

really want Madagascar, but they are under the false impression that England wants to bag it. For these suspicions there are not the slightest grounds beyond the fact that we have been the greatest land-baggers the world has ever seen; but our French neighbors forget that many of our colonies have been acquired at the request of the natives, or the plums have in some unexpected way dropped into our mouths. With Madagascar the matter is different, and the arrangement made between Napoleon III. and Lord Palmerston is a clear proof that even in the days of English colonial expansion she had no designs on Madagascar. It, therefore, seems to me that some means should be found for removing the distrust and jealousy which exist between the subjects of the two great nations concerned, to the great advantage of both, but to the greater disadvantage of the Malagasy. . . . Considering the fact that Madagascar has more Nonconformist churches and adherents than any other mission field in the world, it is surely the duty of the Protestant Dissenting deputies"—in Parliament—"to take some official action in the friendly settlement of a question of such vast importance to Protestant Dissenting mission churches."—ABRAHAM KINGDON, in *Madagascar News*.

—"It was complained the other day in the French Chamber of Deputies that the British are devouring Madagascar like an artichoke, leaf by leaf. 'Unless public opinion in France asserts itself,' said the indignant deputy for Réunion, 'this island, as large as ancient Gaul, will have entirely passed into the hands of British or Americans, and our suzerainty will then be merely an illusory one.' M. de Mahy did not condescend to explain that the so-called protectorate is a myth, which the Malagasy Queen has always repudiated. That Her Majesty has recently granted concessions of territory for the cultivation of sugar and the extraction of minerals is an important step in advance. Just now the

Hovas are on amicable terms with the French Resident General. French as well as English and American enterprise is free to develop the resources of the island, but the citizens of the republic are apathetic on the subject. The French Resident has only a small garrison at Antananarivo and Tamatave. M. de Mahy is in despair of a new expedition to Madagascar, as well he may be, after the heavy bill that has been run up in conquering the King of Dahomey and his Amazons."—*Madagascar News*.

—"England's action in arranging with France the future course of foreign influence in Madagascar becomes the more surprising the more the interests jeopardized by that action are considered. Possibly the British Government have the right to destroy a British civilization in countries where England has only continuity of moral policy to pursue; possibly they have the right to forego British interests on one country so as to acquire the power to develop them in another land, even though that land be but a cyclone-swept sand-bank, an infinitesimal speck of land in the vast waste of the Indian Ocean; but though a British Government may have the right to bring ruin to the work of England's sons and daughters, no right can possibly be claimed when the destruction of British interests brings crashing down the interests of other countries. How the interests of citizens of the United States of America may suffer by England's treacherous abandonment of Madagascar we have already pointed out. North America, however, can take care of herself, and, as in the instance of the Alabama claims, can persuade England to award her compensation of British illegal acts. It is Norway for whom we are concerned. The Norwegians, relying on the continuity of Great Britain's moral policy, fired with admiration by the success of British missions to this country, have come over to help in the stupendous task of civilizing and Christianizing Madagascar. Five-