

comfortably lodged. Every sign of kindness was shown to them. The heathen priest was one of the kindest of all. At the next village their welcome was equally cordial. "The priests visited us repeatedly, always exclaiming, 'These must be men of God.'" For three weeks the two men, with Mrs. Ramseyer and a babe nine months old, travelled at the rate of thirty miles a day under a tropical sun, and sometimes without food for twenty-four hours. Well may Mr. Ramseyer say that he regards his wife's endurance as a miracle. The surviving of the poor little babe was also astonishing. It is most touching to read of the efforts made by his parents to shield him from inevitable sufferings. "Spite of all our loving care our dear little one faded away; his once rosy cheeks were pale and hollow, so that our hearts ached when he fixed his brilliant eyes on his mother's face, and seemed to say, Have you nothing but this empty bottle for me? He never fretted, but sat as if he knew the whole case and was resigned." The poor baby died while the captives were staying in the village of Totorase. "Kind people came constantly to inquire for him and offer sympathy, while the Queen brought eggs and tried to comfort us with the assurance that if we saw the King the child would recover. To our surprise he lived till morning, when his eyes brightened; he ate egg with appetite and even began playing with the buttons of his mother's jacket, which he had long ceased to notice. This was only the last flickering flame; he gave no more look of silent intensity, as if he wished to say 'good-bye' and all was over. The precious child, into whose brief span of life so much of suffering was crowded! Thou shalt to us 'do not forget Ashantee;' thy grave is a token that the healing rays shall one day reach that far off land." We quote these sentences to illustrate the mutual kindness of the people, and the aspirations of the missionaries.

The country through which the captives passed was very fertile. Some of the towns were large and well built, and graced with avenues of trees. Fierce female warriors were met with in some places, yelling,

gesticulating, flourishing their swords; but the women generally were very gentle.

The missionaries were without a copy of the Scriptures, and their regrets on this account were constant and deep. They often suffered severely from cold. For ten months they had no means of cutting their hair or cleansing it. For ten months Mrs. Ramseyer was unable to dress as a woman. Their food for months was a thin pepper soup *once a day*. They noted the lapse of time and other important events by scratching memoranda with scissors upon an empty milk can, which was their drinking vessel, and the only utensil in their possession.

In a village named Asotche the captives met with great kindness, and they had an opportunity of showing kindness. They found a little orphan boy creeping about unnoticed, and through hunger reduced to a skeleton. He could not speak, and was regarded as an idiot; but when he saw the white woman bringing him food he would cry for joy. The white people's kindness astonished the natives. "They are God's children" was the conclusion reached at, and some of the native women began to imitate their benevolence. One woman went so far as to wash the poor dirty little fellow more than once—an act of singular compassion in an Ashantee. It seems that vast numbers of helpless orphans are allowed to perish in this dark land.

After being deprived of the bible for nearly a year they were able to secure a copy. Mrs. R. also secured a pair of boots that had been made thirty years before and given as a present to the King's predecessor. When the missionaries reached Comassie they were received with demonstrations of respect. They were furnished with a "nest" in the woods near the city, which they called Ebenezer. By and by they were allowed to move into the town, and occupy premises which had been owned by the Wesleyan mission. Prince Ansa, a Christian, was of great and constant service to them. To tell the wonderful and horrible sights they saw, and the trying experiences to which they were subjected all the years of their life, captivity would