

flowers, at an expense of some three or four shillings the pair. The reader must not therefore picture to himself anything like the "Arc de Triomphe" in Paris. They were put up, however, by willing hands, and with hearts whose feelings was—

"We give thee all, we can no more,  
Though poor our offering be."

A *Shamiana*, or awning, was put up on the bank of the muddy water. Below lay the boat prepared to receive her ladyship. A cloth was spread on the ground, and a chair placed for her. The road on each side was lined with some hundreds of our native Christians, and the children of our schools. At ten o'clock the Viceregal carriage drove up, followed by a number of the Viceroy's native body-guard. These truly tall gentlemen, on their fine chargers, and in their gorgeous coats of scarlet embroidered with gold, must have impressed the villagers very much. The Lord Bishop of Calcutta was in attendance too, and the magistrate of the district, and one or two A. D. C.'s. Now came the really interesting part of the visit. Her ladyship sat down on the solitary chair under the awning. Behind her, but at a considerable distance, at one corner of the carpet, stood an A. D. C. Her dress was simple and plain, unadorned, except by the grace of the wearer. Her bearing was natural, sweet, womanly; the kind of bearing in a woman that appeals to the hearts of the sterner sex. Her appearance is not robust, but is most pleasing. Our native pastor was permitted to speak to her, and read the following brief address:—

"May it please your Ladyship, We, the Christian inhabitants of the Village of Kaurapukur, in connection with the London Missionary Society, take this occasion of your ladyship's passing through our village, to express our heartfelt pleasure and thankfulness to you for the interest your ladyship has taken in the Christian inhabitants of this country.

"The fatiguing journey your ladyship has undertaken to visit the poor Christians of these swampy regions is itself a great proof of your interest in them. Poor as we are, we could scarcely expect a visit from a person of so exalted a position. This is the first instance of such an act of kindly interest and condescension on the part of the consort of the Viceroy and Governor General. And though the visit is not to our own station, the pleasure to us is all the same.

"May our common Lord and Saviour bless your ladyship, and the noble Earl, our Governor-General, and the other members of your family, for the kindness you have shown to your poor Christian brethren and sisters in these regions.

"Signed on behalf of the Christians of the London Missionary Society in these parts, by

"TIN KAORI CHATTERJEE, Pastor.

"February 24th, 1887."

Her ladyship went up to the pastor, and spoke kindly to him. She said, "It's very kind of you, I'm sure, to take all this trouble;" expressed her good wishes for him and his work, and shook hands with him.

She then went down the bank into the boat, and a light covering, made of rushes and resembling an elongated extinguisher, was put on the boat to screen her from the fierce rays of the sun.

The party, viceregal, episcopal and civil, then passed on towards the place they were bound for, leaving Kaurapukur, after this brief burst of glory, to its normal quiet and obscurity. The great have to leave pomp behind them when they proceed onward from the village across

the rice-fields and marshes further south. There are no roads for carriages and horses. The coats of scarlet and gold, together with the wearers of them, and their steeds, rested, therefore, under the pleasant shade of trees, while their mistress went forward on her fatiguing and somewhat perilous journey. We say perilous, for the season was too far advanced for such a journey. The heat was intense. The odour from the dirty water and the muddy banks was unwholesome. Many a one of us followed the brave countess with the wish that no evil in the shape of malarial fever might touch her. The district is the home of fever and cholera. We heard that her ladyship looked much fatigued when she got back to Kaurapukur in the afternoon. It was a journey which few English ladies in India would have cared to face. We were informed that her ladyship went into several of the poor people's huts, and doubtless her kindly spirit would be touched by the cheerless condition in which millions of human beings, over whom her husband rules, are destined to pass their lives. Indeed, as abodes of God's children in this world, there appears too sad a contrast between the palace of a Viceroy and the hut of a Bengali peasant.

Our brother Tin Kaori Chatterjee is the pastor of about twelve hundred people living in villages scattered far and wide over these rice-lands. He has nine little villages under his charge. The people earn a living by rice cultivation and fishing. They are very poor, many of them uneducated and unspiritual. "Yet, I must say," their pastor remarked on a late occasion, "that there are some, and their number is not small, with whom to talk is to enjoy heaven on earth, and you cannot but love them and long for their company." They live in out-of-the-way places, never visiting or being visited from towns, but spending their lives in hard toil, and seldom seeing any European missionary from year's end to year's end. For the last twenty-five years they have enjoyed the benefit, in succession, of two excellent pastors, both Chatterjees, both therefore Brahmins, of the priestly class among their own Hindu people, now shepherds of Christ's flock. There are schools for the children. At the pastor's house there is a little boarding school, to which we look for preachers, teachers, and evangelists of the village churches. Little bands of preachers, singers and players on instruments go out with banners among the heathen villages, making known the glad tidings of salvation. This good work among the poor and feeble of Christ's flock is one, as the pastor remarked, when pleading their cause at the annual meeting of our Bengal Auxiliary, that "deserves the support of every Christian man and woman." Here the Master's words are fulfilled: "The poor have the gospel preached to them."—*Chronicle, London Missionary Society.*

## THE WORK ABROAD.

### A Hindu Wedding.

Some weeks ago, Nursimah, a former pupil in my girl's school, came to see me. She is perhaps fifteen years old, and very much improved from having been in school, can read, write, and cipher well, sing Christian hymns, and repeat a good many verses from the Bible. She came to tell me she was to be married soon, and asked me if I would come to the wedding if she called me. I promised I would. So on May 4th, about six o'clock, her aunt came saying the marriage was in progress and would be finished in a couple of hours, and they wished me to come