

quantity of taro ready to put into the boat for us. We told them we did not go for food. They said they knew that, but that their present was an expression of their love to us, in return for our love to them. After shaking hands with all, we started homeward. The wind was now ahead, but having a good crew we soon reached home, having spent an agreeable and I trust not unprofitable day.

*Nehparejo.*—On Thursday we prepared to visit Nehparejo, a settlement inland, about four miles distant, where one of our boys had been teaching. This journey had of course to be performed on foot, (as we have neither carriage nor railroad yet.) We left home immediately after breakfast, taking our dinner with us, and a large party of the natives to carry the children, catables, etc. Our road for some time lay through the valley, then along a pretty little river, whose windings we followed for a mile or so. It was delightful to see and hear it rushing and tumbling over the stones. Here and there on either side of the river pretty plantations were to be seen, and again we would travel for some time through the thick bush. Here also there was much to admire, the many different kinds of trees—their leaves and shade, also a great variety of splendid ferns. The shade was now very grateful, as the sun was becoming very hot. We had purposely selected this path for its shade, although not so good as several others leading to the place. As we were leisurely walking along, we came suddenly upon a chief from the place whither we were going. We were surprised to see him leaving home, as we had sent word we were coming, and he appeared as much *taken aback* at meeting us, supposing we would have gone by another path. We asked him where he was going. He said he was going to the foreigners, to buy a pipe, forgetting he had one stuck in his hair. We found out afterwards that the real reason of his leaving home was that he was ashamed to see us, as he still kept his two wives.

The school and teacher's house at Nehparejo are built upon the top of a little hill, which arises abruptly in the centre of the valley. When we reached the top of this hill, I was quite delighted with the prospect that burst upon our view. There was the beautiful valley stretching away in the distance, the sweet little river murmuring through it, here and there pretty plantations, and groves

of beautiful trees, the mountains rising one above another on either side, and the deep blue sea far in the distance, all combined, formed a picture beautiful beyond my powers of description.

The people were waiting for us; the school house, which is every day covered with cocoanut-leaf mats, was on this occasion covered with their sleeping mats. They had spread for us to walk on, what they valued most of all their native property, their best mats. Victoria herself could not have been more highly honored. At one end of the house was a raised seat for us, also covered with mats. We examined the school, and were pleased to find that the people had been persevering in their endeavours to learn, and that many of them could read pretty well. We were gratified to see that Peter, (one of our boys,) had been a faithful teacher. After examining the school, taking the census of the place, etc., we were ready for dinner, which our boys had prepared. In addition to the food we had brought with us, the people had added some taro, and a fowl hot from the oven. Soon after dinner we bid the delighted natives good bye, and wound our way through the valley, and reached home in time for tea, having spent a very pleasant day.

*The other stations.*—Since visiting the above mentioned places, I have accompanied Mr G. to all the other stations but two, the roads to these being quite impassable for a lady. At all the places we found the people progressing fast, the scenery was beautiful beyond description, the kindness of the natives most gratifying; and I returned home highly pleased with my journey. The roads were the only drawback. I should have thought such roads at home passable only for goats, but by having a native on each side to keep me from falling, I managed along to their great amazement. However, I returned to the teacher's house minus my shoes, and resolved, the next time I undertook such a journey, to take two pairs. I saw but one naked person, and that a little boy. I asked him why his mother did not make a *lepe* for him, (a girdle of the pandannas leaf.) He answered, she said *lepes* were *tetaup* (forbidden) for boys. I said it was *tetaup* for boys to go without a covering, and told him to tell his mother she must make him a *lepe*. The little fellow answered, "*pu asaing*" (I will tell her), and I have no doubt he did so.