

for them to have a residence in it. They learned, on their return, that the Governor had proceeded with great severity against several persons who had shown them special favour during their stay there, in the way of fine and imprisonment; but after considerable opposition on the part of the Governor, the missionaries have succeeded in obtaining a residence, and the King has expressed himself favourably. In Tavoy, south-west of Moulmein, in consequence of the feeble health of the missionary since his return, the Karen Bible has made slow progress. Part was in type; but he was unable, for some days, to look at the proof sheets. He had the means of making rapid progress with the printing, if the proof-reading could be hastened. In Arracan, the work of the mission at Kamree, had been much hindered by sickness and bereavement in the mission family, and some disadvantages under which they labour. At Sandoway, which is farther south, there are 36 out-stations, and 44 native preachers and assistants; the number of baptisms by last report, had been 373; and the number of communicants in all, was 4311. Nearly eighty families of christian Karens had emigrated to them from Burmah Proper, which closely adjoins them; being driven out by the intolerable exactions of men and money, which the king was making to carry on war.—*U. P. Mag.*

MADAGASCAR.

The immense island of Madagascar is still shut against missionaries, and the christians there are still persecuted with relentless cruelty. The Queen was falsely reported to be dead. She not only lives, but, along with her ministers, still seems bent on the destruction of christianity—Her son, who is heir to the throne of Madagascar, seems still to continue a steadfast christian. Indeed, all the christians, amounting to hundreds, remain firm in the midst of terror and death. "Though compelled," says the *London Missionary Chronicle*, "to flee from place to place, or to assemble in little groups and in secret haunts, in order to escape the vigilance of their merciless foes, the God whom they have so faithfully served continues to be their stay and refuge, and in his good providence, enables them to take sweet counsel together, and to hold occasional correspondence with distant and sympathising friends."

The Rev. David Griffiths, formerly of the Madagascar mission, has received a letter from David Johns, (Andrianabo) one of the Malagasy refugees residing at Mauritius, dated 17th March ultimo, enclosing another, recently transmitted by some of his pious countrymen in Madagascar. From David Johns' letter it appears that Ranavalona, the Queen, still lives and reigns; but she is desirous of resigning her government in favour of her son and heir, the excellent Prince Rakotosheho, though the object has hitherto failed of accomplishment, through the opposition of Rainiharo, the commander-in-chief. It is further stated, that the Prince is making rapid progress in the christian religion, and continues to favour and defend his persecuted countrymen as far as it is in his power.

The letter enclosed by David Johns, bearing date Madagascar, 19th November, 1851, has been translated by Mr. Griffiths, and is as follows:

To David Johns Andrianabo, and his Wife and Child.

We received your letter, dated on the 24th of October, 1851, informing us of the sympathies of the ministers of the churches, and of all our christian friends, with us in our persecutions, for which we rejoice and thank God. How glad we were when we received the letters and packages—forty-two books, six quires of paper, and the bottle of ink—which you sent us by Mr. Zamety. All came safe to hand. You cannot imagine how thankful we felt to God on that day, for his blessing and great mercy in enabling you to send us those things, for we are thirsting and hungering for the bread of life. Thanks be to God, because He hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. Blessed be His holy name, for He hath opened a way for us to correspond with one another. As to the papers of Rakotosheho, (the Queen's son) and the marks which we mutually agreed upon, we have not any except those which we packed up as they came from the capital, and that we sent you by Mr. Zamety. The Christians in the interior have a mark like the one we have by us. It was made for the purpose of receiving any packages sent us by our friends on the other side of the waters. We will write to them to inquire whether they have changed the mark, and as soon as we receive their answer, we will send it you by the first vessel that leaves our port for the Mauritius. And this also we tell you, our three brothers sent us the large book that is bound, which contains an account of each tribe of every district complete, and the names of our friends that suffered, and endangered their lives on the 7th November, 1851. But all the rest of our persecuted friends are stationed at the different military posts on the island, and around the coast, and we hear that they are at liberty to go about. Blessed be the God that retains power over all things.—We thank you, our friends, even all of you, for writing to us. It is owing to the Divine blessing that we have this joy and happiness of corresponding with one another. May you live and be happy, and be blessed of God! May our Lord Jesus Christ bring us to see one another's face in the flesh again! And this also we tell you, beloved friends, that we have written to you and begged of you to send us some medicine. Send us some, if you can procure any; for by these, under the blessing of God, our bodily diseases will be removed.

