

is spoken of  
it is not the  
If it were,  
y to evange-  
ardings with  
at they who  
granted that  
ded—some-  
the preach-  
life in order  
ow. There  
nan himself  
must be a  
He must  
speech, in-  
e which life  
ne "tongues  
e symbol of  
be propa-  
filled with  
to speak as  
is no neces-  
ed of abil-  
ontact with  
he prophet  
the child,  
the child's  
es, and his  
stretched  
f the child  
ngelist be  
and form  
it not soar  
e of them;  
their eyes,  
the hand,  
whole soul  
World.

## NARY

s associa-  
London;  
following  
ows with  
t has, in  
devoted  
Despard,  
lges, and  
l Fuego,  
abits the  
a race to  
s to the  
civilized

ress re-  
South  
ssionary  
peal to-  
overs, so  
ry, and  
ey have  
on this  
cause it  
is cer-  
of God's  
ts to be  
ngelize  
er what  
d after  
letters,  
unable  
s been  
sing of  
adopt  
ed, it  
a short  
g the  
ho are

to follow me—all that has been achieved, all the difficulties that have been gone through, and all the good that has been accomplished by the remarkable men who have taken part in this Mission; to speak of all the unrivalled courage of Allen Gardiner and all the perseverance of existing labourers, men like Mr. Bridges, who have braved death, who have endured calamities, including hunger and nakedness, and who, nothing daunted by the terrible aspect of affairs around them, have not been discouraged by a prospect which seemed more dark and dismal and hopeless than almost any that had ever before been seen on the face of the earth. I think there is no record at all like the record of this mission. To say nothing of the inhospitable character of that region and of the dreadful climate, I would point to the terrible condition and appearance of the people. Those who came in contact with the natives described them as belonging to the lowest type of the human race, utterly incapable of any higher thought than that of eating, drinking, and sleeping. On this point we had the opinion of a very great philosopher, a man who had studied human nature in all its forms, and than whom there was no greater authority on a subject of that kind; I mean the late Dr. Darwin. He saw these people, he examined their peculiarities during a voyage on board the *Beagle* along the shores of Tierra del Fuego, and he came to the conclusion that the task of improving them would be utterly hopeless, that they were no better than the animal creation, and that, in fact, while animals might be taught something the natives of that region could be taught nothing. Yet this was the race of men—a race, I may remark, which seemed at that time to have no idea of any race superior to themselves or of any other state of existence—this, I say, was the race of men whom Allen Gardiner determined to assail with Christian weapons. He determined to see what the power of the gospel could do; to see what by God's blessing upon the means employed could be done to elevate the most degraded specimens of the human race. I say I know nothing like this. I am perfectly astounded when I read the record of the doings of the men who have engaged in that work; I am astounded when I am told or when I read of what they have achieved. The only explanation which can be offered is that to be found in the words "What hath God wrought!" And will it not lead us to the conclusion that we should never despair with regard to Mission work? I believe that in the whole human race there are none so lost, none so degraded, none whose case is apparently so utterly hopeless, that by the grace of God and through the influence of Christian principles it may be brought to a level possibly quite equal to our own. You have been told what these Fuegian people were, of their physical and moral degradation, their ferocity, their ignorance, and their untrustworthiness. Look at their present state. What a change has taken place! What have you now? You have an industrious people engaged in the arts of agriculture and performing many of the duties of civilized life. Moreover they have among them a translation of the Holy Scriptures into the Fuegian language. The missionaries have given them a written character; they have given them a version of the Word of God in their own tongue. Is that nothing? To go no further, is that not one of the greatest missionary triumphs ever achieved? But, mark you, there is something which concerns the whole of mankind. They were most notorious for depredations and cruelties on a coast where there was no harbour of refuge, and where there could be no security for ships. It has been well said that mariners in general are not afraid of dangers, but mariners of every nation who were compelled to approach that coast, besides knowing that there were shoals and rocks and that the navigation was dangerous, well knew also that if they should be thrown through any calamity on

