

At times I felt when gazing at them, as if they were something more than mere lights. There was a penetratingness about them, as if they were the eyes of some great intelligence : and so pure, so lovely pure, in looking at them one could give no place to such a feeling as that they had ever been dimmed by the breath of sin, or impurity of any kind.

A party of Caffres, with a few oxen, kept lounging all the afternoon down in the hollow ; many of the people went down to them, but no one seemed to know where they had come from, nor to where they were going. Dukwane, who took pet at my refusing him my horse to go on our account, as he would have made us believe, a message to the chief, had found another horse, and for nearly a whole month has been away with Festivi, among the rebels, so, that as I at the time thought, he had an end of his own to serve, rather than our safety to attend to ; and all the more so that now we know what he told us about the Fetcani, to have been wholly a fabrication.

November 22.—Have this week learned that the Caffres, with the oxen, of which no one could last Saturday tell us anything, were passing on towards Macomo, sure sign that hunger is pinching there, when supplies are being drawn from Amatole, instead of the farmers' kraals. Three oxen too, which last Sabbath afternoon were brought to the station, were procured by Myosi, Festivi, and Dukwane, from Hottentots who passed with a large lot of cattle plundered from the Colony. These after being kept a few days on the station, were sent onwards to be added to their reserve herds, with which some of their

friends have gone away far back among the Caffres. It is thus that they conduct war. One party keeps upon the frontier and gathers in the spoil, which they transfer to the charge of another party that has gone away over the Kei, or found a harbour among the "friendly tribes?"

By a note from Lovedale, learn that Col. Fordyce has fallen in the Waterkloof. This is mournful news. No officer on the frontier gave greater promise, without words at all, than did Col. Fordyce, with his 74th. His was one of the few names of those conducting military operations here, which was ever pronounced with confidence. There was no standing back, taking another way, or sham fighting with him. He was an earnest soldier. His name was cherished with a kind of affection, as well as pronounced with confidence, and every one feels as if he had lost a personal friend, in the fall of so able a man, and so brave an officer. His warfare has been soon ended. May his spirit rest in peace.

November 29.—This week has been silent and peaceful, almost to painfulness. Those rests in military operations before the object for which they were entered upon has been affected, are intervals which our wily foes turn to good account. Shut up till ready to devour each other, they rush like so many starved wolves, ravening in every direction. It is not by great battles that these barbarians are to be overcome. Our thousands of men must be broken up into parties of hundreds, and set down at every pass, at which cattle is brought into their mountain fastnesses; thus only will the Caffres be forced to abandon them. Carried on as it has been, the war may last for

ten years, or twice that period, if there be farmers to plunder.

December 8.—The reports we hear, shew a degree of boldness and activity on the part of the Caffres. Let us then have action. If those in authority cannot do more to check and subdue those reckless men, their being “driven beyond the sea,” were hardly to be regretted. As we sat down to dinner Soga made his appearance. He gave us little in the shape of news. He talked largely, however, of the evils of war, and of the wickedness and foolishness of the Caffres in having provoked and continued it. By doing so, they had no doubt made God angry, for he had given rain until the whole land was covered with grass, that reached even to men’s knees, and because of the war, they could not bring a cow to eat it. This shewed the goodness of God, and the wickedness of his own countrymen.

Language like this in the mouth of Soga, could excite only disgust and suspicion in the mind of every one that knew him. He was assuming his favourite, though vilest of all characters—hypocrisy, and more, not only studying to deceive, but also to draw into some snare the party to whom he thus addressed himself.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Visit from the destroyers of Auckland—Departure of unwelcome guests—Failure of expedition against Alice—Caffre women sent into the bush—Terms offered to the rebels—Unsuccessful attempt at a parley—Encounter in the bush—The mission ordered to leave Chumie—Conduct of Government injudicious—Distress of the Caffres on the station—Chumie abandoned and destroyed.

NOVEMBER 9.—After we had Soga yesterday afternoon, it was whispered by some of the women that the Caffres were getting up “amkosi,”—a commando, or mustering their forces—and that Soga had come to have the men here in readiness. “What shall be done to thee, thou lying tongue?” This morning confirms the truth of what we were in somewhat in doubt when we heard it first; the men, both those of the station and stranger Caffres, are leaving, and passing in bands, to make an attack, and endeavour to carry off Alice cattle. The number of the whole, however, that we had seen pass out on this expedition, was inconsiderable, and we had little anxiety regarding the issue. It threatened rain too, which the Caffres wont fight in, as they have not the means of keeping their powder dry which soldiers have.

During the forenoon, rain set in in earnest. We had just risen from dinner, when, looking out in the direction of Alice, a mounted party was observed making towards the station at a rapid pace. Immediately every approach and pathway was crowded with footmen and horsemen, all

directing their course towards us. The furious dashing of the horsemen, the shouting and running of those on foot, and the thick gloom of the driving storm covering all around. Ah! I will not say what my feelings and emotions at the moment were: we had but short time for mere apprehensive forebodings.

These hordes rushed on, naked, cold, hungry, and dripping with wet; some passed, others crowded into the room, the door of which opened to the outside, and into the verandahs, until there was not space into which another could cram himself: the front door had the latch undone, by parties trying to get it open; this I observed, and got behind it just in time to make it fast. Now there was not a house, hut, or covert, on the station, under which a head could be sheltered, that was not packed full. Wobo, the chief, with the principal party, occupied the church, the seats and wood-work of which they made into firewood: the noisy, wretched, shivering, rabble within, and about our own doors, held their ground.

Prudence required that I keep out of sight, and, to do so, had to keep in the passage between the two rooms, there being no window that looked into it. At every window as many eyes were staring in, as might have made one of much more vigorous nervous organization than I can now boast of, feeling uneasy. My dear Janet trembled for my safety, and, with our darling boy, kept at my side. The noise and threatening language of those outside, alarmed her still more. I yielded to her entreaty, and went up to the garret: we were thus separated from Mrs. Chalmers and

children, who were in the room below. We read the fifty-sixth Psalm, and kneeling down together, cast ourselves on Him, on whose arm we had never leaned in vain, nor trusted and been disappointed.

