

her husband, not only in her person but also in regard to property. The wife was supposed to be the boss of the house. Thus, among the Tagalogs, the wife is called *may-bahay* (the owner, the chief of the house).

The solemnity of the marriage is maintained in many places up to the present time, but, of course, somewhat influenced by the Spanish customs.

Of course, distinction was drawn between legitimate and illegitimate children; there was a procedure of legitimation, and of acknowledgment, and adoption of children. There were laws on property, succession, wills, betterments, obligations and contracts, partnership,

loans, court procedure, etc.

Naturally, upon the establishment of the Spanish sovereignty, the Spanish laws were put in force, and some of these Spanish laws are still laws in these Islands.

There are in force up to the present time some native customary laws, such as some rules among the Moros of Mindanaw, and some Filipino contracts, like the Tagalog *sanla*, which is called *prenda* in Bisayan, which is very similar to the old Roman contract called *fiducia*, when said *sanla* or *prenda* refers to real property. There are also some special partnerships of agricultural or commercial character, and even in the fishing industry.

(To be continued)



BE KIND, SPEAK GENTLY

Speak gently; it is better far
To rule by LOVE than FEAR.
Speak gently, let no harsh word mar
The good we might do here.

Speak gently to the little child,
Its love be sure to gain;
Teach it in accents soft and mild,
It may not long remain.

Speak gently to the aged one;
Grieve not the careworn heart:
The sands of life are nearly run,
Let such in peace depart.

Speak gently kindly to the poor;
Let no harsh tone be heard;
They have enough they must endure,
Without an unkind word.

Speak gently to the erring; know
They must have toiled in vain;
Perhaps unkindness made them so.
Oh! win them back again.

Speak kindly: 'tis a little thing
Dropped in the heart's deep well;
The good, the joy which it may bring
Eternity shall tell.

In the man whose childhood has known caresses and kindness, there is always a fibre of memory that can be touched to gentle influences.