the shores of Tierra del Fuego, they were almost certain to lose their lives; they knew that there was not a particle of pity, not a particle of compassion or sympathy to be found by shipwrecked sailors among the natives of that region. But what is the case now? Is not the state of things altogether changed? What is the testimony of all the mariners of different countries who go there? What is the testimony of our own people? It is that the region abounds as it were with harbours of refuge. When a sailor is in distress or difficulty he is sure to be received with kindness among those people. The system of wrecking which is known in the civilized world is not known there; on the contrary, there are now places on the coast where sailors who have suffered shipwreck are sure to meet with hospitality, tenderness, and kind treatment. This is, indeed, a mighty change. "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters," "they see the physical wonders of the deep," and among all those wonders there is none greater than that moral wonder exhibited in the changed conduct of the people of Tierra del Fuego. The people planted along those shores, who were formerly the most ferocious, the most dangerous, and the most godless of the human race, now open their wigwams or their huts to the crews of shipwrecked vessels of every nation. Hence we have such magnificent foreign support on this occasion. The existence of these wigwams or huts as harbours of refuge shows that the matter is one that concerns all nations. Hence it is, I say, that we have such magnificent support from representatives of other countries, including France, Italy, Germany, and Spain. All the mariners who go across the ocean on their lawful business may be exposed to the terrible calamity of shipwreck; none can escape "the dangers of the sea;" but on the coast of Tierra del Fuego the sufferings which attend shipwreck in many parts of the earth have at all events been greatly diminished. And what an argument does the case of Tierra del Fuego supply in favour of foreign missions! We often hear that "charity begins at home." That is a very fine-sounding proverb; but if charity begins, it ought not to end at home. Moreover, home itself is concerned in a case of this sort. Look at the position of those who travel on the seas. Is not the presence of a harbour of refuge on coasts like those of Tierra del Fuego as necessary as Portsmouth, or Plymouth, or Dover is to the sailors of our own land, or as Leghorn is to the Italians, or Cadiz to the Spaniards, or Cherbourg to the French? Charity begins, I admit, at home, but in this case it is well that we should not only see the needs of our own mariners, but also recognise the solidarity of nations, that we should not only see that what is good for men in one part of the world is also good for men in other parts of the world, and that we should all combine heart and soul for the benefit of the human race. Here is a good reflex influence, and a very powerful one, in a Mission of this kind, upon the mariners of our own shores and upon the mariners of other countries. Englishmen go out oftentimes godless men to distant parts of the world, but when they come to find what Christianity has done for the savages there is a reflex thought that Christianity may be of intrinsic and internal value to themselves. I remember a missionary from Fiji telling me an anecdote which illustrates what I am now referring to. You have all heard how the Fijians were raised in the scale of social life when Christianity had been introduced among them. Well, a missionary told me that this came under his observation. A ship having been wrecked off one of the islands of Fiji a boat's crew that had got ashore from the wreck were in the greatest possible terror lest they should be devoured by the Fijians. On reaching land they dispersed in different directions. Two of them found a cottage and crept into it, and as they lay there wondering what would become of

them, one of them suddenly called out to his companion, "All right, Jack; there is a Bible on this chair; no fear now!" What must have been the effect produced upon that man's mind? He now felt that the people of that cottage being Christians he and his companion were safe, while under other conditions they would probably have become a meal for the first Fijians who made their appearance. Well, these are very serious considerations affecting us as a nation not only commercially but spiritually, affecting not only the safety of the body, but even the moral character of our fellow-countrymen who go abroad. And, indeed, it is a matter of very great importance that when we are appealing to you for further assistance for the people of Tierra del Fuego you should consider deeply what was the character of those people before they were addressed by our missionaries. You must remember that they were then very ferocious and very ignorant. But now see what has been done for them, see what has been achieved in raising their general condition. I have read somewhere that the great philosopher, Dr. Darwin, had the candour to admit—and it is a great thing to have candour among men who, as philosophers, have pronounced authoritative opinions—he had the candour to express the opinion that the people of Tierra del Fuego had undergone an improvement which greatly astonished him. He had supposed that they were altogether irreclaimable, and must continue in the degraded condition in which he had found them; but when he heard of the triumph achieved by the missionaries, and of the advance of the natives in the social scale, he confessed that he had made a mistake, and sent a contribution to the funds of the Society. All these are solemn matters for consideration, matters which you should all lay seriously to heart. We do not call upon you now to support an experiment which is being tried for the first time under the most unpromising aspect; that work has been achieved by great men who are gone to their rest. We are putting before you facts which are undeniable, and now there comes upon your shoulders a tenfold responsibility in connection with the duty of supporting a work which God has so signally blessed. We have not only the blessing of God in support of our claim to your assistance, we have also the aid of Her Majesty's Admiralty. I find from the Report of the Society that there has been an official notice from the Admiralty, couched in the usual official style, in which it is intimated that on the shores of Tierra del Fuego there are certain harbours of refuge or places of safety for Her Majesty's ships going to that part of the world. Thus the natives have taken a stand among the civilized nations of the world, and have become, as it were, seamarks to warn sailors of danger, and to point them to places of refuge. There is a remarkable passage in the Report which shows the great capacity of these Tierra del Fuegians. The truth is that until we come into close contact with the people of that sort, and observe them minutely, we cannot find out exactly the avenue to their minds or heart; for there are, I believe, few people so degraded but that a good impression may be made upon them if we can only find out the way to a point of entrance. Well, it has been found that these Fuegians are very far from deficient; that they are a people of considerable intellectual power, possessing considerable capacity of learning and understanding and having great natural facilities for mental improvement. This was especially shown in the case of four native lads of whom I have read. These lads combined by their intelligence to enable Mr. Bridges and other missionaries to make a Fuegian translation of the Word of God. The Fuegians have, as a race, shown very great capacity indeed; and I hope and trust that they will not remain exactly where they are, but in course of time will be raised to a level with, if they do not in some cases become superior to, the inhabitants of more civilized countries. There was a passage