

plexity may have commenced life on the earth in its early history, before the water on its surface had anywhere cooled down to a temperature sufficient to be borne by the human hand, and which may have been strongly impregnated with various volcanic gases and salts.

The upper slopes of the mountains of Camiguin Island were thickly wooded. The lower slopes were cleared and planted with Manila hemp. A Manila hemp plantation is not at all pleasant or easy to traverse. The large trees, a species of Banana (*Musa textilis*), from the stems of which the fibres known as Manila hemp are obtained by maceration, are planted closely together. The plantations are full of fallen stems, which block the way, and are in a half decayed condition, nasty pasty masses which it is very unpleasant to handle and climb over, or crawl beneath.

The ship stopped three days at the town of Ilo Ilo, the head-quarters of the manufacture of a sort of fine muslin, made out of the fibre of pine-apples, and known as "piña." This fabric is highly prized by the native Malay and miscellaneous half-caste beauties, but apparently does not find much favour in Europe, because of its always having a dusky tint. A similar fabric is woven in some parts of India.

Manila, November 5th to 12th, 1874, January 11th to 14th, 1875.—As we entered the Bay of Manila, there greeted us the cowlike moan of an American-built steamer, so different from the English whistle, and I felt at once that we had, as it were, turned the corner of the world in our long voyage.

The dress of the Bisayan and Tagalese and half-caste men is very ludicrous. They wear an ordinary shirt without tucking the flaps in. The flaps hang over their trousers, reminding one of the Australian Black's description of a clergymen, as "white fellow belong Sunday, wear shirt over trousers." Men who are well to do wear elaborately embroidered and very transparent shirts of piña.* The shirt is the article of dress on which the wearer prides himself most, and especially is he gratified by the beauty of its front.

The dress of the children at Ilo Ilo and Zamboanga was interesting. It was evidently put on them in many cases by the parents as an ornament or exhibition of wealth, not in the least from any sense of decency. All dress has no doubt been primitively ornamental in origin, and has subsequently come to subserve the functions of increase of warmth or gratification of sense of decency.

* The men similarly in Nicaragua wear their shirts over their trousers. See Thos. Belt, F.L.S., "The Naturalist in Nicaragua," p. 63. London, John Murray, 1874.