



TRISTAN D'ACHUNA. (See page 149.)

Divine service. At Santiago every window of the first Protestant Church was broken, but the civil power exercised a restraint upon the ecclesiastical and prevented further outrage. At Valparaiso for many years the Protestants carried on worship in a private room until in 1859 the Government allowed them to build a church. The same at Callao in Peru. The Spanish and Portuguese laws exclude every other religion but that of Roman Catholic.

The Huguenots were the pioneers in the effort to evangelize Brazil. Admiral Coligny, the heroic martyr of St. Bartholomew, as early as 1555 planned to colonize the Brazilian coast as a refuge for Huguenot exiles. The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first of American Churches in modern times that established a mission, viz., from 1836 to 1842 at Rio de Janeiro. The Presbyterian Church has also now vigorous missions in the North, and Brazil and Chili with about 80 missionaries. But as yet we can only say there is about one Protestant missionary to 600,000 souls in that vast continent.

The first attempt to establish missions in the south of South America was made by Capt. Allan Gardiner in 1838. Being favorably received by the Patagonians he returned to England and tried to induce the Church Missionary Society to send some of their agents to this, which seemed to him, so good a field of labor. They were, however, unable to do this and accordingly a distinct society was formed in July, 1844, known as the Patagonian Missionary Society. Capt. Gardiner and Mr. Hunt, a schoolmaster, were sent out as its first missionaries. A landing was effected in Feb., 1845, but after a month's stay it was found that the attitude of the Patagonians was so unfriendly it was deemed wiser to leave.

The friends at home were much discouraged, not so Capt. Gardiner, who, however, advised the investment of the funds of the society. Having

afterwards received some money from private sources he was again enabled to sail from England with Mr. Williams, a medical missionary, Mr. Maidment, of the Church of England Y. M. C. A., and four Cornish sailors. On leaving the ship, which conveyed them from England, they took to their boats and made efforts to reach a spot which was, or had been, inhabited by an English-speaking Fuegian. On their way thither they landed and set up a tent among the natives, but owing to the plundering habits and

hostile attitude of the people they had to re-embark.

Bad weather overtook them, crippled one of their boats and destroyed the other. With their shattered boat they sought the shelter of a retired bay. Here on a desert shore, with little protection from the cold and rough weather, they waited for a long time in the vain hope of relief from passing ships, or from their friends in England. The arrangements made for succoring these valiant pioneers of the Gospel had miscarried. Here in Spaniard Harbor on the coast of Tierra del Fuego they lingered on. Their powder had been left on board the ship which brought them out, their fishing net was destroyed, and the scanty supply of provisions coming to an end after many months of extreme privation borne with heroic fortitude and Christian patience, they one by one fell off by disease and starvation until at last Capt. Gardiner himself with his iron constitution laid him down on that lonely shore to die. Both Mr. Williams and Capt. Gardiner kept journals, a portion of which was picked up by S. E. Davison in a sealing ship and the rest discovered by Capt. Moreshead of H. M. S. "Dido."

In 1885 Admiral Moreshead described at the annual meeting of the South American Missionary Society how when commanding the Dido he called at Tierra del Fuego to ascertain the fate of Allan Gardiner, and after scouring the beach with 100 men at a time and on the point of giving up the search they discovered some writing on a rock directing them to Spaniard Harbour. They landed there and found the boat, the beach strewn with bones and—what he should never forget—the body of poor Allan Gardiner, which had lain there four months, but which owing to the climate was untouched by decay, his countenance as composed as if he was asleep. They gave him as solemn a funeral as they could with the rites of the Church of England. On the rocks was painted a little hand, and a lozenge in which were the verses 5 to