

miles, but 3000 miles away. It sent a tidal wave right round the earth, and made the waters in our British lakes rock as though with a heavy tide.

Krakatoa is a volcano in the Strait of Sunda, between Java and Sumatra. It formed an island 13 miles square. Two-thirds of this island disappeared suddenly down the throat of the volcano itself. It caused the loss of over 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra, and the destruction, not of a ridge or a village, but of 300 villages.

Well, there is a survivor of that time of horror, a brave old English master mariner who is now serving his country in another way. On the night of the eruption, his sailing ship, Old Kennington, was approaching Java. As they felt their way in, all was darkness and it suddenly seemed as if they were surrounded by a sea of volcanoes all in eruption. The air was thick with a fog

of falling lava. Fearfully and trembling they went on, but at last they hove to and waited until morning.

With the morning, off came a native boat with a horrified man in it, who reported that the lighthouse had been swallowed up, together with his own town and all its inhabitants.

This old man who still survives Krakatoa went back to the scene of the eruption two years afterwards, and for days before they made land, he says, they sailed through one vast sea of floating pumice-stone. He tells us of the riotous crew which prayed and escaped, but of his own ship's captain he says, "His name was Jones, and he was one of the finest men on earth. He feared God, but nothing else. The ship under him was like a floating Bethel."

Is not that a noble tribute, a generation after the event, for one old seaman to pay to another?

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