

any moral grounds—not for crime, intrigue, or rebellion, but for loyalty to conscience and God.

“The missionaries in their reports bear witness to the increased demoralization of the people through their coming into contact with a new and largely irreligious civilization. Irreligion and immorality—the licentious habits of the Continent—are making themselves felt even among those who seemed to have been lifted out of the licentiousness of heathenism.

“Another of the sorest curses is the spread of drunkenness. In these ways the French conquest has proved, and must prove yet more and more, an injury to the people, a blight on the life of the land, and a terrible obstacle in the way of the spread of pure religion over the country.

“Before the French conquest, when the war was in progress, the Jesuit Fathers at Antananarivo were saved from murder by the friendly action of Protestant missionaries. Their return for such kindness was, so soon as French rule was established, to seek the destruction of those who had saved their lives, and to destroy their work.

“In many localities the Romanists threatened they would arrest and confine in chains every Protestant pastor, teacher, and evangelist. Many did actually suffer death; and in the moment of fiery trial proved themselves worthy successors of those who, thirty years before, had counted not their lives dear to them for the sake of Christ. Murdered at times by hired brigands, and at others by the hand of the law, on trumped-up charges, they were truly the victims of religious persecution.

“One of those so slain, Raindriam-ampedry, was publicly executed in the presence of some 50,000 spectators. He was an officer in the Malagasy army, having sixteen honours, and so ranking next to the Prime Minister; therefore he was shot. We are told that as he fell, pierced by eleven bullets, his face shone like that of an angel; while the multitude of Malagasy wept at the sight. The secret of his murder was revealed when, as a Jesuit approached and offered to baptize him in order to save his soul, the officer calmly and clearly answered, “No! I will die in the simple faith in which I have lived.” Possibly some will be almost incredulous as

to such things being done in the last decade of the nineteenth century, and in a country under French rule; but the evidence is to be found in the devastated mission stations, in the scarred and broken Protestant teachers and evangelists of Madagascar, and in the testimony of British missionaries, whose word is beyond doubt; while some of the most damaging evidence is furnished by Frenchmen themselves, and the reparation which the French authorities have had to make.”

Thank God that, with all its faults, British rule stands for law and order, liberty of conscience, and the rights of man to worship God according to the convictions of his soul. French Protestant missionaries are now being sent to Madagascar. In 1899 eighteen were so sent who are working in harmony with the other Protestant missions. The Christian Endeavour movement has taken a firm hold on the young people in the churches of Madagascar, “and possibly,” says our author, “some of the most earnest and faithful Endeavourers to be found in any part of the world are to be found there.” Of a population of three and a half million, about half a million are Christian. It is still true that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. After its sad record of persecution a brighter day will yet dawn upon this island appendage to Darkest Africa.

“The Cobra's Den: and Other Stories of Missionary Work Among the Telugus of India.” By Rev. Jacob Chamberlain, M.D., D.D. New York, Chicago, Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company. Pp. 270. Price, \$1.00.

The readers of Dr. Chamberlain's stirring book of missionary adventure, “In the Tiger Jungle,” will be eager to procure this sequel, descriptive of missionary trials and triumphs in the land of the deadly cobra. “Our Hindu cousins,” this devoted missionary writes, “are probably the most interesting, and those most rewarding study, of any of the people of Asia.” He has devoted the best years of his life to their moral uplift and physical and social betterment as a medical missionary. His story stirs the blood like the peal of a clarion. As he stands before an angry mob which has shut the city gates, determined to make an end of the missionaries,