

"The girls are married even as young as three years of age, and should the boy to whom such a child is married die the next day, she is called a widow, and is from henceforth doomed to perpetual widowhood; she can never marry again. As a widow, she must never wear jewellery, never dress her hair, never sleep on a bed, nothing but a piece of matting spread on a hard brick floor, and sometimes, in fact, not even that between her and the cold bricks; and no matter how cold the night may be, she must have no other covering than the thin garment she has worn all day.



HINDU SERVANT.

"She must eat but one meal of food a day, and that of the coarsest kind, and once in two weeks she must fast for twenty-four hours. Then not a bit of food, not a drop of water or medicine must pass her lips, even if she were dying. She must never sit down or speak in the presence of her mother-in-law, or either of her sisters-in-law, unless they command her to do so. Her food must be cooked and eaten apart from the other women's. She is a disgraced and degraded woman. She may never even look on at any of the marriage ceremonies or festivals. It would be an evil omen for her to do so. She may have been a high-caste Brahminic woman, but on her becoming a widow, any, even the lowest servant, may order her to do what they do not like to do. No woman in the house must ever speak one word of love or pity to her, for it is supposed that if a woman shows the slightest commiseration to a widow, she will immediately become one herself.

"I saw an account a short time ago, in an English paper, that they have been trying to take the census of the population lately in India, and as far as they had gone, they found that there were 80,000 widows under six years of age! Can you imagine the amount of suffering that little sentence tells and foretells?"

The following is the summary of the Rev. A. D. Rowe, M.A., on *Missionary Effort in India*:

"There is in India a native Christian Church scattered throughout the cities, towns and villages, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin—a Church which has not only numbers, but also influence, power, and all the elements of growth and self-propagation. We do not say that she has these desirable