

**MADAGASCAR, PAST AND PRESENT:
WITH CONSIDERATIONS AS TO THE
POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL
INTERESTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
FRANCE: AND AS TO THE PROGRESS OF
CHRISTIAN CIVILISATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649189816

Madagascar, past and present: with considerations as to the political and commercial interests of Great Britain and France: and as to the progress of Christian civilisation by Anonymous

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ANONYMOUS

**MADAGASCAR, PAST AND PRESENT:
WITH CONSIDERATIONS AS TO THE
POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL
INTERESTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
FRANCE: AND AS TO THE PROGRESS OF
CHRISTIAN CIVILISATION**

MADAGASCAR,
PAST AND PRESENT.

WITH
CONSIDERATIONS AS TO THE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL
INTERESTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE;
AND AS TO
THE PROGRESS OF CHRISTIAN CIVILISATION.

BY
A RESIDENT.

LONDON:
RICHARD BENTLEY, NEW BURLINGTON STREET,
Publisher in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

M.DCCC.XLVII.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY GEORGE BARCLAY, CASTLE STREET,
LEICESTER SQUARE.

Refs #M31931E

LOAN STACK

DT469
M324 M2

CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION Page 1

CHAPTER I.

Prevalence of Idolatry and Superstition—Infanticide—
Trial by Ordeal—Divination and Astrology—The
Giant's Tomb—Theory in Relation to the World's
Form and Nature—The Slave Trade—Efforts for its
Abolition—Elevation of Radama to Sovereign Power
—Introduction of Missionaries 24

CHAPTER II.

Death of Radama—Usurpation of the Crown by one of
his Wives—Queen Ranavalona established on the
Throne—Her Cruelties—Murder of Prince Rataffe

— Ignominious Dismissal of the Agent of the British Government, Mr. Lyall — Progress of Christianity checked — Restoration of Idol-worship — Persecution of the Christians — Vassalage of the People — Starvation — Prevalence of Theft — Decree to prevent the Practice of the Arts out of the Government Premises — Permission granted to learn Reading and Writing — Consequences of not obtaining this Permission — Seizure on the Property of Europeans — Atrocities committed by the Queen Page 43

CHAPTER III.

Letters from Queen Ranavalona to the British and French Governments — Failure of the Project of obtaining Protection for the Natives of Madagascar — Remissness of the British Government — Monetary Fluctuation — Depressed Condition of Commerce — Value of the Cut Dollars arbitrarily fixed — Oppression and Wretchedness of the People — Their Cunning — Military Authority — The Produce of Labour monopolised as the Feudal Property of the Queen — Cause of Depopulation — Bribery and Corruption — A Capitation Tax — Means adopted to prejudice the English in the eyes of the Natives 66

CHAPTER IV.

Enactments prejudicial to Commerce with Europeans—
 Outrage on British Subjects—Contempt of the British
 Flag—Captain Heppick offered for Sale in the Public
 Market of Tamatave—Memorial to his Excellency
 Sir William Gomm—The Case investigated—The
 Charge denied—Letter from the Queen of Mada-
 gascar—Duplicity of the Queen . . . Page 81

CHAPTER V.

Insult to European Traders in Madagascar—Their Ba-
 nishment Decreed—Account of the Tangena Ordeal
 —Arrival of the Conway and the Zelée in the Roads
 of Tamatave—Conference with the Hovas—Unsuc-
 cessful close of the Discussion—Hostile Conduct of
 the Hova Officers—Their Insolence to the French—
 Protest of the English and French Commanders—
 Refusal of the Hovas to receive the Protest—Hostili-
 ties commenced—Storming of the Fortress—Barbarity
 of the Hovas—Tamatave reduced to Ashes—Good
 Feeling between the English and French—Departure
 of the European Residents 110

CHAPTER VI.

Excitement at Port Louis — Consequences of Passive Conduct of the Home Governments of England and France — Victory claimed by the Hovas — Indignities offered to the native Wives and Children of the banished Traders — Hostile Demonstrations of the Hovas	Page 133
--	----------

CHAPTER VII.

Dependence of Mauritius upon Trade with Madagascar — Rise in the Price of Provisions in Mauritius — Sufferings of the Malagasse Nation — Claims on the Attention of the British Legislature — Queen Ranavona's sanguinary Persecutions — Decrease of Population at Tamatave and Foule-Pointe — Examination of the French Claim to Madagascar — Retrospective History of the Conquest of the Island — Hatred of the Natives towards the French — Abandonment of the French Settlement of Benyowsky	144
---	-----

CHAPTER VIII.

Connexion between England and Madagascar — Plans devised for an English Settlement in the Island — Commencement of English Connexion with Madagascar —	
--	--

Proclamation announcing the taking possession of Madagascar in the name of his Britannic Majesty—Permanent Residence of English Agents in the Island—Effects of Climate—Notes from the Manuscripts of the late Captain Le Sage—Examination of British Claims—Evacuation of Port Loquez—Consequences of having recognised Radama's Sovereignty—Respective Claims of England and France considered and disproved—Petition from the Colonists of Bourbon to Louis Philippe—Probable Manœuvres of the French unless counteracted by the British Government—Instance of French Machinations—Hostilities between the French and Ranavalona . . . Page 187

CHAPTER IX.

French Aggression upon Madagascar—Exposition of the Policy of France—Their Encroachments on the Comoro Isles—Address of the Chiefs of Mohilla to the Governor of Mauritius—Mayotta a French Possession—Seizure of Nosibé ordered by Thiers—Guizot's Opinion on French Pretensions to Madagascar—French Colonization—Extracts from Documents in Support of French Claims—Their Invalidity established—British Interference called for, to repress the Outrages of Ranavalona's Government—The Annexation of the Island to the British Empire not necessary to this end—The Dethronement of