Mrs. Chalmers had sent for Dukwane, who, when he came, made those who had crowded into the room go out; those under the verandahs, and all around the house, had but little shelter from the driving blast, and left to go up to the bush, where were a good many huts, and plenty of wood to make fires for themselves. Now I could peep out to see them pass away, and a more wretchedly barbarous spectacle never met my eyes. Not a few of the men were utterly naked, very many of them had only a single sheepskin, this soaked with rain, held together in front tightly over the shoulders, only added to the wretched appearance of the wearer; some few had the fragments of an old blanket, or remains of some other European clothing about them. The station was soon swept of every thing that could make a fire; there was nothing to afford food, but every green thing, if it could only be gnawed, was eaten up.

A thousand of these men must have been upon the place; and we now learned that we were likely to have their unwelcome company all night. Our own cooking-place, a large hut, was still packed to the door with those who had first possessed themselves of it. These were Xayimpi's men, who were those principally engaged in the massacre of the settlers at Auckland; Xayimpi himself came up to order them out, when Mrs. Chalmers complained of their being in the way.

Heedless of his orders, they laid still, and we had just to put up with their intrusion. Several other parties came in during the evening, and none of them shewed any unfriendliness. The chief sent a message he was in want of food, and would not refuse any thing we had to send. A few potatoes were all we had to give.

December 10.—Well may we take the words of the Psalmist, and say—"I laid me down and slept—I waked, for the Lord sustained me." Hundreds of wicked men have been all around us, and we are kept from all harm. Dare not even ask when they think of leaving. Hear they are consulting whether to renew their attempt against Alice, or go home. Parties kept coming in at intervals during the day. I took every opportunity to remonstrate against their procedure: I bade them look at the state into which they had thrown the whole land, and had they yet, or did they now hope to better even themselves? Before the war, most, if not all, of them could appear in a good blanket; now, of the hundreds collected together, there were not twenty that could present themselves in good blankets; besides, their loss, hunger, alarm in which they were kept, and danger, going out as they now were, they put themselves in the way of death; most certainly some of them would fall. Could any one of them say, it would not be him, and were they prepared to die? They had given but little heed to the teachers of God's word, and had burned down all the houses of God; yet most of them knew that, after death, they must stand before the Great God in judgment. Did

they ever think on this, and what comfort had they in doing so ?

One group heard me in unbroken silence. The chief Botman's son, was at the head of them ; he sat in deep thoughtfulness ; then rose and grasped my hand, and said " most certainly the word of God has been spoken by you—I never before felt it so—it is the word of God, in truth, I have heard this day." And looking full in my face, he pressed my hand and said, " remember me," and walked out.

To Wobo, the acknowledged chief of the whole party, who to flatter his youthful pride and vanity had taken the name, gonyama—the lion—I spoke in much the same strain. He heard me with a kind of scorn, told me not to speak to him of death ; the whites were frightened of them, and had gone to fight with Krel's people over the Kei ; they knew how to spear them when they come to Matole, and he suited the action to the word. One of the young men by whom he was accompanied, sneered more derisively when I spoke of death ; a few more hours and he was destined to taste it.

Four large oxen were brought about mid-day from the Amatole to be slaughtered for this famishing crowd, but whole companies had to be satisfied with knowing that some of their companions in arms got only a little—they themselves got none. Rain having cleared away, appearances led us to hope that we might soon get quit of our visitors.

December 11.—All still this morning and quiet. The Caffres had left at an early hour, or during the night, to prosecute their original design.

We had got Dukwane to sleep in the house for the last two nights, both for a little security to ourselves, and to prevent him if we could going with the multitude in their work of wickedness. After we got up, however, I saw him with Nyosi and another man follow hard after his countrymen. Soon after the females with their kevie's followed as usual.

These half famished men have for thirty-six hours been in crowds about us; nothing that could be even chewed has been left upon the place, save within our own garden enclosure, where was a plot of ripe potatoes, in quality not to be surpassed, and upon which we were dependant for the honest support of our own family; not one shaw of these has been touched, nor has the most trifling article belonging to us been taken away or injured! Surely He who hath the hearts of all men in his hand, is in abounding mercy, illustrating and confirming this truth here now! The praise and glory be all to Him!

Late in the afternoon we were relieved of no little anxiety, by seeing the Caffres fleeing towards Amatole routed; one man only came up to the house; he was candid enough to say, that a handful of English had driven away all their hosts. A good many were killed in the flight, among whom was the young man who sneered so derisively when I spoke to him about death the day before.

December 16.—Learn that parties at Lovedale station have got into an unpleasant position, from it having come to light, that a message to the effect, that now was their time to come to Alice, the place being weak from the men being

all away on the Kei expedition, had been sent by certain of the station men, to the Caffres, in consequence of which they had made their great muster last week. This clandestine traffic with parties on Lovedale station, and Hottentot females, about Alice, has been too long winked at.

December 25.—Twelve months now since the first outbreak of that violence which has rioted over, and desolated this fair land, and to check which, hardly anything effective has yet been done. Where now is his Excellency's boast, that fourteen days would suffice him to chastise the perfidious Caffre! Well, if it must be, "let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth." "The Lord reigneth," and his purposes shall stand. Towards us, his mercies, special mercies, during the bygone year, have been beyond measure and reckoning! My heart grows big with emotion, when I think of only a few of them. What altogether marvellous deliverances have been wrought for us—what visible stretching out of the Almighty arm on our behalf—and covering with his feathers—what support afforded—what unexhausted supply of temporal provision, with sound health and above all, what seasons of unshaken confidence in God, with joy and gratitude that words cannot express! I feel the want of many hearts, and many voices to help me to praise Him for all.

