

The Rev. J. Blackburn then offered up special prayer on behalf of the refugees, at the conclusion of which,

The Rev. J. Arundle announced that in order that the meeting might become better acquainted with their dear friends from Madagascar, the Rev. J. J. Freeman would in the name of the meeting proceed to put to them certain questions touching their personal religion, their sufferings, and their escape from Madagascar.

The Rev. J. J. Freeman then put the following questions in the Madagash language to *Rafaravavy*. Her answers, as interpreted, are subjoined:—

Q. What are your views concerning the love of God towards our world? A. God's great love has been shown towards our world in the gift of his beloved Son, who came down from heaven for the salvation of sinners.

Q. Do you believe that you have in your heart love to God in return? A. Yes, I trust that through the Holy Spirit whom God has given, I have the love of God in my heart, so that I have come to Christ: for without being drawn by that Spirit no man cometh to Christ.

Q. What do you think of the condition of your countrymen who are not believers in our Lord Jesus Christ? A. They are all dead; they neither understand, nor can they walk, and unless their hearts be changed by the Holy Spirit they cannot serve God.

Q. What is the design for which the Gospel has been sent to them? A. To proclaim to them that God said concerning his beloved Son, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him;" and the declaration that "Whosoever cometh to God by him shall in no wise be cast out."

Q. What were your thoughts and feelings when accused by your servants and near to death? A. It was not with me a matter of astonishment, because I recollected what the prophets and apostles had suffered. Although I did not know but that I must die, I had a hope in Christ concerning everlasting life.

Q. Was there no sentiment in your heart against those that accused you? A. No, there was nothing to make me angry, but to awaken my grief for them; because what they did was without knowing God—without believing in the Saviour.

Andrianisa was next interrogated.

Q. What was the word of God that first impressed your heart, and led you to desire to serve the Saviour? A. The words that first impressed my heart and won upon me were these, "He that believeth on me shall have everlasting life;" "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

Q. Should you return to your own country, is it your desire to serve God while you live? A. Yes, that is my hope: not, however, that I have any strength of my own to do it, but trusting in the strength of God, my desire is to serve him as long as I live.

The Rev. ARTHUR TIDMAN, after a long speech, moved—

"That this meeting expresses its deepest sympathy with the persecuted Christians of Madagascar in the accumulated sufferings they have sustained in the cause of Christ, and rejoices in the grace of God, which has supported them in the hour of trial, and in the kind Providence which has protected in circumstances of extreme danger, those now present; and confiding in the promises of God our Saviour, this meeting cherishes the devout assurance, that although obstacles may for a season impede the progress of his Gospel, persecution itself shall be made subservient to the extension and purity of his church, and the ultimate universal triumphs of his kingdom."

The Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN seconded the resolution, which was put and carried.

The Rev. J. J. FREEMAN then proceeded to interrogate *Raliarahamba*, to the following effect:—

Q. Before the light of the Gospel came among your countrymen, had they any hope in death, or any knowledge of the future? A. No, they had no hope in death; for they were sitting in perfect darkness; they had no knowledge of God, or the way of acceptance with him.

Q. How may we be accepted, and pardoned, and saved? A. Through that which Christ hath done we obtain the forgiveness of our sins; and through love to God we rise to the enjoyment of life and happiness; and through believing in the name of Christ we have life everlasting.

Razafy was next called upon:—

Q. You have come far away from your husband, your relations, your country—you are here in a land of strangers what are your thoughts and feelings now about those you have left behind you? A. I have relations and friends there, but they know not the Lord; they know not the Saviour. It is not with me a matter of deep grief to make separation from them if they may be brought to know the way of salvation.

Q. Do you purpose to pray to God much that he would have compassion upon them and save them? A. I have prayed, I wish to pray continually that God may have compassion on my friends and relations whom I have left in that dark land; and my hope is, that on returning I may be able to seek their salvation by teaching them the knowledge of the true God.

The Rev. J. BURNET moved, "that in the affecting condition of Madagascar generally, in the success with which God had been pleased to crown his Gospel in that island, and in the sufferings and sacrifices of the native Christians, this meeting, deeply sensible of the responsibility connected with their own religious advantages, and means of usefulness, recognises the most solemn obligations to personal devotedness, and pecuniary contributions, in aid of the proclamation of the message of mercy to all tribes and kindreds of the world."

The Rev. Dr. ROSS, (of Kidderminster,) seconded the Resolution.

The Rev. J. J. FREEMAN then addressed the following questions to *Rasoanarka*:

Q. Your country is now the land of martyrdom: there is the blood of the saints; there are many suffering for the sake of Christ; but will the Gospel spread?—A. There are sufferings, there are tribulations, in Madagascar; but the Christians there are confiding in God. God is stirring up their spirit, and I do not fear that the Gospel will spread in that country.

Q. Can your Queen overthrow the Gospel—can she overthrow the Kingdom of the Saviour in Madagascar?—A. No; our Queen can do no more than she is permitted of God to do. With him rests the supreme power; she cannot hinder the progress of the Gospel.

Q. Do you believe, from your own knowledge, that there are many in Madagascar who, amidst all tribulations, are yet persevering? A. Yes, there are now to the full 170 with whom we have been in the habits of visiting and conversation, and who are, amidst all tribulations, in the strength of God, desirous of persevering.

The Rev. J. J. Freeman informed the meeting that this young man was of the highest rank of nobility. He did not mention it because he placed a higher value on the soul of a nobleman than on the soul of a slave; they had been redeemed by the same blood; but it was interesting to know that all ranks had more or less come under the power of the Gospel.

Andrianomanana was asked by the Rev. Gentleman whether he had a single word to say to the friends

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