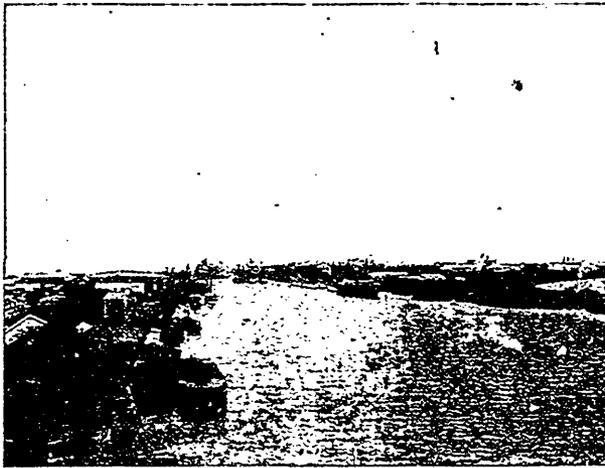


an independent Filipino Church, known as the "Aglipoy Movement." They welcomed the Protestants, who have never been able to reach but few of the people. Men and women will walk for miles to attend a Protestant service in some plain hut, while the stately Catholic chapel is almost deserted. No Roman Catholic country in the world to-day is so ready to receive the Gospel as this one.

What of the future of these people? They are said to be untrustworthy and untruthful. What people do not



RIO PASIG, MANILA.

become so under constant and powerful temptation? Duplicity and lying received the highest reward in Church and State. The Filipinos are said to be indolent, so are we in hot weather, and the climate favors indolence. Nature is lavish, shelter is cheap and easily obtained; a few hours' work supports a man perhaps for a week. The moral stability of the people is affected by this. Hence we have a country of vast wealth and resources, but almost entirely undeveloped. Enterprise is lacking, minerals abound. Its gold outrivals Alaska's. It will produce the best sugar-cane in the

world. There are fifty-two million acres of woods. The native laborer won't work, the foreign laborer can't. The great exception to this is the Chinaman, and they do not want him there.

The Filipinos are noted for their hospitality. There are no hotels in Manila which cater to the native patronage. People do not need them. There are no poor-houses among them. A poor man's relations take care of him, and make no wry faces about it. They are exceedingly fond of music. Visitors at the St. Louis Exposition were astonished at the ability of the native Filipino band to render the most difficult music. They are fond of pleasure. They live for the present. Gambling is one of their chief pastimes.

So here we have eight million or more of our fellow-beings who by one of the most remarkable events of modern times have become the wards of the world's greatest Republic, both the State and Church of which are making magnanimous efforts to uplift them.

These people, already in advance of their Malay cousins, will soon be in a position to reach a helping hand to other islands where as yet cannibalism is maintained. The Philippines are within easy reach of nearly one-half of the world's population.

The supreme need of the people is character. There is no one can give them that except Jesus Christ. His followers must carry them the Evangel, and exemplify it by their lives. A great door and effectual has been opened, more particularly to our American kin, but "Christianus sum; Christiani nihil a me alienum puto."