December 26.—Find with surprise on getting up this morning that a large party of Hottentots have possessed themselves of the church during the night. They had been overtaken by rain on their way to attempt the spoil of cattle at Alice. These broke down part of the pulpit which the

Caffres had spared, to kindle fires for themselves. They left again in the afternoon to renew their attempt; Festivi and his party were the only men from the station that joined them. In all they numbered about two hundred, mounted men about forty, these were said all to be deserters from the Cape Corps. God grant that the iniquity of those men's own heels may overtake them!

December 29.—Heard nothing on Saturday of the marauders that had gone on their wicked work, and was in expectation of yesterday having our sabbath quiet broken in upon by them, either returning successful, or fleeing, with those they had gone to rob in pursuit. Their hearts had failed them, however; they turned back to Amatole, without venturing upon an attack. Festivi, Nyosi, and their party, returned to the station, shortly after Dukwane with a few of the people had met for worship.

1852—January 12.—We witnessed a somewhat novel spectacle this afternoon. A caravan, consisting of more than thirty men, all loaded with new blankets and packages, the contents of which we had no means of knowing, passed backwards in the direction of Waterkloof. A good many of them were parties we had seen before. When asked, they told us that they had purchased the blankets and things from the traders at Buffalo mouth, distant from this nearly a hundred miles. It was only a few of them that would stand to speak, they seemed all very fidgetty, and anxious to get to their rendezvous, yet a long day's journey in advance. I was working with the spade, planting potatoes, when they passed;

they made some allusion to this, and said, when the war was over, I would not need to do such work. They had talked it over, and thought to make me a present of a large number of cattle, after there was peace, as I was the only teacher that had shewn that I had no fear of them; all the others had fled to military posts for safety. This was rather an equivocal sort of compliment.

January 27.—It seems determined that the women and children now evacuate Waterkloof; considerable bands of these have passed towards the Amatole, haggard, and faint, and wretched. It is upon them that all the horrors of war tell with appalling severity. And where now are those creatures, famished and ready to perish, to flee? The Amatole is again being occupied. Early this morning the cry—"A commando!" greeted our ears, and on looking out, the long train of wag-gons was seen moving onwards, to about where the camp had been in June.

January 28.—Ignorant of any movement to be made in this direction, had sent two women to Alice, in expectation of getting letters from home. On their return, learned that a packet of letters and newspapers for me had been taken to the camp, where it was thought I would get them more conveniently. Had these to-day, with a note from Colonel Sutton, who shews himself most ready to oblige.

During the night we were waked up and alarmed by a party on horseback, that we heard about the door; rose to ascertain who they were, and found that it was a party from Macomo's, with a large number of companions—they had lost their way. Some of the women told them

that the camp was near the Tyumie, and they slipt quietly away without offering any mischief.

February 4.—Since the Lovedale people got into trouble for their secretly communicating with the enemy, we have had no freedom to send there to get supplies from Alice. Parties of the people from Lovedale, however, have repeatedly found their way here since. The Caffres had succeeded in stealing a few goats, and among these were some belonging to their friends at Lovedale. A party came here and got Dukwane to go to Sandilli, to recover the goats, as being those of his own people. On this ground he got them back; they were brought here, and the parties returned the following sabbath, and took them away. The natives manage such transactions with an adroitness and concealment which baffles us. The native assistant in the seminary was one of those who thus recovered his goats.

Fort Cox is eighteen miles, or about double the distance that Alice is from Chumie; we had got, through the kindness of friends, both military and those connected with the Burn's Hill station, all our supplies there for some time, getting perhaps ten pounds of meal, or flour, sometimes as many pounds of butcher's meat, sometimes none to be had, after sending two women a two-days journey. Such is the state of things produced by this barbarous war! And yet you take the credit at home of being good folks, who apologize for, and sympathize with, those who madly provoked and obstinately prolong this state of things!

From both the contractor and private parties at the camp, we could now get abundant supplies.

Two women, who had gone to fetch what we wanted yesterday, on their return said, the camp was to be here to-morrow. We thought nothing more of it, than that the Fingoes had sought to amuse themselves at the expence of the frightened women. But, without any jesting, we have them all upon us, and the camp formed less than a mile from the station. General Somerset rode up, attended by several of his officers. He stated the Governor's terms, upon which only he could treat any native who had borne arms against Government—"unconditional surrender." Dukwane had signified to us the previous evening, that he was, as well as several other of the men, disposed to give himself up. On hearing this, the General evinced the liveliest anxiety to have all who were so disposed got out of danger. The Fingoes were all over the place, and would shoot every Caffre they saw, and by day-break next morning, parties would be sent up the mountain to destroy the crops, and scour the bush, so that any one there would have small chance of escape.

On leaving, the General said it might be well to have a guard sent up from the camp, lest the Fingoes should become troublesome. I thought there was no occasion for this. Shortly afterwards, the soldiers came strolling about, and three of the 74th went down into the garden to help themselves to what mealies and pumpkins they could find. I went down, followed by Mrs. Chalmers, and spoke to them, and they turned away. Others had now collected in front of the house. The sight of so many Scotch faces, and the accent of so many Scotch tongues, half turned our heads, as may be well supposed, and we readily

entered into conversation with them. Poor fellows! As he parades our streets at home all so tidy and smart, many think the soldier has a fine life of it. Let such look at him here. No dangling feathers, white belts, or shining buckles, but caps, jackets, trousers, one hardly knows how to describe them, All tanned and roughened too, by exposure to sun and weather, with beards like what you expect to see whiskers at home; many of them sore-footed and crippled, without having slept under a roof, or upon a bed for months; such is a soldier, and a soldier's life here; and added to all this, his constant exposure to danger, and death in forms that only savage barbarity can inflict. I have often felt much for the soldier.

