

FOREIGN MAIL BOX.**VARIED EXPERIENCES ON TOUR.****Boat Elizabeth, Near Narsapudi.**

Wednesday evening, the Lock Master, his wife and two little ones were with us in our good-night prayers. The wife, Suramma, had not faith or courage enough to be baptized when her husband was baptized near Kotapilli more than a year ago. Now, however, she wished for baptism. The Godavari Delta Mission Work borders our work here, and one of their workers, an earnest, faithful man, has been visiting the Lock-Master, while his wife has been teaching Suramma to crochet and to want Christ. Our nearest pastor is some five miles away.

Thursday morning I sent a message to him, while the women and I went some three miles to Narsapudi. On this tour I have with me Elizabeth, who has become a good, helpful Biblewoman, but who is not very well these days, (I think her constant headaches must be caused by her eyes), Nerayamma, at the boat and at home, a laughing, teasing little chatterbox, but in the work very earnest, and having a real experience of God and the saving power of Christ. She needs more training and Bible knowledge, but even now is useful, though her sweet little voice, which cannot carry a tune, but loves to sing, rather upsets our attempt at singing. The third is Kantamma, much more educated, able to sing, but lifeless in speaking voice and movements. She wants to learn, so may succeed, but will need not only training, but some years of growth.

So we went to Narsapudi, where Elizabeth's brother, a rattle-brained, unsteady young man, and his wife, a steady, helpful little woman, are the settled workers. It was harvest, so school was given a few days' leave, but a few children and the Christians gathered for a few moments' prayer and to recite the few verses they had learned. From the Christians we went on to the village. As a rule, we have time to visit only two houses here, for Suramma and Sundaramma have wanted all the time we had to spare. Now the old homestead was locked up and empty, for their father, an old man, passed away. The new home, in which one room had been set apart for me, was also closed, for Suramma, the loved wife, elder sister and mother, had fallen asleep in Rajahmundry Hospital. After some searching we found her elder brother's home, or rather home-to-be. For the present he is in a rough hut while the house proper is in building. His wife and children welcomed us very heartily. A group of Rajah children were delighted to see us again and led us to their home, where we had good earnest hearers. Some four other homes opened. The women had had their noon meal at the teacher's and I a small lunch, so we stayed until after 3 p.m. By walking and cycling, I reached the lock shortly after 7 p.m., where I found the pastor ready for the baptism, while they completed arrangements and the women walked from Narsipudi, I was able to have my late breakfast, for which I was very hungry. We had a service at the Lock-Master's house, and then the baptism was given in the weir behind the lock. We had the Lock-Master and his wife with us again that evening.

Friday morning we drifted down some two miles and had the mile-coolie and his wife, who are Christians, join us for morning prayers. It had rained during the night, and we found just how badly our boat, the Elizabeth, needs the repairs that are planned for next year. The writing table, if pulled out a little, escapes