

very knowing way as if as to say, "I told you so." When they had done examining my dress (they expressed surprise at my wearing no rings or jewellery) I made them understand that I wanted to see some of their houses. At first we could make nothing of one another's speech; but they talked, and I talked, and at last we struck on a few words that were common to both, and with these and a great many gestures we carried on quite a lively conversation. The village talk is very difficult to understand. It is neither Hindi nor Urdu, but a sort of corrupt language called Marwari, and while you often find those among the men who understand Hindi and who can speak it quite well, you scarcely ever find a woman who knows anything but the *putois*. One can always sing to them though, and the Hindi hymns, or bhajans as they are called, are so written as to be very generally understood by the common people. There is a village about two miles and a half from the camp where we very often spend an evening. The Patel, the head man of the town, was very ill with rhaumatism. Mr. Wilson visited him very often, and was able to give him much relief so that now he is almost well. From the first he seemed interested in Christianity, and now he confesses quite openly that he is a Christian, but says that he is afraid to leave his caste. I suppose until he does take courage to do so one cannot be quite assured of his sincerity. He is diligently reading the Bible, however, and we pray that strength may be given him to come out from among his caste-fellows and join himself to our little Christian company. Work is going on as usual in Neemuch, and I shall write next time about the girls' school. Some of the girls who came to it at first have lately left, why I can't find out, but new comers keep up the number to an average attendance of ten or twelve. The boys' school in Old Neemuch is growing since we got a good English teacher, and Mr. Wilson thinks of bringing it to the camp as so many boys in this bazaar are anxious to attend. With a population of over twenty-three thousand in the camp and Neemuch we ought to have a large school. The primary school for boys is doing exceedingly well and will be a "feeder" for the larger school when it is brought to the camp. We are fortunate in having excellent teachers in the primary schools, both boys and girls. When are you going to send us a lady to superintend female work in Neemuch?

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