While talking with those in front of the house, others had gone down into the garden to pillage, doing so by stealth, however, as if ashamed. From what I saw, I thought it best to let the General know how the men were conducting themselves. I went down to the camp, and when the General heard that our garden was being plundered, exclaimed—"These Fingoes." An officer standing by said, "It is not the Fingoes, but those lying soldiers." I felt ashamed and vexed to hear my countrymen thus characterised. Those whom I left in conversation with Mrs. Chalmers, no sooner saw me out of sight, than taking advantage of my absence, they pushed down through the garden, carrying off whatever they could. It was a few only who came down to such dishonourable meanness. A guard of the 91st was immediately ordered up to Mrs. Chalmers's house, and we had no more trouble.

On the following day we had a guard of the

74th; the sergeant expressed his regret at what had taken place the evening before, but that men knocked about as they were, sometimes forgot themselves. We had a guard alternately of the 91st and 74th, and every civility and respect was shewn us from that day, up to the time that we left the station. The soldiers came in and joined us in our social worship, received with thankfulness such tracts and books as I had to distribute among them, and when we left, they all rendered us the most hearty service, in packing and loading up the waggons. It is to them we owe the preservation of so much of our own and mission property.

In the evening Dukwane ventured down from the bush: when I stated the terms to be unconditional surrender, life not to be taken. He said if the men knew that their lives would be spared as I said, many of them would be glad to give themselves up. I urged him to get away to make known the terms, that all who wished to take advantage of them might have an opportunity of doing so, and get out of the bush before the morning. Dukwane went but soon returned again. He said the men were altogether at one place—that he durst not speak of the matter openly—a party was ready to fall upon and murder any one that would propose to give himself up. The only shift that now remained was to get the wives, mothers, and sisters of those who were known as having a wish to give themselves up, to communicate with their husbands or sons by themselves in the bush, to acquaint them with the opportunity that yet remained for them to get out of danger.

There was no place on the station where such parties would be safe, save in our house, and Mrs. Chalmers made one of her rooms be kept open all night, to be a refuge for such as came down from the bush. By day-break, eleven men had come down from the bush. By that time too, two columns of the 91st and 74th were being moved up the mountain, each man with a sickle in addition to his fire-arms. These were to cut down and destroy all the crops. But for their muskets, and the regularity of their pace in marching, in their appearance otherwise the soldiers would have passed most readily for a great band of reapers, such as I used to see when a boy passing along the highways during the harvest, and very much like what I used to see before I left home, a squad of navvies on some of the great railways. The 74th passed quite near us. One of the officers turned aside, and, with great urbanity and kindly frankness of manner, entered into conversation, and asked me a good many questions. From the newspapers I have since learnt, that this same young man has returned to Scotland bearing the family name and title of Sir David Baird. May he live to honour both.

The General had told me to keep the men in charge till he sent up an officer with an escort to take them down to the camp. Shortly after breakfast they were taken down, and immediately disarmed. They had a tent prepared for them, and were in every respect well treated. Between the two shoulders of the mountain, where the soldiers were employed in destroying the crops, the hollow is covered by the forest of large timber, and every sort of twining, creeping,

hanging, thorny underwood, which is the bush so often referred to. In the most secure and hidden parts of this, the men had their hiding places. Far up at the foot, a precipitous rock which towers in rugged masses, high above the loftiest forest trees, Festivi and his party had their rendezvous; not one of them had given themselves up, and it was from fear of them that the others had to get out of the bush by stealth.

The Fingoes were now all in that bush. Just as I was called to dinner, I heard the soldiers on guard at our door say—"There now, the Fingoes are at it; they have been fired upon."

I stepped out and looked up the mountain; nothing was to be seen but the soldiers busy at their work. The sound, however, of unceasing volleys of musketry re-echoing through the forest and overhanging rocks was a sound at which I instantly sickened. I knew it to proceed from where Festivi and his party were likely to be, and I concluded they were perishing *en masse*, under that murderous fire. A trembling and faintness came over me; I sat down at table with the others, but in attempting to use them, my knife and fork dropt from my hands. I said not a word to any one of the cause of my uneasiness, but imagination kept before me those whom I had known well, rolling in their blood, and more than once I had almost fainted. Festivi and his whole party had richly merited a full measure of punishment; still the thought of their being shot down was too much for me. However, my imagination had the worst of it. Festivi had managed to scamper off with his party, out of reach of the Fingoes. Memke, however, who

had been left to bring on a few goats, which Festivi had, was shot. He was one of the smartest lads on the station, and had outstript all his schoolfellows, in the progress he made, and had latterly been placed under Mr. Govan at Lovedale seminary, but was dismissed with the other boys at the breaking out of the war.

In the evening, Dukwane was sent off to Fort Cox under an escort of forty men, to be disposed of by the Civil Commissioner. The General called and wished me to make out a list of the wives and families of the men who had surrendered, that they might get rations. He gave us to understand too, that the express sent to the Governor, might bring an order for his immediate removal, and it would be well for us to consider in such a case how far our position would be one of safety; and if we thought of leaving, we could not too soon have everything in readiness. About dusk the Fingoes came over in great numbers, and sadly alarmed the poor helpless women, beating, stripping them of clothes, and offering other brutalities. My efforts to restrain them were unavailing, and I got my horse upsaddled and rode hastily over to the camp. A party of the line was instantly ordered to the station, to bring away as prisoners every Fingo found on it. Most of them had skulked away whenever they saw me ride off to the camp. A very bad party, however, were found in the mission house; they were at once disarmed and marched to the camp.

