

gime, says our author, there were about 750 towns in the colony, each ruled by a Gobernadorcillo, "little governor," called Captain; usually a native or half-caste. The people were heavily taxed for almost every article of consumption. Lotteries yielded an immense revenue. More money was set aside for the transportation of priests than for the building of railroads, while ten times the sum was donated to the support of the Manila cathedral that was spent for new improvements and for public instruction. There are almost no roads. Transportation is often impossible, and private individuals were forbidden by law to repair the highways.

There were abundance of dilatory and abortive courts, forty-one of a so-called superior grade. The Department of Justice cost the colonies \$350,000 a year. A case was seldom settled till the client could be squeezed no further.

The Church was one of the most oppressive institutions. The hierarchy cost the Government \$800,000 a year. The cathedral of Manila alone cost \$60,000. The Archbishop lived in a palace, with a salary of \$12,000 a year. The salaries of the priests ranged from \$500 to \$2,500 per annum, with large fees in addition from marriages, burials, baptisms, masses, indulgences. There are four thousand priests in Manila alone. "They receive all and give nothing," is the terse phrase of our author.

The several orders of monks have immense revenues. They possess magnificent estates, but notwithstanding their enormous wealth they are hard taskmasters, grinding the poor to the paying of the last penny. Yet on the whole the friars repress in some degree the vicious and brutal instincts of the natives. They are usually of

lowly family, many of them the sole representatives of social order, but there are also many immoral, gross black sheep. The monks have opposed every attempt at reform. Their policy has ever been the policy of ignorance, knowing that their livelihood depended on its perpetuation.

The natives are a branch of the Malay race, divided into three



CHILDREN OF A GOBERNADORCILLO.

large groups, the Tagalogs, the Visayos, and the Sulus. They are born stoics, fatalists by nature. They make good sailors, bold pirates, and fierce soldiers. They are very fond of their children, who, as a rule, are respectful and well-behaved. The noisy little hoodlums of European and American cities are utterly unknown. The old are tenderly cared for, and are venerated; while in almost every well-to-do household are one