

tone and character of higher education from the temple of Jagannath in Orissa to the awful defiles of the Khyber Pass beyond the Indus,—already numbering its undergraduates by thousands, and its graduates in arts, law, medicine, and civil engineering by hundreds. From hundreds, native Christians, especially in the districts of Chota Nagpore, Krishnaghur, and Burrisaul, have increased to thousands,—native Churches have not only been formed, but some of them becoming self sustaining,—fully educated native christians have been ordained as evangelists and pastors,—some of them are members of this Conference,—not fewer than four being present this day. In a similar strain I might go on to notice other points of importance. But it is not necessary for my object. Enough, surely, has been stated to verify my assertion that changes—great and momentous in their bearing, on the ultimate destinies of India—are in rapid progress. Having the general state of things little more than a quarter of a century ago vividly before my mind's eye, and looking abroad now on the considerably altered, and hereafter still more rapidly altering, state of things, I confess that an inexpressible feeling of awe creeps over my spirit. I feel somewhat, though in a higher and more peculiar sense, as I felt a few years ago, when standing on the verge of the mighty St. Lawrence—when the thaws of later spring were acting with visible effect, and there were unmistakeable signs that that vast icy pavement which concealed the dark depths beneath was about to break up, amid the thunders of splintering and crushing fragments—and the mind in wildering amaze was racked in striving to realize the rush and the roar of the resistless cataract of waters, and the tossing and dashing hither and thither of the rapidly accumulating and rapidly dissevering masses—wondering, ere the floods settled down again in their wonted channels, what cities and districts might be strewn with the wreck and ruin of all that was stateliest in architecture and goodliest in the products of the field. For ages and ages has the mighty stream of Hinduism been moving on, slowly, silently and sluggishly, in its dark deep channel; bound, solidly bound, with the frost and the ice of endless, nameless, boundless polytheisms and pantheisms, idolatries and superstitions. Now, however, we are on the verge of mighty coming changes. The whole vast incrustation seems gradually loosening and softening under the thaw of wide-spreading knowledge and improving enterprise. Intellect, slumbering for ages, is awakening out of sleep; mind so long sluggish and dormant, is stirred up into multiplying activities; new tastes are created, subversive of the old order of things; new passions are excited; new objects of ambition presented with luring attraction; the spirit of devoted superstition is fading and giving place too frequently to the spirit of a rampant secularism; and where the old moorings and anchorages of Vedantic pagtheism and Puranic idolatry are shaking into weakness before the blasts of innovation, we may be threatened (if we are faithless to our trust, and if the Lord in his mercy interpose not) with an out-bursting flood of wildest and most undefinable infidelity; and if so, what havoc may there not be of all that is goodliest, fairest, best, ere the national soul, purified as well as liberated, settle down in the peaceful channel of gospel righteousness and peace! But the Lord reigneth! that is our hope, our stay, our support. Oh, what a time for stronger faith, more fervent prayer, more energetic effort! Help, oh Lord, help—do we feel with increasing intensity—help, for vain is the help of man!—ours it is to employ the means—thine, oh Lord, thine alone it is to energize them all with the breath, the living breath of thy Holy Spirit."

INTELLIGENCE FROM MADAGASCAR.

The labours of the missionaries at Antananarivo appear to be most successful. The congregations still continue to increase, the chapels are crowded. Schools are being established, and the Central Normal or Training School, has ere this time been opened. Books are in growing demand. Nor