Saturday morning we expected to have been required to leave. The General called up to say that the express not having returned from King

William's Town, there was less occasion for pressing us away ! he thought we might enjoy the quiet of the sabbath undisturbed, but advised us to have all our bulky and weighty things sent down with the first waggon that went down to Fort Hare ; then, if a hasty move of the camp was ordered, he would endeavour to give us the accommodation of one waggon, which would be enough to take out our family, and that he would give two women a pass to go down to Lovedale with a letter to friends there, that they might provide house accommodation for us. Aside the General said to me—"I cannot exercise my authority, and *order* Mrs. Chalmers out ; her heart is bound up in Chumie, but do use your influence to shew her that duty to her family requires her now to leave ; I do feel much for her." The General's whole bearing towards us all had evinced this.

Late in the afternoon the express came, and brought the order that the station men who had given themselves up were, after being disarmed, to be sent under guard beyond the Tyumie, with their wives and children. Indeed ! verily, these men could have walked across the Tyumie, taken their arms, and whatever else they pleased with them, without at all troubling Sir Harry or any one else about it. To have seen these men brought to lawful trial by either court-martial or civil tribunal, and punished as they deserved to be for theft or robbery and rebellion, would not have elicited from me a disapproving remark. But this way of doing things confounds me !

Dukwane and the other men maintain that the Caffres will most certainly put them to death

as soon as they are in their power. They with their families are in great fear and perplexity; we all feel with them, the Governor's order has taken us by surprise. I remonstrated with the General; the letter of good faith may have been kept with those men, but certainly not its spirit. He consents to keep them in custody, till a representation of all the facts of their case be made to the Governor, which he promises to forward to-night.

February 8.—Sabbath: the General sent for me to the camp; he shewed me the Governor's instructions; they are positive; he must needs carry them out, and wished me to furnish a list of the wives, families, and dependants of the men, that they may all be sent across the Tyumie by daybreak to-morrow morning. I decline to take more to do in this business. I used all my influence to induce the men to give themselves up, hoping that thus they might escape from a position to which they had been abandoned some thirteen months before, and in which they had made shipwreck of their Christian integrity and honesty. And supposing their fears of their countrymen's vengeance to be groundless, the driving them over the Tyumie, was to force them into a course even more full of evil, than that to which they had been too prone to betake themselves. The General seemed to feel the force of my reasoning, and was at a loss how to act. He thought to send them over again to the station and charge me with their safe keeping, also with their support—some fifty adults, besides children, in these times!

I returned without being able to report any-

thing being decided upon. All was consternation among the men and their families. At dawn the following morning we were waked up by the rattle of the waggons driving up to take away our things. There was no lack of hands to help us to load up, soldiers, waggon-drivers, every one was forward with his services. Mr. Thornton, of Fort Beaufort, whom we had not previously known, even by name, but who was somewhat acquainted with our circumstances, from his being brother-in-law to Mr. Sage, a native of Hamilton, now well established here, had his waggon brought up and placed at our service, for which he would accept of no compensation.

It had been agreed I should go with the waggons, to see all the things put right at Alice or Lovedale, leaving Mrs. Brown with Mrs. Chalmers and family at Chumie, to be brought out if the camp were ordered to move before I had an opportunity to get back. I had just got on horseback, when my path was quite blocked up by the whole of the women on the place, with their children on their backs and in their arms, crowding around me. Many of those I had repeatedly seen carried away under the impulse of feeling, rioting and exulting in such wickedness as had excited my grief and detestation, and I then heartily wished that they might be visited for their evil doings. Now that their calamity was come upon them, all my feelings of compassion and pity were moved. The sight, I think, would have moved a heart less given to relentings than mine. Every hand was stretched out, even those of the little children, to take a last grasp of mine; the deep, anxious, imploring look

of the poor mothers, I shall not soon forget. I could speak only one word of comfort to them—I hastened to get out of the midst of, and away from them—the scene was too much for me!

I expected to have seen the General at the camp, but he had left two hours before, and I had to go on in ignorance of what he had determined upon in reference to the station people. I remained at Lovedale from Monday till Thursday. I knew that two waggons were on the road, and I ventured to go up again to Chumie without escort, or any companion. The quiet and still of death was upon the station. The men had been brought up from the camp on Monday evening, and left on the station, with orders to be in readiness with their families to be marched under guard beyond the Tyumie the following morning. I am glad I was not there to witness their departure from the station. Guarded safely across the Tyumie, there the Fingoes in the service of the British crown were permitted to fall upon, and fire upon, this band of unarmed and defenceless men, with their helpless wives and children; some of the men were stripped of every thread of clothing; most of the women too, who had any clothing worth taking had this torn from them. Koti's widow and daughter carried one of her boys, who had for years been sick and a cripple; Mrs. Brown had given the cover of our own bed to wrap him in; he was barbarously taken from his mother, shaken out of his covering upon the ground, and had this snatched away. All this was befitting Fingoes, but that an officer having command of them, and British soldiers, should

stand quietly by and witness this, makes one burn with shame and indignation.

It needed no argument now to convince any of us that it was duty to leave Chumie. To some, our remaining so long may not be easily justified. The preservation of mission and private property was but a secondary consideration; Mrs. Chalmers's attachment to the place, and to many of the people, can be understood, and her disposition to palliate the guilt of their wrong-doing excused, when it is known that for some twenty-five years she had laboured there, with her husband and other members of her family, to promote the best interests of that people. Chumie had been entirely changed since the death of her husband, and though most of those who had been brought under the influence of the gospel during his ministry had been driven away, still her attachment was strong to those that remained.

To save as much as possible from the flames, I spent most of the intervening days in dismantling the whole premises, taking out windows, doors, and every moveable piece of wood-work. Since our departure all that remained has, as was anticipated, been burned down, save Mrs. Chalmers's house. On the 19th February, we bade adieu to Chumie, and safely reached the resting-place which had been prepared for us. Most manifestly has the hand of God been about us, and all that we had, during the thirteen months we were left alone at the station. We will remember His loving kindnesses.

CHAPTER THE LAST.

