

is to some extent awakened. The capacity of reading the English version of the Bible will soon be universal. Evangelistic operations are now conducted in almost every portion of hitherto uncultivated districts; and it is well known that the missionary is embarrassed and crippled in his operations where the Bible has not been his pioneer. A missionary in Connaught writes to us some time ago, that we need not expect any very deep impression or intelligent awakening among the people until the word of God precedes and breaks up the way of the living agent. But we need not argue this point. The necessity for a fresh and well-sustained effort to put the Bible into the hands of the Irish people is felt and acknowledged on all hands.—*Irish Presbyterian.*

MADAGASCAR.

In the chief city of Madagascar and its immediate vicinity, there are a thousand persons who are known openly to be the disciples of Christ. These all regularly attend Divine worship on the Sabbath, and during the week, sometimes by day and sometimes by night. Besides these, considerable numbers are known in other places. Many of them are judicious and prudent men, holding very important offices on account of their acknowledged integrity. During the long-continued persecution, at least a hundred persons have suffered death, besides a still larger number, who are loaded with chains or living in exile. Notwithstanding the unfavorable circumstances, the number of converts continues to increase, and persons of high rank and noble birth are among the most zealous Gospel laborers.—*Montreal Witness.*

Ecclesiastical Notices.

PAKENHAM.

The annual meeting of the Juvenile Missionary Society of the Sabbath School in connection with the U.P. Church here, was held in the place of worship belonging to that body, on the evening of Wednesday, the 27th December last.

The children assembled at half-past six o'clock, P. M., to partake of tea, which had been kindly provided by some of the teachers. At 7½ o'clock, P. M., the public were admitted. A happier group of children it has never been our lot to witness. It was really a charming sight to behold the harmony that prevailed, and the happiness that beamed in every countenance.

After tea, the Rev. Mr. Armstrong Methodist minister in the village, was called to the chair. After a hymn had been sung, three of the elder scholars delivered neat, appropriate, and interesting addresses, which were listened to by their fellow-scholars with deep attention, and at the close elicited well-merited applause.

The Treasurers then brought forward

their boxes to the platform, and their contents being examined, the girls' box was found to contain over £4, and the boys' over £3; in all £7 18s. 2d., which was apportioned as follows:

Synod's Mission Fund...	£1	5	0
French Canadian Mission	1	10	0
Victoria College.....	1	10	0
Old Calabar Mission.....	1	0	0
Mission to the Jews.....	1	0	0
To the S. School Library	1	13	2

Officers were then appointed for the ensuing year. The addresses were concluded by an interesting and instructive one from the Rev. Chairman, which was listened to with great attention.

The children, then, with a consideration which was most becoming, and we, trust, too, animated with a feeling of gratitude, gave a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks to their teachers for their kindness in meeting with them from Sabbath to Sabbath, to instruct them in the things that belong to their peace. Thanks were also given to the ladies who had prepared the tea; and also to the Chairman, for his conduct in the chair.