

Matabeleland. In spite of gravest hindrances from wars, the excitement of gold mining and vices brought in by Europeans, there are 2835 church-members and 7483 native Christians.

—Two missions have recently been opened in the Dark Continent. One, after long months of search for a suitable location, has been fixed by agents of the American Board at Mount Selinda, Gazaland, in the territory of the South African Company, and just across the line from the Portuguese domains. The other has been founded in the Barotsi kingdom to the north of the Zambezi by the English Primitive Methodists, and only after a diligent and painful quest of two or three years.

—The Rev. W. P. Johnson, writing from Likoma, says: "When will people understand that the natives do not feel drawn to the white man *quod* white man, do not admire him, and if roused beyond an indifference, propped by love of what he brings, and fear of his sudden acts, hate him as unreasonably as the Irish do the Sassenach?"

ISLANDS OF THE SEA.

—About one half of the 40,000 Maoris remaining in New Zealand belong to the Church of England. One fourth are either Wesleyans or Roman Catholics, while the remaining one fourth represent the semi-heathen section that either fell away after the wars or never were brought in.

—Four missionary societies are co-operating for the evangelization of Madagascar, with its 3,500,000 inhabitants—the London Missionary Society, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the English Friends, and the Norwegian Missionary Society. Their combined work includes 2096 stations, 88 missionaries, 75 wives, and 16 unmarried women; 934 native ministers, with 5836 evangelists, teachers, etc.; 113,910 communicants and 487,907 native Christians; 1750 schools and 135,067 schol-

ars. The Roman Catholics report 130,000 adherents, 17,338 scholars, 641 native teachers, and 114 European agents.

—What a record for the churches of Niue, an island in the South Seas called Savage Island by Captain Cook, because of the character of its inhabitants! It has now a population of about 5000, but there are 11 native pastors and 1646 church-members. In the year 1892 these churches sent from their own membership 4 missionaries with their wives to New Guinea. Besides supporting their own pastors, these Christians contributed within the last year \$1500 to the funds of the London Missionary Society for the carrying forward of missionary work.

—Samoa has been desolated recently by the measles and other diseases conjoined. It is estimated that not less than 1000 persons have died.

—Rev. W. Brown writes from Duke of York Island, New Britain, as follows: "Our present edition of the hymn-book is almost done, and in my next letter I intend to ask for a new edition. . . . Our people buy all their books now, and also slates, pencils, etc. This year we received over £2 in that way, and a new edition of hymn-books would sell. Our missionary meeting subscriptions were fully £30 higher this year. Our total is now £130 for this circuit." And this fact should be added: "When the missionaries landed in 1875 not a white man was resident there. The language had not been reduced to a written form, the people were wild, naked savages; not a pound of copra had been made; there was not a sixpence on the island; and, with the exception of a little barter carried on occasionally by a passing vessel, there was no trade carried on in the group. Now there are several large trading and planting firms in the islands; a large proportion of the people near the mission stations attend Divine services regularly, schools are conducted, a literature is being slowly found, many of the people are truly converted to God."