NARRATIVE OF MRS. BROWN'S ESCAPE FROM IGQIBIRA—

Mr. Brown's departure—Sudden insurrection of the Caffres—Mrs. Brown is compelled by Caffres to quit station—The station ravaged and destroyed—She takes refuge in Caffre Chief's kraal—Mrs. Brown starts for Fort White, which she safely reaches—Two women sent from Chumie to escort her thither—She leaves Fort White, and is plundered by Caffres on the road—Returns to the fort—Caffres attack the fort, and are repulsed—Again leaves the fort—Frequent alarms—Reaches Chumie in safety.

ON reference to the earlier pages of this work, it will be seen, that Mr. Brown left Igqibira for Chumie, and that the sudden outbreak of the Caffre revolt made it impossible for him to return home in time to protect Mrs. Brown, when compelled to quit the station and provide for her own and infant's safety by flight.

When on the morrow after his departure the flames of insurrection burst forth all around with resistless fury, the situation of Mrs. Brown and her infant was one of deep solicitude. There was no possibility of communicating her condition to any one. No white man but a missionary could have ventured through a country filled with infuriated Caffre insurgents, and not even a missionary could have ventured where he was not personally well known, without a Caffre escort,

and the Caffre converts on the station were struck with terror.

Many days passed without any tidings from Igqibira. It will also be remembered, that on the twenty-eighth, without any one's approval, and, indeed, in the face of remonstrances, on account of the certain dangers to which he would be exposed, Mr. Brown ventured to leave Chumie under the protection of a confidential servant of Macomo, who had come to the station. He returned on the following evening, to the great relief of his friends, in safety, but without Mrs. Brown, and greatly jaded and dejected. He had escaped many deadly assaults by the fidelity of his attendant, who once and again threw himself between him and the weapon lifted for his destruction, and by the prompt interposition of two young chiefs on one occasion, and of some old men on another, but for whom the efforts of his faithful guide would have been unsuccessful to shelter him from the assegais, or wrest them from the hands raised to thrust them. His wife and child he had not found. The accounts he got of them were, that they had been left two or three days alone—had then been conducted to Stock's (the chief) kraal, and from it had proceeded to Fort White. The dwelling house had been destroyed, its contents had been carried off; and at the chief's kraal, where he spent the night, he saw some of the men wearing his own clothes, and scattered round was a profusion of the articles which had been pillaged from his house. Subsequently, some women were sent to Fort White for Mrs. Brown, but they had

to return without her, after encountering from some insurgents rough usage.

It was not till January the twelfth, nineteen days after the commencement of the outbreak, that a party of women and one man, from Chumie, all Caffres, succeeded in bringing her safely to the station. Her own narrative, as she furnished it to her friends, is subjoined. It discloses a series of terrible and affecting circumstances, through which she passed, wonderfully preserved and self-possessed; and while it unfolds much treachery, and rapacity, and deceit, on the part of the Caffres, presents also some instances of true humanity and kindness, which call forth our admiration and gratitude, and show, that human nature is not inferior in these barbarians to what it is among civilized Europeans.

Wednesday, December 25.—Mr. Brown left me yesterday, to attend a meeting at Chumie; and this morning the servant girl came to me before I was up, and asked me to come to the door, and see so many armed Caffres passing. I went, and was much surprised at seeing this sight, not knowing what was the cause of it. However, I was soon made acquainted with the news.

The chief, Stock, sent messengers, to see if Mr. Brown had returned. I told them he had not, and that I did not expect him until Friday morning. The men answered me, that I should not be at Igqibira on Friday—that I was to leave immediately, and go to the nearest post, for the country was dead. I said I could not leave, as Mr. Brown was from home. They answered—“You must go to-night, before sunset.” I asked them if they would not allow me to remain till I

could send for Mr. Brown. After some talk, they consented to this proposal. I sat down and wrote a hurried note for Mr. Brown, and sent the man off; at the same time Stock's men said—"It will be a wonder if the man reaches Chumie in safety." After some talk about my not leaving when I was commanded to leave, the messengers left, and the principal man among them, who was Stock's brother, carried away with him one of our table-spoons, and refused to return it when I asked it. About sunset four armed men came, opened the door, and sat down. They were sent by the chief to protect me during the night. I gave them the kitchen to sleep in.

All seemed very quiet during the night; and now my eyes beheld another sun—the Lord preserved me from all danger, and permitted nothing to befall me. The mapakatis left after sunrise, and promised to return in the evening. In the afternoon, Pepe and Gasa came. Gasa asked me what I was going to do. I said I did not know what to do, for I was very anxious about Mr. Brown; and was surprised that neither Mr. Brown nor the man had made their appearance. Gasa asked if I would not ride on horseback, and accompany them. I asked when they intended to leave. He said, that was not an answer to his question—that I must either say yes, or no. I said, I did not wish to leave during Mr. Brown's absence. They said no more, but went away to their homes. About sunset, seventeen armed Caffres came to the door; they said nothing, but wondered much at me not being afraid to stop alone. They went quietly away. Then appeared the chief, with the four mapakatis. The chief

asked me if I was not frightened. I said no. He said he would try and get some oxen, as the most of ours were stolen, and I was to leave next morning, but not remove any thing out of the house ; that I was to leave every thing, and he would take charge of them. The chief bade me good night, and said he would be sure and get oxen for me. This promise he did not fulfil. He afterwards sent word, saying, he could not get oxen. I gave the mapakatis a good supper, and gave them their mats. They wished to sleep in the dining-room. I said no—they must sleep where they slept last night. They again refused. At last I said, that they would annoy me with their smoking, for it made me sick, and if they would not go to the kitchen, I would tell Stock. At last they rose up and went to the kitchen. I called the girls in—committed ourselves to the protection of our heavenly Father, and then retired to rest. About an hour after going to bed, some person tried to open the front door. The eldest girl called, and asked who was there. No answer was given, and the noise ceased. After all was quiet, a second attempt was made to open the door—the girl called again, but she received no answer. I spent a sleepless night, but the Lord again preserved me from dangers not a few. Towards the morning I fell fast asleep, and was awakened by a rough voice, calling “Missis.” I opened my eyes, and what was my surprise to see two Caffres standing at the bed-room door. They told me to get up and leave immediately. I asked where am I to go to? They said go to Fort White. I said I will stop—you will not hurt me. They answered, What is the matter

with you? Do you not know that other females have been murdered? I made no answer, but began to dress myself, and that in a very unpleasant manner, for the two men stood there, and would not leave before I finished dressing myself. Others came into the bed-room, put their guns and assegais against the wall, and bade me make haste and leave the bed-room. They commenced taking the blankets off the bed. I went into the next room—some articles were already taken out of it. Some of the Caffres said to me, Go out of here, what are you wanting? I went into the front room, and saw many things destroyed and taken away.

