

V.—GENERAL MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

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Extracts and Translations from Foreign Periodicals.

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—Lord Plunkett, Archbishop of Dublin, at a centenary meeting of the Dublin auxiliary of the London Missionary Society, remarked: "I dare say that we shall all agree in this, that if anywhere there is to be found a meeting-place where members of different denominations may find a standing ground together it is on the platform of the mission field. I remember having had a conversation with a Presbyterian clergyman in the north of Ireland. He was a Protestant of a pronounced type—an out-and-out Protestant, and no mistake—and yet that clergyman told me that, when amid the darkness of heathendom in some far-off land, he met with a Roman Catholic missionary serving in all sincerity and singleness of mind, and with much self-sacrifice, to promote the kingdom of Christ along the lines dictated to him by the Church of Rome; that he, this clergyman of whom I speak, this Protestant clergyman, this out-and-out Protestant clergyman, yet felt himself drawn to his Roman Catholic brother by ties of common sympathy such as he had never felt toward him had he come in contact with him under other circumstances here at home; and if this be the case as regards our relationship to a church between which and our own there are divergencies of such vital and tremendous import, should it not be the case among those who, as I have more than once made bold to say from this platform, have among them many differences which I do not desire to minimize, yet, as I believe, are agreed in all the real essentials of the Christian Faith?"

—"Notwithstanding 'wars and rumors of wars,' all the religious work of the Malagasy Christians is, as yet, carried on without any interruption. Very hearty and earnest services were held at the end and beginning of the year, and stirring addresses given both by missionaries and native pastors. It is very touching to hear the prayers offered by the Malagasy, not only for themselves and for God's protection against their enemies, but also for the French: even the escort which left soon after the special commissioners' departure were specially remembered in a way that I fear many English Christians would hardly have done. Defective as Malagasy Christianity is in many ways, the people here have certainly learned some of the essential lessons of the Gospel; and the absence of revengeful feeling, notwithstanding the many provocations they have received, is certainly very marked. Yet for all that it seems certain that the best people will rally round their queen and fight to the last if the interior is invaded."

—The Rev. W. E. Cousins says in *The Chronicle*, speaking of Madagascar: "Of the 1300 native congregations under our care not less than 803 are in the central province of Imerina. Here our work was begun three quarters of a century ago (1820); and here, as the result of long-continued and well-sustained labors, the majority of our churches are to be found."

"Our work in Madagascar is essentially the care and guidance of converts. Indeed, from the reopening of the mission in 1862 we have always worked mainly among a professedly Christian people. In developing and guiding the existing congregations we have, indeed, been the means of attracting and winning thousands of heathens; but the organized churches have themselves been the great attractive force."