

Madagascar: our curiosity is naturally directed to Madagascar, which was lately the scene of 30,000 converts, and in former years of much persecution and martyrdom for the truth's sake. Our latest accounts from that Island are to the effect that the National Idols have been burnt by order of the Queen, and by the co-operation of the people, and that this act has been followed by urgent and wide spread demands for Christian instruction. Accordingly, the Committee ordered an edition of 20,000 copies of the whole Bible and 50,000 copies of the New Testament to be prepared with all despatch. Subsequent communications inform us of the arrival of the first instalment of the New Testament, and of the interest excited among the inhabitants. "Copies were presented to the Queen and Prime Minister and suitably acknowledged. The Queen (says the letter in reply) thanks the Society for sending that good book to her and especially for printing and sending so many of those gospels here, for well she knows that the gospel is the foundation of good to her people, causing them to know God and Jesus Christ her Saviour. And the arrival of the Gospels here has caused great joy to the people, for there are still many that desire to possess them; and I make known to you that many of the people of the Queen are striving to the utmost to learn to read that they may be able to read the gospel." Thus is the good seed being sown throughout this large and important island betokening much fruit. The report adds that wherever new congregations have been formed by the Missionaries, there the Society has been in the habit of presenting each of them with a Bible for the use of the Pulpit. In Abyssinia, where colporteurs have been laboring since the late war, the unsettled state of the country has much impeded the operations of the Society, nevertheless one of the colporteurs, himself a captive during Theodore's reign, and one well acquainted with the country, gives hope of a large demand for the Scriptures, as soon as circumstances allow the promotion of the work. At present, it is a sowing of the seed in an uncultivated ground, but still we may believe that now and then a grain falls into good ground, prepared and disposed to receive it, which shall bear fruit into life eternal. In anticipation therefor, the Committee has prepared an edition of five thousand copies of the new Testament in the Abyssinian language. From the South Sea Islands, good and cheering accounts come of the sale and spread of the Scriptures in the native languages. Samoa is one of the most promising spheres of Bible circulation throughout Eastern Polynesia. The whole Bible has been for some time past translated into the Samoese language, and is about to be stereotyped. The Christian natives have defrayed the entire expense and One hundred Pounds over, which were handed to the Committee by the London Missionary Society to cover incidental expenses. Such an occurrence (says the report) is rare and most