I went into the store—got the reams and other things belonging to the waggon, and tried to get the four remaining oxen inspanned, but unfortunately I could get no one to drive the waggon, as all the people had left the station during the night. I could now get no means of even saving a few clothes for Mr. Brown and myself. I knew not what to do—the house was full of Caffres, some carrying away our property, while others were busy breaking and destroying the furniture. I tried all I could to save a few things; I failed in this. I could not think of leaving, for I knew not where to go. At last a strong Caffre took me by the arm and pushed me out of the door. The servants called me and said, Why do you stop in the midst of danger; come away. I ventured again into the house, but received the same treatment. I now saw it was time to leave. Taking my infant from the girl, she and another little girl accompanied me to the great place. I asked for the chief—he came to

me—I told him what had happened—he gave a deep sigh, and said, I will go to the station myself. He went—I left the infant with the two girls in Stock's hut, and returned again to the station. I could not see a single article remaining. The chief instead of helping me to save anything, got his counsellors to carry away the meal, sugar, and coffee. I said to him, Now that you have destroyed everything, can you not help me and return a large book. I described it to him—it was Mr. Brown's large Bible. I said, If you know who has it, help me, and give it to me. One of the counsellors said, Poor creature; whoever has the great book he must give it to her, for it is only a book, and we do not want books. The chief immediately sent the friendly councillor for the Bible, who ran to a kraal, rescued the golden treasure, came running after me, placed the Bible, in my hands, and with a smile said, "Here Missis, take your book, and be very careful not to part with it again." I thanked the poor Caffre, who very kindly expressed his sympathy, and said his heart was very sore for me.

It was now time to leave the station, as every thing was taken away, the mission house destroyed, and not a creature left but Caffres, who told me to go to Fort White. Accordingly I left; found the two girls on the road with the infant, who was crying very much; I took him, sat down for a little under a tree, and proceeded again to the great place. The chief told us to sit in Gasa's school until the evening, and then go on to Fort White. I asked a little milk from the chief, as we felt very hungry, not having tasted food since Thursday evening. The chief sent a cup of thick

milk, which I shared with the two girls, and was very glad to get it. The chief sent two women to accompany us to Fort White. However, they got tired and left us. We met a young woman and a little girl, who, when they heard our tale, offered to accompany us, and show us the road to the Fort. It was now turning late—I felt tired and very faint; the girl noticed this, who begged me to go no further. We wondered where we should pass the night, and while we were looking around, we saw two huts: with a beating heart I went up to them—the young woman who was our guide told what had happened to us to the inmates of the house. They all expressed their sympathy, and wondered much that their countrymen should have such cruel hearts. Before retiring to rest, they gave us some milk, which we were very thankful to get. They very kindly gave us a mat to sleep on. We lay down, and when I looked back on the dangers to which we were exposed during the day, my heart was filled with wonder. Mercy—yes, mercy, had compassed us about.

awoke early on Tuesday morning, and just when about to leave, hard firing was heard. I waited at the Fort until the firing ceased. Sir Harry, with his troops, arrived, and I left with the women for Chumie. We had scarcely gone two miles, when we sat down under a tree to rest. We had just stood up to proceed on our journey again, when the girl said—"There are the Caffres." We were immediately surrounded by twelve armed Caffres; they never spoke a word, but pounced on us in a manner which I cannot describe. Often I fancy I see the Caffre pressing his assegai to my naked bosom, as he did on that morning; and now that it is past, I often wonder whatever prevented him from thrusting the weapon into me. I felt very much frightened. I said—"Oh, do not stab me." Three armed men held me—they undressed me, and left me with only my chemise and flannel, and took the two girls' clothes also from them. One of them returned again to me, and wished to take what I had on, for he said, he was sure I had money about my person. He came forward again—caught hold of me; but one of the women quickly snatched me from him, and asked what he meant by again returning to me, after he had taken all I had? He left me not, however, until he had taken the poor old woman's handkerchief off her head. On this day, they took all that I had in the world. The Bible, which the friendly Caffre had rescued for me, and two hymn-books, were taken by them. It was in vain to ask them from them. How grieving to think that these, it is likely, are cut to pieces by the hand of the poor, ignorant Caffre, who knows not their value. After getting every-

thing from us, they walked quietly away. One halted, and called out, saying—"If you go on, you will meet more Caffres." This was the one who took my bonnet and gown. He again called to the woman, and said—"Old woman, you must take great care of the missus, and not allow any thing to hurt her." I got a sad fright, and had no heart to proceed on my journey.

I returned again to the Fort. I was descried at a distance, and seeing the state I was in, some kind person sent a gown to cover me. Again the Lord preserved our lives in the midst of great danger. All went on very quietly at the Fort until Friday morning, when the alarm was given, "the Caffres are coming!" I looked out, and saw that it was quite true, the enemy was coming down, in four different directions, in great numbers. The firing commenced. No one can describe the horrors of that day. Three balls from the Caffres, came into the room where we were, but, thanks be to the Lord! He permitted nothing to befall us. Twenty-one Caffres were on that day quickly hurried into eternity. One of them was dressed in Mr. Brown's cloak, another in his shirt, and a third in one of my best gowns. I was requested to go over and see the dead bodies, to see if I knew them, but this I refused to do. A heavy thunder-storm came on towards the afternoon; the firing ceased, and the Caffres began to disappear. No one belonging to the post was hurt, except one man, who was slightly wounded. On Friday the 10th, two women again made a trial to come for me.

