

The present state of the Church in Madagascar must be a great improvement on the statistics given by Mr. Ellis, which are of December, 1868. There were then in the Church there, 12 English agents, 8 being ordained ministers, 20 native pastors, 437 native preachers and teachers, 37,112 adherents to Christianity, 7,066 Communicants. In the Capital—Antananarivo—there are thirteen Protestant places of worship, with an attendance of 10,000 people. The foundation stone of a chapel royal has been laid, in which a document was placed declaring that any successor of the queen who should destroy the edifice, or appropriate it to any other use than the service of God, should not be allowed to exercise sovereignty in Madagascar. Mr. Ellis appends a postscript to his deeply interesting narrative, containing a letter from the Prime Minister to himself, announcing the public burning of the national idols, and that arrangements are being made by the State for the Evangelization of the island, and the establishment of a national Church. May He who kept the martyrs in their hours of sore adversity, keep his Church pure in the still more trying hour of its prosperity.

Missionary Intelligence.

INTELLIGENCE FROM REV. JAMES NISBET.

We have intelligence from Mr. Nisbet up to 17th January. He and the other members of the mission were well, and everything was going on with regularity and pleasantness. Mr. Nisbet's letter refers almost exclusively to business matters connected with the Mission. We quote the concluding part of his letter:—"I might mention that since I began to prepare for the packet, being greatly disturbed with the noise of a multitude of young Indians and others crowding the kitchen and hall in the evenings, who would not come to school, I determined to take them by guile, and commenced an evening school in our dining room, so that they have either to attend school, or clear out. The result is that from 12 to 18 are getting lessons four evenings a week (Wednesday being prayer meeting evening) in the Cree. A lesson also in English is given, for the benefit of those who know a little English. At the close of the lesson the bell is rung for prayers, and all must remain, and thus some are frequently present at that exercise who did not attend before.

"A number of Indians have been encamped here for a month past, the most of whom have nothing to eat but what we can spare them. Wood animals cannot be got; and some of the men are off to the plains after the buffalo, while their families are here. As far as possible we make them do a little work. This is the way our provisions go, and how can we avoid it? We shall be obliged, however, to get them off in some way to find a supply elsewhere."

FREE CHURCH MISSIONS.

The Rev. John Small has recently been ordained at Bombay. The ordination services, which were conducted by Irish and American Presbyterian ministers as well as Free Churchmen, were held in St. Andrew's Church, a place of worship connected with the Established Church of Scot-