

English Notes.

BY JAMES DOUGLAS.

Church Missionary Society.—Not only the friends of this society, but of evangelical missions generally, will be inclined to view as an augury for good the proclamation of a British protectorate over the States intervening between Uganda and the East Coast. Though the Uganda Mission has been in no way dependent on man's arrangements, yet it does seem as if, in the overruling providence of God, the way of the Gospel was being further prepared through the introduction of settled government into the heart of Africa, and the decision arrived at by Her Majesty's Government to make the railway to Uganda. It is hoped that the *pax Britannica*, like the *pax Romana* of old, may greatly facilitate the progress of the Gospel as the means of earth's regeneration.

Central Asia.—Dr. Neve's recent article on Central Asia as a further field for occupancy has already borne fruit both as regards offers of personal service and of substantial contributions. As the editor of the *Missionary Intelligencer* points out, every region beyond that is entered, every fresh enlargement of the missionary field to lands still more remote, reacts favorably on the other spheres which are already before the churches. The new does not prejudice the old, but strengthens the organic development of the whole network of agency.

Negro Missionaries.—The Bishop of Sierra Leone, believing that the Church in West Africa would be much helped if negro missionaries from across the Atlantic could be procured, has gone to the West Indies to see who among the colored Christians are willing to offer themselves for this work.

South India.—It is reported that while the congregations at the Palamcottah Tamil Church are as large as ever, numbering over 1200, and while baptisms are almost daily taking place

throughout Tinnevely, and aggressive and earnest efforts are being made in many quarters, a root of bitterness has sprung up, owing to the order of the diocesans that caste titles should be omitted in the publication of the banns of marriage. The result has shown how deep-seated is the spirit of caste among those who as Christians should have given it up altogether. Still all are not tainted. A band exists of men full of faith, of prayer, and of the Holy Ghost.

London Missionary Society.—The bearing of the French invasion of Madagascar on evangelical missions has been seriously complicated by the Lenten pastoral of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Paris, who speaks of the French expedition as a crusade on behalf of Catholicism. This sentiment is re-echoed by the other bishops of France, and coupled with the strongly anti-British feeling which finds utterance among the French Colonial party, seems to point to anxious days in the future.

Lifu, New Caledonia.—A wondrous work of grace has recently taken place on this island, the like of which had never been seen on the island before. The results appear to have far exceeded faith and expectation. "I confess," writes Mr. James Hadfield, "that when I started these revival services one chief idea in my mind was that I should be furnishing the pastors with a weapon which might be of value to them in the future, when they had learned to use it with effect; but a stronger hand than ours has used the weapon and left us all, teachers and people alike, under a profound sense of God's willingness to help us, and of the ease with which He works." As a result of these services, conducted throughout the island by four of the native pastors, no less than 564 natives have decided for Christ, and the whole island has been roused to renewed faith and zeal. One of the pastors described the movement as a true "Penetekosa," and records that while working in a remote district a somewhat