

to man the Gospel works on the mighty Kuskoquim. May the Lord of the harvest, in answer to our cry, provide laborers in His harvest who shall be men and women after His own heart, and true angels of mercy to the down-trodden, famishing children of Alaska!

A Crisis in Missions in Turkey.

A gentleman, whose name we withhold for prudential reasons, but who is recognized as one of the most eminent authorities in the Turkish Empire concerning things political or religious, writes to us from Constantinople, under date of February 16th, as follows:

"The outlook for missionary work in this empire is just now very stormy. What the result will be of the restrictive and prohibitory policy at present being inaugurated by the Turkish Government no one can foretell. There never has been a more serious crisis in the history of missions in Turkey. The situation calls for great tact and prudence upon the part of missionaries, and statesmanlike breadth of perception and promptness of action upon the part of all influential friends of religious liberty throughout evangelical Christendom. It is greatly to be desired that the attention of such persons in high places should be drawn to this subject in time to avert the loss of all the concessions gained in the last fifty years to the cause of religious freedom in the Turkish Empire."

To those of our readers who are not aware of the facts which form the basis of this note of warning, we may say that the Turkish Minister has notified the various embassies of Constantinople that hereafter the holding of schools in private houses will not be tolerated. Any such regulation would strike a blow at educational work, pre-eminently that of the American Board.

An exchange forcibly says: "Whether the Turkish officials will seriously attempt to carry out this regulation, or whether, in case the attempt is made,

remonstrances of foreign Powers will be unavailing, cannot yet be determined. The guarantees which were given in the Treaty of Berlin would certainly authorize the interference of Great Britain and other Powers to prevent such a course. According to the terms of the 'Capitulations' between Turkey and the United States, American missionaries have for a series of years been protected in the exercise of their profession as preachers and teachers, and it is not to be supposed that the United States Government will tolerate the placing of restrictions upon the rights guaranteed by these 'Capitulations.' "

God has graciously endowed the missionaries of the American Board in Turkey with great sagacity as well as zeal, and we may well pray that they may be guided in this emergency. Their record in the Turkish Empire is a part of the history of the American people, and their past achievement and prospective usefulness in the interests of national education and the extension of the area of religious liberty, well justify the special attention of our Government to the present emergency. J. T. G.

The Story of the South American Missionary Society.

BY L. G. A. R.,

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The first attempt to establish missions in the south of South America was made by Captain Allan Gardiner in 1838. Being favorably received by the Patagonians, he returned to England, and tried to induce the Church Missionary Society to send some of their agents to this, which seemed to him so good a field. They were, however, unable to do this, and accordingly a distinct society was formed in July, 1844, known as the Patagonian Missionary Society. Captain Gardiner and Mr. Hunt, a schoolmaster, were sent out as its first missionaries. A landing was effected in February, 1845, but after a month's stay it was found that the atti-