

"I have brought my kingdom to lean upon God, and I expect you one and all, to be wise and just, and to walk in the ways of God."

Such proceedings celebrated the fiftieth, or jubilee year, of the mission. But *the* event of that year was the removal, at one blow, of all external obstacles, by the burning of the idols. At the suggestion of the people, the queen committed to the flames the national idols of the Hovas. Quickly a fire was kindled in the centre of almost every village, and soon a heap of ashes was all that remained of the idolatry of the Hovas, and, to some extent, that of the Betsileo as well. Many, however, who had thrown their idols into the flames to please the queen, remained as much heathen at heart as ever.

Their national religion gone, the villagers began to build themselves churches, and to gather in congregations after the fashion of the christians. For the first time in the world's history, congregations were seen meeting without any one even to read to them the word of God. Whatever were the motives that brought them together—they were often unworthy enough—*there they were* ready to be taught. The missionaries were almost overwhelmed at the thought of the thousands of heathen now looking to them for guidance. Immediately a large number of natives from the older churches were sent out as evangelists. The missionary staff was quickly trebled. The press was used with good effect. Training schools and medical missionaries aided in the work.

The statistics for this year present a record probably never equalled in the history of missions. In the early part of 1869, before the burning of the idols, the adherents of christianity numbered 37,000; at the close of 1870, they had increased to nearly a quarter of a million.

The growth from 1870 until the present time, has been almost unparalleled. One writer says, "Within the last ten years, more apparent converts have been gained to christianity, than in all the rest of the world, for a quarter of a century."

For 1880, the statistics are as follows:—Congregations, 1,142; missionaries, 604; native preachers, 4,134; church members, 715,855; adherents, 244,197.

With one exception, that of the Sandwich Islands, Madagascar has been the scene of the greatest triumphs of the gospel in heathen lands. "Behold what God hath wrought."

J. A. JAFFARY.

THE CANADIAN INTER-COLLEGIATE MISSIONARY ALLIANCE.

THE name which heads this paper was invented only in the early weeks of this year, but now it is known not only in the theological halls of the Dominion, but by the majority of Canadians interested in missions. Both the name and the organization were framed after an American model. Some five years ago the students of about sixteen seminaries in the United States united to increase a missionary spirit among themselves. This they proposed to do by annual conventions. So successful has been the scheme that now sixty seminaries send delegates, and the interest is so great that the convention at Hartford last year drew ninety students from Princeton, 150 miles distant.