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THE PHILIPPINES.—AYUNTAMIENTO, MANILA.—Headquarters of the Philippine Government.

The Philippines.

As this number of *SUNSHINE* is devoted to the Philippine Islands, a short description of that beautiful archipelago, known as "The Pearl of the Orient," will doubtless be of interest to many of our readers, particularly those of the Western hemisphere.

The Philippines, discovered by the Portuguese Fernando, Magalhaens (Magellan), are a rich group of islands situated between latitude 5 and 22 north and longitude 117 and 127 east. They are bounded on the north and west by

the China sea, on the east by the Pacific Ocean, and on the south by the Celebes sea. The islands are over a thousand in number and contain an area of about 114,000 English square miles, with a population of about 7,000,000.

Manila is the capital, with a population of about 300,000. Cebu and Iloilo are also important cities, and there are over one hundred other cities and towns varying in population from 5,000 to 40,000 souls.

The islands were formally annexed to the Crown of Spain in 1565, and their