I left the Fort at three o'clock; a heavy rain came on. We went on, joined by Daniel, who

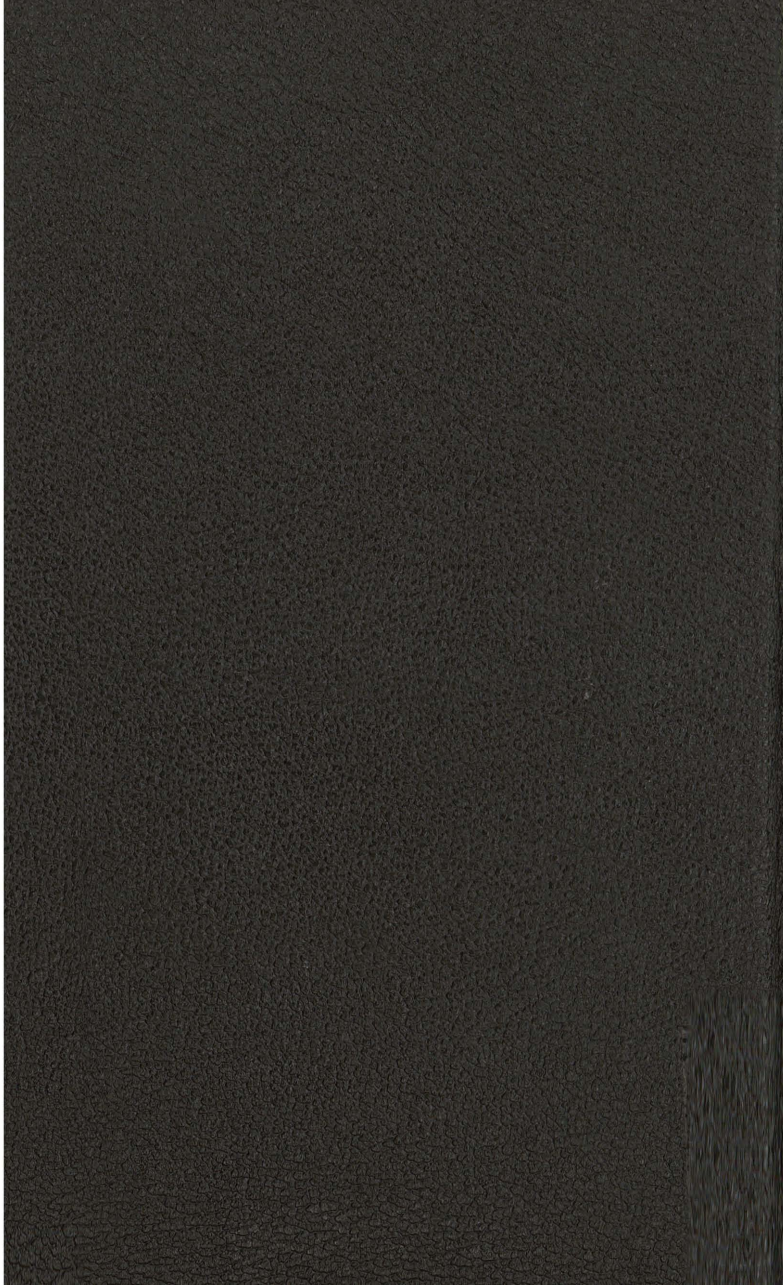
had come from Chumie, until we came to a kraal, where we were received with great kindness by the head man, who was one of Sandilli's counsellors. He was very kind to us, and provided a good supper of boiled meat and thick milk. He gave me a clean mat, and another offered me his blanket. I thanked him for it, and said, I would not take it from him, as I had a large shawl, which would do, for it was very hot. We slept very comfortably in our friend's hut, and awoke early next morning. The man wished us to stop till the time for milking the cattle, that we might get some breakfast. We thanked him for his kindness, and said, we would rather go on, as we wished to get the cool of the morning. He bade us good morning, and said, he hoped we would reach Chumie in safety. His wife came a good way with us. After she left us, we met several Caffres; they were well acquainted with the man who was with us, and they appeared very friendly. We went on until we came to the Bera plain, where we saw three armed Caffres running down the hill to meet us. They seemed a little ashamed when they saw Daniel, whom they knew quite well. They went on a long way with us, talking about the state of the country. They asked me if I thought Fort White a strong post? I said, I did not know, for I was no judge of these things. I asked them why they asked that question? They said, "Because we are going to burn it." I said, I feared they would not be able to do that. They said, "We will try."

They continued walking with us, when we saw other two armed men flying to meet us, but fortunately they knew Daniel. They confessed

that they were coming to strip us, as they thought we were carrying letters from the Fort to Alice. Another came running with a gun ; he seemed very much enraged—said, I was their enemy, for I was white, and he would shoot me. The other Caffres caught hold of his gun,—told him who I was and that I was going to Gwali to the teachers. He said, “ What are the teachers ? I do not care about them ; it is them that have killed the country.” After a little, his anger seemed to cool ; he asked tobacco from me. I had none, but asked a piece from some of the women, and gave it to the man, who thanked me, and said, “ It is right Daniel is with you, for we know him ; if he had not been here, we would have killed you, for we look on all white people as our enemies.” They left us, and we went on quietly till we reached Chumie.

And now that I am here in safety, when I look back on the many dangers to which I was exposed, and yet preserved from them all, I am lost with astonishment at the mercy of the Lord to me.

THE END.



Personal
Adventure

Rev. GEORGE

BROWN

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