

# The Sunday School Guardian

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## THE FAMINE IN INDIA.



**M**Y DEAR CHILDREN,—  
When you look at the picture I send with this letter, you will say, "O, what poor wretched-looking people! what is the matter with them? what makes them so thin? Have they been ill for a very long time?" Yes, they have been suffering from a very bad sort of illness—starvation. They are poor Hindu people reduced to this skeleton-like condition through this sad famine. They have had very little to eat, not only for a few days,

or even weeks, but for months. This photograph was taken at Royapoorane, a place about six miles from our house, at the Relief Camp. The Relief Camp is a large piece of waste ground on which many sheds are built for the shelter of the poor starving creatures that are found about the streets. These are for the most part villagers who have left their homes because food has failed. Their ground is baked dry by the sun, and almost as hard as stone for want of rain. The plough could scarcely go through it, and the oxen to draw the plough are dead. The people have no seed; and even if they had and could put it in the ground there has been no rain to make it grow. In many places the wells and tanks are dry, and scarcity of water