Beg of the Rev. J. J. Le Brun to send us a large number of Bibles, Testaments, and Hymn Books. But remember the way we have adopted to send them to the capital. We put them in cases, or small casks, filled up with eatables. Adopt the same way in sending them to

us. Put them in the bottom of cases with bottles, or casks with eatables, place small bars of iron across, and fill up the case with eatables. We would remind you of John chap xv 16-20, whenever you intend sending us anything. May you live happy and be blessed of God! We salute you, three in family, and our friends with you. May you live long, and happy, and be blessed of God, say Jeremiah, Joshua, and Zarah, and all the Christians here.—*Jur Mis Mag*

SIERRA LEONE.

This British colony, on the continent of Western Africa, was instituted for the reception and training in civilization and religion of rescued negroes, liberated from captured-slave ships, in which they were on their way to the plantations on the eastern American coast. By a late Government census it appears, that out of a total population of 45,000, no less than 36,000 are now professedly Christians, the remainder being to the number of 1778 Mohammedans, and 7230 Pagans. Of those professedly Christians, 26,095 are ranked as Episcopalian, many of them having had the training of the excellent missionaries of the Church of England Society; 13,376 are Wesleyans, which, along with 4864 called West African Methodists, gives to the Methodist body the majority over any other denomination. Of Calvinistic Methodists there are besides 1552. Only 56 are Roman Catholics. It is now believed that the slave trade no longer exists in any port north of the equator. And along that line of seaboard (including Fernando Po), it may be computed that 60,000 persons have been led, through the English and American missionaries of various denominations, to embrace the outward profession of the Christian name; many of them proving by their life that their profession was accompanied by real faith.—*U. P. Mag.*

THE CAFFRE WAR.

The Caffre war still continues to drag its slow length along. There seems as little hope of its termination as ever. General Cathcart is making no more progress than his predecessor, Sir Harry Smith, who was recalled for incapacity. We are not sure but that he is even losing ground. A district of fifty miles on each side of the frontier line is now lying quite open to the incursions of the insurgents; and thus, instead of driving them back upon their own territory, we cannot repel them from ours. Almost the whole native population, to all appearance, is up in arms against us; and even those who publicly declare themselves to be the friends of the British Government, cannot be depended upon. The Caffres, by some means or other, get acquainted with all the movements of the troops; and are found lying in ambush for them, at the points where they can do most injury to their opponents, with the least damage to themselves. Provisions and arms and ammunition, they have in abundance; and by the last accounts, we are informed of a party of Hottentots attacking five waggons of ammunition and Minie muskets, while proceeding from Graham's Town to Fort Beaufort, though guarded by a detachment of thirty-one sappers and miners. Seven of the convoy were killed, nine more wounded, and the waggons remained as the prize of the rioters. Six days afterwards, an attack was made upon the camp of the Hottentots, in order to avenge this ignominious defeat. The force was large, and the success is said to be signal, yet the particulars mentioned scarcely warrant such a conclusion. But, be this as it may, there is the fact, that these despised Caffres and Hottentots have taken possession of a large part of the colony, from which we cannot dislodge them;—that they are seizing cattle in all directions, and that, even in the neighbourhood of Graham's Town, it is scarcely safe for a European to show himself. If, then, the war is to be brought soon to an end, it must be by means of a much larger force than has yet been sent out to South Africa, and by a still more lavish expenditure of the public resources. Money can be made up again, but what compensation is there to our poor soldiers, not to mention the poor natives, whose blood is shed in these African solitudes! And what shall we say of Missionary Stations broken up, around which Christian families clustered, and from which was heard the voice of prayer, and of praise to Jehovah! And what shall we say of prejudices fostered in the minds of the heathen against the Gospel itself, by their lands being plundered from them, and their dearest interests sacrificed on the altars of European cupidity! Great need have Christians of faith and of patience, and of looking beyond the dark cloud which now envelops Caffraria, to see those scattered tribes gathered together far back in the interior and listening to the messengers of Him who is the Prince of Peace, and who has poured out his soul a sacrifice for the dusky African as well as the fair European! Help, Lord, for there is no help in man; and teach our rulers that there are better means of bringing over savage tribes than by gleaming swords and Minie rifles! And then the work of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.—*U. P. Mag.*

THE PATAGONIAN MISSIONARIES.

A harrowing narrative appeared lately in most of the newspapers, respecting a band of missionaries who lately died of hunger on an inhospitable shore near the southernmost point of South America. They utterly failed in obtaining any footing among the savage inhabitants, whose extreme barbarism was the very reason why they selected them as the objects of their christian love, and why they put themselves in such ter-