

name of the London Missionary Society, of which he is the secretary, to explore the island, and to return with such an account of the state of the people as his observation would enable him to give. The deputies explored the island, went to its capital, visited its villages, crossed some of its solitudes, sailed down some of its rivers, penetrated where no European was residing, and into some places where a European face has scarcely ever been seen; and everywhere they found little churches and Christian pastors, the most of whom are natives. They found Bible-reading as well as preaching; they found psalm and hymn singing; they found children learning to read and learning to sing. In some cases they penetrated into remote regions, where native churches, under the pastorate of native teachers, had never been visited by an English missionary. They visited, for example, Mojanga, a place on the coast where Sir Bartle Frere, when passing through those seas on his noble anti-slavery cruise, landed, and found, (where but a little time before only savage islanders could have been seen) Christian society, a Christian church, and Christian worship. He found them observing the Sabbath and public Christian worship, and partaking of the Lord's Supper, with a decorum and propriety like what might have been seen in an evangelical church in London or in Edinburgh. Mr. Pillans says: 'Sir Bartle Frere has told you something of two churches in Mojanga, and of their young pastor. He fully deserves the honourable mention Sir Bartle makes of him. He is a true man, a diligent teacher, and most careful of the purity of the churches. The attendance—the *ordinary* attendance—in one of the churches is about 300, in the other 230. There are fifty six members in the two. They unite in the communion. They have six preachers and six deacons. There are sixty children in the school, of whom thirty can read well. About thirty adults can read. Six or seven Sakalavas attend worship; one was a member for a time, but went astray. In receiving members they follow the rule at the capital of two months' probation; then the case comes before the whole church. In a similar way, if a member goes astray, he is visited and counsel given him; if unrepentant, he is dealt with by the whole church. Rakotavao, the pastor at Mojanga, told us that he had occasion to visit all the twelve churches in the district in 1871, and he found schools in them all.'

In other districts the state of things is equally encouraging. It is calculated that a QUARTER OF A MILLION of people have been already outwardly gathered under the Christian standard.

General Religious Intelligence.

CHURCH FEDERATION.

There was recently held in New York a convention of delegates from the various sections of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and Canada, to consider and determine upon measures for the formation of a representative federation of the Churches, that hold to the Presbyterian faith. We regret to say that only one representative of the Presbyterians of Canada was present,—the Rev. T. McPherson, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church. At a meeting held in Dr. Ormiston's church, at which the Rev. Dr. Hall presided, the Rev. Dr.