

female costume in this part of India, but you see the lass had no clothes of her own, her people are poor, and it meant her brother's pants or no prize that year, so she did what you or I, or any sensible person would have done under the circumstances, and took what she could get. Not one of the other girls minded a bit. In a country where so many go naked it makes little difference what one wears.

Fifteen of the girls, who seemed of the better off class, wore crescents of gold that covered the crown of the head, and were pinned into the hair. In the bow of the crescent, which opened toward the front, was a heart-shaped pendant, around which clustered a little constellation of stars, each made of a cluster of pearls. Most of them wore two pairs of ear-rings and a nose jewel. One had on a pair of ear-rings that hung down over an inch from the lobe of the ear, and spread out at the bottom like an umbrella fully an inch across. Then to the lower edge was attached a row of pendant pearls. Another girl had three such umbrella-shaped pendants, each adorned with a row of pearls, and hanging one below the other. Another had a pair of silver ear-rings four inches long; one end was fastened into the upper part of the ear, the other being stuck into her hair. They were shaped like a chain. In addition to the usual nose jewel, one girl had a ring the size of a finger-ring stuck in the other nostril. Speaking of jewellery, I saw a little Miss down at the goldsmith's where I went to get my spectacle frame soldered the other day, who had on the following: Three toe-rings on each foot, four pairs of anklets, two pairs of ear-rings, three nose-jewels, four pairs of bracelets, three gold necklaces, and to crown all, a heavy plate of gold on the very top of her head. That was all she had on her little brown skin except a light muslin skirt. It is no wonder that wicked men often rob and then kill these little ones to get their jewels. I once saw the body of a little boy lying in the water of an old unused well at Samalcota, where he had been thrown by robbers after stripping the jewels from off his hands and feet, and tearing them from his nose and ears. There were deep red marks on his throat where the strong hand of the murderer had grasped him, and choked out the lad's life.

There was one little girl who would have found great difficulty, had she tried, standing on tiptoe to look into my vest pocket, and yet Miss Gibson pointed her out to me as a married wife, mind. Of another girl she said, that on her getting an education depended the possibility of her making a good match. She is homely, and her parents are poor, having to twist cigars for a living. They pin their faith on her education to lift her to a better position by marriage. So the education of girls is getting to be valued even in India.

Miss Simpson loves her girls very much, and they return her affection. Your money keeps them going, your prayers will bring them the blessing. Let us bear these caste girls' struggles up in our prayers every night.

A little girl came to school only three months. There she heard of Jesus and learned to love Him very much. Then she took sick and died. Her people gathered about her as she was dying, and called on the name of their god, Rama. They urged her to call "Rama, Rama," but they could get her to say nothing but "Jesus." Whispering that precious name, she fell asleep. I am sure the angels stooped down and picked that soul up, and took her to be with Him, to whom she had, after such a short acquaintance, given her heart. Some of you have known of Him for a long time. Have you learned to love, and have you given your heart to Jesus yet?

Your affectionate friend,

H. F. LAFAMME.

Cocanada, India,
28 th April, 1897.

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