

ably short time to convert savage tribes into a civilized people. Forty years ago the land was a wilderness, the people a multitude of naked barbarians who decorated their roughly-made huts with human skulls. Now the place is a garden worthy of its beautiful name of Minahassa." The mission among the Kaffres at Lovedale and elsewhere have been astonishingly successful in teaching the people the arts and industries of civilization, and at the same time duly attending to their spiritual interests.

Missions introduce and develop among barbarous tribes agriculture and horticulture, the idea of private rights, the division of property, the building of comfortable houses, and all the improvements incidental to progress in practical education. One of the most marvellous triumphs in this direction is the progress made by the degraded Papuans of Australia, long regarded as incapable of civilization and seemingly doomed to utter extinction. The Moravians have established stations among these people, and have taught them to live in orderly houses and to wear decent clothing. Their children are healthy, and are learning the arts of peace which the missionaries practice.

Presbyterianism in Rome.

ITALY has the honour of being the home of the oldest branch of the Presbyterian Church. The Waldenses are a pure though numerically weak survival of a period when the Church of Christ had not become encumbered and disfigured by enormous accretions of human invention. Persecution told terribly upon these "Puritans" of Italy, and drove them to the fastnesses of the Alps. Age after age they tried to spread their doctrines in a quiet way, but they were met with deadly repression. The time to favour them, even the set time, appears to have come. They are now free from the Alps to the Adriatic: free even in the city of Rome. We note with the greatest pleasure that they are ready to entertain favourably proposals for a union of all branches of the Presbyterian family in Italy. Negotiations with this object in view are now in hopeful progress. It is gratifying to learn that the Presbyterian Church lately dedicated in the city of Rome

is prospering. A fact is recalled in connection with the Church which is not without significance in other lands than Italy. In 1866—nineteen years ago—the Free Church minister in Rome was ordered peremptorily to stop a religious service which he held in his own parlour. He was told that if he did not at once put a stop to the service he would be arrested by the officers of the Inquisition and imprisoned! Not only was it unlawful to erect a place of Protestant worship in Rome at that time, but you could not conduct family worship without the risk of arrest and imprisonment. All this was under the TEMPORAL SOVEREIGNTY of the Pope, over the ruin of which we hear such bitter wailing. Happily the power of the Pope was overthrown in 1870. The Italian Government permits the erection of Reformed Churches in Rome, and protects their ministers and members in the enjoyment of their rights. This is done, however, in the face of the recently reiterated protests of the present Pope and his court. It is to be regretted that any body of men claiming to be Christians should in this nineteenth century still openly and without a blush proclaim the bitterest intolerance. Meanwhile the Reformed Churches are gathering strength, and by their well-doing, commending their principles to the people. There is no longer any danger of violent suppression by Government; and the earnest faith and pure lives of both ministers and people greatly commend the Reformed religion to the multitudes who are still nominally connected with the Church of Rome.

Editorial Greetings.

FROM BONN TO HEIDELBERG.

WE stopped over Sunday at Bonn, the birth-place of Beethoven and the seat of one of the twenty-one great Universities of Germany. It is noted also for its private schools, and, being at the entrance of the famous scenery of the Rhine, and withal a cheap and pleasant place to live in, it is a favourite resort of travellers. The population is about 27,000, of whom two-thirds are Roman Catholics and one-third Lutherans. Nearly all the public buildings are connected with the University, which is