



A GROUP OF NATIVES.

upper storey was divided into four big bedrooms, a wide hall, and a *sala*, or drawing-room. Several huge posts, like ships' masts, ran from the roof to the ground, as supports against the frequent earthquakes, which also necessitated the ceilings and inside walls being covered with canvas instead of plaster, and the window panes being made of tiny squares of oyster-shell instead of glass. The

windows were framed in overlapping panels, which could be pushed back into the wall, thus turning the room into a sort of roofed veranda; and as the thermometer ranges from 75° to 110° all the year round, they were never closed during the daytime except in case of a typhoon, and then the light coming through these *conchas*, was very soft and pleasant.



MAIN STREET IN BUSINESS QUARTER, MANILA.