



CHRISTIANIZED WOMEN OF INDIA.

his dwelling could not contain all the stores necessary to be laid up for months, and this necessitated the placing of much under the charge of those natives who could be most securely trusted. This provoked the jealousy of the less favored, who resented it by violently attacking the supposed favorites. The appearance, however, of Mr. Sterling in the midst of the combatants caused the attacking party to retreat. Seeing his advantage and recognizing it as an acknowledgement of his ascendancy over them he followed them up into their wigwams, demanding an explanation and reproving them for their violence. That evening the more friendly natives to the number of 15 assembled in the hut, and rendering thanks to God besought His blessing. An alarm was raised that

night which, however, passed off and the morning dawned graciously upon the little settlement. Mr. Stirling now hit upon a vigorous plan of occupation.

Beginning early at half-past seven o'clock with prayer and catechising. Cleanliness was insisted on, no one was allowed to enter the hut without a proper salutation. A hymn followed by the creed, a portion of God's word and prayer formed the morning service. Sometimes the Decalogue took the place of the Creed. Food was then given to those willing to work. Violence or theft were punished by exclusion from the privileges of the hut for a week or in proportion to the offence committed, and thus order and law was introduced and an Indian village was quickly established. Family relationship is the keenest tie of the Fuegian, and their allegiance was won by instilling into their minds that they belonged to God's family, the Holy Catholic Church and must obey the law of the Great Father of all.

This appeal to family instinct was understood. Their eyes brightened, their attention was gained and finally their consciences were reached.

To instil new principles of love, purity, honesty and industry was a work of time: difficulties in the way there certainly were, but God had now touched the hearts of others besides the pioneer natives and the more conscientious formed themselves into what may be termed an inner circle to defend their teacher from the violence of the outer circle.

One man was so enraged at his exclusion from the hut for crime that he threatened to kill Mr. Stirling. "But," said one, who himself was excluded for a less offence, "If you kill him, I will kill you."

Thus for seven months did God watch over his faithful servant, at the end of which time the "Allan Gardiner" arrived in August, 1869, with an unexpected summons to Mr. Stirling to return