

THE
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MISSIONARY TRIALS.

DEAR CHILDREN,—In our last number we promised to give you further information about the Christian Missions in the South of Africa, where the Rev. John Campbell laboured—we will now then tell you of the trials and dangers which some of the Missionaries endured, and also something of the life of Africaner, the savage African chief, who was for some time their most dangerous enemy.

In the month of January 1806, two very dear brothers, of the name of Albrecht, were making their way across the South of Africa, to the borders of Great Namaqua Land. It was a wearisome journey, and lay by turns over rugged stones, or through deep and scorching sand. The shady groves, the green and pleasant valleys, the fields of waving corn, which the children of our dear and pleasant land are wont to look upon, were not to be seen there. It was one dry and barren desert, and the eyes of the travellers were almost blinded by the glare of the sun reflected from the quartz and granite rocks. Here and there, where a thunder-cloud had burst and let down a torrent of water, a strip of green grass had sprung up, but these spots were few and far between. Few were the rivers that watered that thirsty land, and the beds of some through which water once had flowed, were dry. The salt hot-springs they found could scarcely slake the thirst of the travellers. They were poor, too, and had not been able to buy food enough for their journey, and they suffered dreadfully from hunger and thirst.