

that they obeyed her letter, and she summoned them to attend at a great kabary or council, where she made them accuse themselves of Christianity. It was a very trying time to the Christians. Their consciences would not let them stay away, and yet to go to the kabary was like giving themselves up to the mercy of the cruel Queen, who, for all they knew, might order them at once to be put to death. A few went full of fear, and tried to make excuses for having gone to hear the Missionaries preach, but the most came boldly forward, and told the judges of their faith in Christ.

At the end of the kabary, all those who had attended the preaching of the Missionaries, amounting to between two and three thousand persons, were punished. The common people were made to pay a dollar and a bullock each as a fine, and the officers were lowered in their rank. The people bore all this so patiently that they gained great credit. One officer of high rank was so struck with what he saw, that he became a Christian, and afterwards sheltered many of them in his house.

Soon after this the people were ordered to deliver up all their Bibles and other books. A few obeyed, but the most refused; and what do you think they did? They dug holes in the earth, and there they buried them. Many Bibles are still thus hidden, waiting till the the time comes for the Christians to return. All the Missionaries were now driven off the island, and the people left alone. They wept much when they saw their Missionaries go, and gathered about them with great affection. But they recollected that Jesus was still with them, and they found great comfort in thinking of his words, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come unto you."

We must leave our narrative here for this time, and will give our readers some interesting stories of the Christians in our next. Till then think much of poor Madagascar. There are 200 persecuted Christians wandering up and down the island, and the Queen daily seeking their destruction. Oh! if you ever pray with