

ous seal ship chancing to pass that way, they wrote upon the rocks in large letters, "Hasten! we have sickness; our supplies are nearly out, and if not soon relieved we shall be starved. Go to Spaniard's Harbour. Hasten! Hasten!" But so far as man was concerned their agonizing appeal was in vain. The reader will naturally ask, What were Gardiner's friends at home doing? It appears that as early as January the secretary of the society had begun to make enquiries about vessels for the conveyance of additional stores, but was uniformly answered that that part of the coast of Tierra del Fuego being comparatively unknown, no vessel would imperil her insurance on so small a freight. At length, it was announced that the *Pearl* would sail in April for the Falkland Islands, distant about 300 miles from the scene of the mission, and that supplies could be forwarded thence. But the *Pearl* did not sail till June, and no other direct conveyance could be discovered. Still, but for the omission in regard to the gunpowder, the sad events that follow might not have occurred.

During April and May the sufferings of the mission party from want and sickness were terrible; but by the time the antarctic midwinter (June) had come round, their supplies were utterly exhausted. A fox that had been caught was part of it eaten, and part of it salted as a reserve. Some mice that came across these poor famished men were seized, cooked, and eagerly devoured; then mussels and limpets, whenever they could find any. At length one of the number died—one of the fishermen from Corawall. Another month passed, and no relief. Two more died and were buried by the survivors. They had taken refuge in a cave, the mouth of which was swept by the sea, and to attract attention to it had painted on the rocks an index hand, with the inscription underneath "Psalm lxii. 5, 8." At length September came, and still no help from the outside world. True, extreme anxiety on their behalf had been awakened, but it was not until October 22nd that a vessel sent from Monte Video reached Spaniard's Harbour, and it was then too late. Every one had succumbed to famine. Four bodies were found,—the boat on the beach, and books, papers, tools, and clothing strewn about. Among the papers was Captain Gardiner's Journal, from which many affecting particulars were learned. The following letter was found addressed by Captain Gardiner to his fellow-sufferer Mr. Williams. It is dated September 6th, and is believed to have been written on the day the Captain died:—

"Dear Mr. Williams,—The Lord has been pleased to call home another of our little company [referring to Maiment]. Our dear departed brother left the boat on Tuesday afternoon, and has not since returned. Doubtless he is in the presence of his Redeemer, whom he served faithfully. Yet a little while, and through grace we may join that blessed throng. I neither hunger nor thirst, though five days without food. Marvellous loving-kindness to me a sinner!

"Your affectionate brother in Christ,
"ALLEN F. GARDINER."

Williams, the doctor, had written in his journal:—"My poor frail body is now very attenuated, and my sinking depressed feelings are very great at times. But my mind scarcely feels depression, and certainly no depression except in mourning over my unfaithfulness and short comings. Should anything prevent my ever adding to this, let all my beloved ones at home rest assured that I was happy, beyond all expression, the night I wrote these lines; and would not have changed situations with any man living."

When the mournful intelligence of what had happened in far off Tierra del Fuego reached England, it created a great sensation. Persons unfriendly to missions indulged in many unkind comments. But, on the other hand, a spirit of Christian devotedness was aroused. Both money and men were forthcoming; and it was resolved that the mission, to which these noble lives had been sacrificed, should go on. A missionary vessel was built, and named the *Allan Gardiner*, to be regularly employed in the conveyance of stores and similar duties. A station was formed on one of the islands of the West Falklands, where Fuegian youths received a Christian education, and then returned to their own land, taking with them a knowledge of the gospel and of civilization. The chequered events of succeeding years we have not space to recount. They may be learned from a book to which, in the preparation of this paper, we have been indebted—"Light in Lands of Darkness," published by T. Fisher Unwin. Suffice it to say that the practicability of evangelizing even the degraded Fuegians has been proved. Christian villages of converted natives now exist. Heathen vices are disappearing. Before his death Darwin, himself, was so impressed with the greatness of the change wrought by the mission, that he had become a regular subscriber to its funds. And thus he wrote, in 1881, to Admiral Sullivan:—"I had always thought the civilization of the Japanese the most wonderful thing in history, but I am now convinced that what the missionaries have done in Tierra del Fuego in civilizing the natives is at least as wonderful."—*General Bap. Magazine*.

W. R. STEVENSON.

From Bimlipatam.

I did not go up to the Jeypore country with Mr. Archibald and Mr. Sandford. They had what they considered an encouraging and successful trip, but Mr. A. brought back some fever with him. Had rather a sharp attack, but, with God's blessing upon the prompt measures adopted, it was short. Is now quite himself again, and we hope there will be no more return of it. But we believe that the work there should be prosecuted, for it promises a harvest.

After due consideration it became obvious that the boarding girls should be taken to Bimlipatam, so Mr. Archibald packed them and their effects into bandies, and sent them off. We soon had the school reorganized, a 4th standard established and Subriadu installed as teacher, and when I left, all were doing well, and Subriadu sent me word to-day that he was doing his best. By-and-bye Miss Grey will have charge of the day school there, but at present she finds the language a great Telugu monster. Miss Wright is engaged with him also, but she wishes to give her time and strength to direct Gospel work among the women whenever she can find any to listen.

Two men whom we saw and conversed with several times during our touring have been here asking baptism. One lives about eight miles away and has been here three or four times. May the Holy Spirit watch them both and not leave them till they are safe in the fold.

Nursiah our oldest preacher has been ill for nearly two months with rheumatism, is some better, but not able to work. Hotiah is over in Pidda-Penkia doing his utmost, we trust, for both the temporal and spiritual building. He went with Mr. Archibald to Kotapand and the other day he told us, that fever tried to come to him, but seeing the great amount of work there was to be done, got frightened and cleared off. We hope that God has