

"Mr. Ellis commences his services early, and concludes them at 11 a.m. To see the people swarm along the streets, produces much the effect of a swarm of bees around a bee-hive. My firm impression is, that it is not of the least use to attempt to spread the Roman Catholic religion in Madagascar. One of the Roman Catholic priesthood whom I met there, observed to me that one might just as well attempt to *cut a rock with a razor*, as attempt to make Roman Catholics of the Malagasy!"

We rejoice to observe that the appeal of Mr. Ellis for the erection of memorial churches is meeting with a hearty response.

There is the prospect of perfect harmony between the London Missionary Society, and the Church Missionary Society, in the carrying on of missionary operations in Madagascar.

Proceedings of Presbyteries, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The Presbytery of London held their quarterly meeting at London on the 6th and 7th January.

Mr. Waddell was chosen moderator for the next six months, but as he was not present the ex-moderator occupied the chair.

It was reported that the call from Moore in favour of the Rev Mr. Tolmie had been fallen from, owing to his translation to Southampton.

A report was received from the committee appointed to visit Sandwich in reference to the opening of a mission school there. They were re-appointed, with the addition of Mr. Proudfoot, with instructions to look out for a suitable person to take charge of the mission, and to report at next meeting of Presbytery.

A committee was appointed to prepare a petition for presentation to the Legislature against the attempt made by the Church of England to secure legal powers for her ecclesiastical courts.

The Presbytery received Mr. McMillan's report of the financial state of the congregations during the last three months. As many of the congregations had failed to make returns, the Presbytery again call the attention of these congregations and especially of their treasurers to the importance of regularity in this matter.

Mr. Scott, in behalf of the Home Mission committee, submitted a lengthened and interesting report, the consideration of which occupied considerable time. It appeared that several of the mission stations were in a very unsatisfactory state, from the want of efficient missionary labour of suitable counsel and guidance respecting arrangements for preaching and means of meeting expenses. It was agreed that in future the members of Presbytery in the mission appointments given them, should be sent generally, not to stated congregations, which are in regular working order; and which are quite able to support the means of grace for themselves; but rather to stations which require fostering, and where the advice and assistance of brethren are specially needed. The Home Mission committee were instructed to prepare directions to be put into the hands of missionaries as to the duties they will be expected to perform, in supplying the stations with missionary service.

The position of Mr. McPherson, of the congregation of Williams, having been under the consideration of Presbytery, the matter was referred to a committee to make inquiries and to report.

Mr. Scott was appointed moderator *pro tem* in the session of North Dorchester, Mr. Goodfellow in the session of Plympton, Mr. Skinner at Lobo, Mr. A. McDiarmid at Aldborough, Mr. Fletcher at Adelaide, Mr. Goodfellow at Warwick, and Mr. Sutherland at Chalmers's Church, Dunwich.

Provision was made for the dispensation of the Lord's Supper at the Town Hall, Enniskillen.

Messrs. Fletcher and Simpson were appointed to assist the brethren in the N.W. section of Presbytery at their missionary meetings.