Mr. Wallace in "Tropical Nature."* 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.

I 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 found that the animal disturbing the silence of the forest was a huge Lizard (I believe *Hydrosaurus marmoratus*), which bolted up the trees when approached and sat in a fork. The forest was full of these reptiles.

I wished much to see the well-known aberrant flying Insectivorous mammal, *Galeopithecus philippensis*, which, like a Flying Squirrel, has membranes of skin 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. I had no interpreter, but found a Bisayan native who knew Spanish. I knew what "to-morrow morning early" was in Spanish, and also what "I want to go and shoot *Galeopithecus*" was in Malay. And to my great amusement I combined these two so widely different languages in a sentence with perfect success, "Mañana por la mañana saia mau purgi passam kaguan." The man appeared accordingly next morning at daybreak, and I went with him and shot the animal.

The guide led me through the forest to some clearings belonging to Moros here living inland. Their houses were raised on poles at least twelve feet above the ground. We went to one where the wife of the owner, a very handsome young woman, was sitting on the ladder with her child in her arms. Some few trees were standing isolated, not having been as yet felled in the clearing. On one of these, after much search, a Kaguan (*Galopithecus*) was seen hanging to

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