

MADAGASCAR.

The first of the memorial churches has been opened in Madagascar at Ambatona, Ranga, where in the earlier days of the mission its first chapel was erected, which was afterwards used as a jail. There was great interest felt on the occasion. The Queen sent persons to represent her. The crowds were very large, many taking their places at the church doors hours before the commencement of the services.

EASTERN TURKEY.

Much interest is felt in a religious awakening which has taken place in Eastern Turkey in connexion with the operations of the American Mission. The awakening began with the work of prayer in January. Since then prayer meetings have been held in two places of worship daily morning and evening. Nearly all the members of the church have been under deep convictions of sin, and many from without are seeking the way of life, and not a few give satisfactory proof of a change of heart.

The awakening has also extended to the villages around.

General Religious Intelligence.

ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—MEETING OF SYNOD.

This Synod met at Manchester in the end of April. The Rev. J. C. Patterson was chosen Moderator.

The subject of union was one of the principal subjects before the Synod. Dr. Hamilton presented the report of the committee on union, which embodied the returns from the different Presbyteries. On one point they all agreed, viz., the desirableness of the union. On several minor points the views of the Presbyteries differed from each other; most of them were in favour of negotiating for a union in England without waiting until a union should take place in Scotland. After full discussion the following motion was adopted.

"That, without prejudging the important questions under discussion as to the character and extent of the contemplated union, it is desirable that this Synod and the English Synod of the United Presbyterian Church should be brought as soon as possible into direct communication, and that it be remitted to the Committee on Union to consider the best means of obtaining ecclesiastical access in a constitutional manner to the said English Synod, and to report at the next Synod."

The college report referred to the resignation of the Rev. Dr. McCrie, in consequence of impaired sight, and to the proposal to appoint Rev. Dr. Cairns of Berwick as his successor. The Synod agreed that in the present state of the Union negotiations it was expedient to defer making any permanent appointment. Dr. McCrie was requested to occupy the position of Emeritus Professor and the committee was appointed to secure him a retiring allowance. The college report stated that the number of students during the last session was 18.

The Report on Foreign Missions was interesting and encouraging. It stated that during the year 76 men and women had been baptised in China; of these, 64 were in the Amoy district, 8 in the Swatow district, and 4 in Formosa. The converts under charge of the mission numbered upwards