

information. Missionary R. Baron describes a Journey through North-Western Madagascar. W. Wyatt Gill, another missionary, has an article on Zoological Miscellanies from the South Seas. And Missionary H. Sundermann relates his experience in travelling to the south of Nias. Other articles deal with the Wurzelberg and upper district of Thuringian Schwartz, and with matters botanical. This journal, published in the interests of geographical, ethnological and biological science, is largely contributed to by missionaries, who indeed furnish its most valuable papers. It is now generally recognized that the intelligent missionary is the best guide to a knowledge of distant countries, their peoples, religions and productions. Science owes to them a debt it too often pays by sneering at their self-denying labours, and calling in question the great verities of the religion they teach and which to them are of infinitely more importance than the curious knowledge which the scientist rakes in with his muck-rake, head and face earthwards, while he misses the offered crown that the poor savage accepts, and, accepting which, passes into the Kingdom of Heaven before him. A good deal of valuable information can be got out of paper covers.

Somewhat appropriately, *Life and Work* brings up the rear of the paper brigade. It is the organ of the Young Peoples' Association of Erskine Church, and is prepared in the main for the edification of that congregation's members and adherents, its subject being Erskine Church. When one considers what that congregation is and what it has done; what men have performed its work in pulpit and in pew, in session and board-room; what quiet unostentatious liberality its members have ever shown, and, in the direction of foreign missions, are exhibiting even more fully now: it will be seen that Erskine Church is a very large and important subject. *Life and work* is not sensational nor absorbing nor calculated to draw the general reader towards its pages with magnetic power, but it is the record of steady advance on the part of a strong and well officered battalion of our Great Church Army, that has ever been well to the front in the contest between Light and Darkness.

