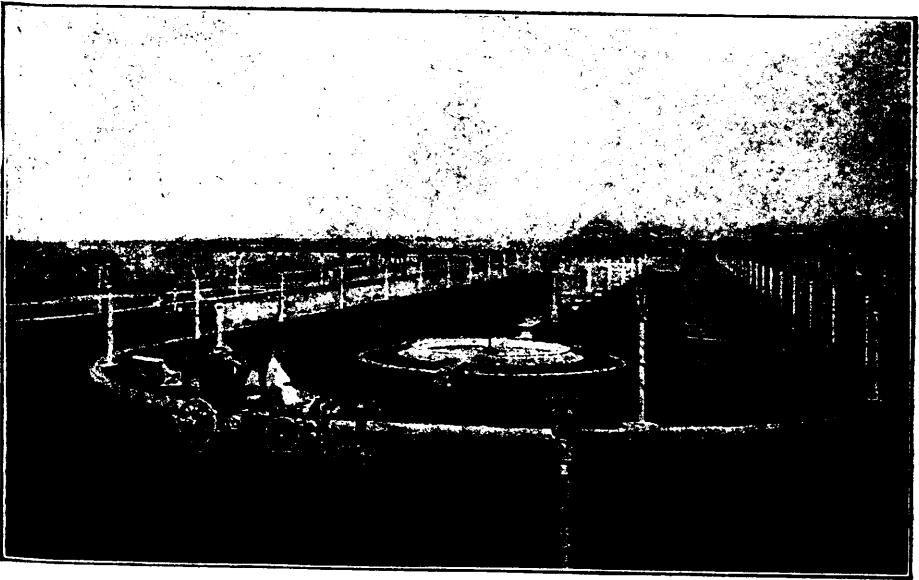


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THE PHILIPPINES AND THE FILIPINOS.

BY THE REV. R. O. ARMSTRONG, M.A., B.D.



THE BEAUTIFUL LUNETA.

I.



THE Philippine Islands were discovered not long after the continent of America, yet until Admiral Dewey's conspicuous victory over the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, May 1st, 1898, they remained practically unknown to the Western world. Dewey's cablegram set the minds of men astir, for beyond Manila little was known about the islands. Geographies, encyclopedias, and works of travel were

searched. Men learned what is now quite familiar knowledge to all, that Manila, a city with 300,000 inhabitants, was the capital of an archipelago of over twelve hundred islands, embracing some of the most fertile and resourceful territory on the face of the earth; that these islands had a combined area of over 112,000 square miles, and contained a population estimated at eight millions; that the greater part of the inhabitants belonged to the Malay race, and were one or two centuries nearer the goal of civilization than their neighbors; that the islands were discovered by