

the chiefs for 260 miles to the north through Fort Salisbury; and to the south of Umtali for 70 miles, and round Umtali one is being rapidly made. Indeed, round Umtali and to the south-west there is scarcely a chief who has not a definite understanding with us, and receives us; and our most eastern mission hut is right on the Portuguese border. As to the good which the missions are doing, it is the day of small things, when we go deeper than friendly intercourse. We have not one convert, and one boy only who is fit to be a catechumen; nor can I say that the effect of Christianity among them seems to be great. Certainly at Maconi's town I have seen 70 walk some distance to the service, and at Umtali I have had 39 Mashona and camp-servants in church; but when you realize that when twins are born we have not yet anywhere stopped their putting them into a pot and pouring hot ashes over them, or throwing them into a river, you will not expect too much."

ISLANDS OF THE SEA.

—On the large island of Malekula hard hearts are now beginning to break. Six years ago, when 2 missionaries from Victoria arrived among these 12,000 savages, no woman could be persuaded to enter a school-house. The men prohibited them from doing such a thing, as quite beyond a woman's province; they were downtrodden to the last degree, and their masters meant to keep them down. The tide has now begun to turn, and at the meetings for church and school as many women and girls may be seen sitting on one side of the frame building as there are men and boys on the other. In the case of the few who have taken a decided stand for Christ, the wild eye has become subdued, and the countenance is changed. One man is now helping his missionary as an evangelist.

—Some years ago an English captain of the Royal Engineers stationed at Singapore became so interested in missionary work among the Malays that he

resigned his commission, went home, spent some time in practical work in London, then returned to the Straits to work as a missionary, and has recently been ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

—The Presbyterians carry great responsibilities in Australasia, for their numbers are large, being almost 500,000 in 1891. Of these 166,911 are in Victoria, 141,477 in New Zealand, 109,383 in New South Wales, 45,639 in Queensland, 18,206 in South Australia, 9756 in Tasmania, etc.

—The Malagasy people are very fond of money. They love it, and long to possess as much of it as possible. But the love of Christ proves stronger than the love of money sometimes; and Mr. Hockett tells us in a letter from Fianarantsoa, in the south of Madagascar, that during a week of special meetings the native Christians of that town raised \$627, or £125, for mission work. This sum means for them about what five times the amount does for British or American Christians.

—The *British Weekly* gives the following as showing the missionary activity of the Madagascar Christians: (1) The Congregational Union, which represents the churches, 800 or 900 in number, in the central province of Imerina, and is the Malagasy missionary society for sending native evangelists to the distant heathen tribes of this great island; (2) a society for supplying preachers to the dark and ignorant villages of the central province, and for preaching in markets, etc.; (3) an association of medical students, and those who have taken their diplomas, for providing native medical missionaries for needy districts of the country; (4) an orphanage, having homes in the capital for boys and girls; (5) a woman's temperance society, in connection with the American women's temperance organization; (6) an auxiliary Bible society, for supplying the Scriptures gratuitously, and at cheap rates, where desirable; (7) the most recently formed, a tract society, for printing and circulating tracts.