

great violence as the current rushed in or out, but fortunately none were injured. The rise and fall of the tide on each occasion was about ten feet, and the strength of current about three miles an hour.

Far different, however, were the accounts from the ports in the north, to which, a few days after its occurrence, H.M.S. "Amethyst" proceeded to render what relief could be afforded to the suffering inhabitants.

Caldera had suffered little, but Pabellon de Pica, a once thriving town of over 5000 inhabitants, was totally devastated ! The town formerly stood at the foot of a steep hill of sand and rock, rising to an altitude of over 800 feet facing the sea. About 10 p.m., a very severe shock of earthquake was felt, throwing down many of the mud-brick (adobe) houses; and in the course of two or three minutes, another of equal violence, immediately after which the sea began to rise. From the fact of the thatched or wooden roofs falling in on top of the fires or paraffin lamps in the houses which had been thrown down, fire soon began to rage throughout the town, but was almost instantly extinguished by the advancing waters which flooded the whole of the town, but rising very gradually, the inhabitants had time to get away, and rushed in terror up the hill for safety. The first wave receded as it had come in, very slowly, and many people ventured back to their dwellings to save what they could of their property.

Now, however, came that huge convulsion of nature which cost so many lives :—gathering all its force from the former wave, which had receded far below the ordinary low water level, another mountain wave, estimated at forty feet in height, rushed in with terrible force upon the devoted town,