

sarily follow in the track of such a storm.

During the three preceding days, the wind blew rather strongly in fitful gusts from the N. N. E., accompanied by occasional heavy showers; and on the evening of the 14th, blew a perfect gale, which continued increasing in violence until 2 A. M., when suddenly veering round to the N. W., it blew rather more softly until daylight.

The scene of desolation which presented itself next morning, may be more easily imagined than expressed. Trees, which must have stood the storms of centuries, are blown up by the roots, fences were not only blown down, but blown away. Of many houses not a vestige remained, and the destruction of native food and property was very great. Our church, store-room and boat-house were all a mass of ruins. Indeed our dwelling house and one native house were the only houses which were to be seen next morning. My boat was also driven inland, and introduced rather unceremoniously to some trees, which resulted in the breaking of some of her timbers, and thus rendering her useless, until we have an opportunity of having her repaired, if worthy of it. The destruction of mission property at Mr. Paton's station was equally great, and also of native food and property.

What shall we eat, drink and put on, are enquiries which the poor natives often institute; and perhaps the latter enquiry was not confined to the lips of the natives the following morning, especially, wherewithal shall we get dry clothing to put on.

My books are all safe, for which if we are in duty bound to render to every one his due, the devil would probably claim a share of the credit of saving them—as he was the cause indirectly, for owing to the natives attempting to burn us out time and again, I had them boxed up last year, that they might be the more easily saved in time of danger, and have not since considered it safe to open them. Our sugar and tea were scarce—of two barrels of flour and one of biscuit, we saved but a few pounds of the former, none of the latter. We are not yet in actual want, and God's care of us in times past, has taught us to rest assured that he will soon provide.

The re-building the ruins of the hurricane will as you may naturally suppose throw a great amount of manual labour upon our hands for some months, with which no small amount of expenditure must necessarily be connected. In sympathizing therefore with, and feeling for us in our present distress, it is needless to say, that it is very desirable that some of those to whom God is giving the silver and the gold in abundance, should feel deeply for us in their pockets. Nothing for nothing is the order of the day on Tana. Our natives will do any amount of labour for us provided they are well paid, but there is not one who would give you a drink of water gratis—even though it should be the means of saving your life.

You will probably remember, that it is twelve months to-day since we returned to our station, and though the period be but short, yet the scenes through which in the providence of God we have passed, and which we have witnessed around us, have been many and diversified. Twelve months sojourn among a people, who know not God, can give a person a better idea of what heathenism really is, than he could ever gather from the tongue of the most learned, or from the pen of the readiest writer.

Did time permit, and did we delight to dwell upon the dark side of the picture, we might tell of some of the expedients to which in twelve short months we have seen the enemies of the Cross resorting, in order to frustrate the dissemination of God's word upon this dark isle of the sea. We might tell of council after council being convened, for the purpose of devising plans, for the overthrowing and defeating the further progress of the Gospel, of deputation after deputation having been selected, and of night after night having been appointed for the carrying out of their previously matured plans. We might tell of hair breadth escapes time and again from the hurled stone, and the shot arrow, of seeing the savage trembling with rage from head to foot, of seeing his heart fail, and seeing the stone fall from his uplifted hand, when raised to strike the fatal blow. We too might tell of a day not soon to be forgotten, when men of every age and of every rank, who were able to