

C128/174  
28 July 1889

My dear Mr. Chesson,

No one is more anxious than  
I am about the consequences which  
the present trial of the Hovas with  
the French Government may have.  
But it is utterly impossible ~~and~~  
for us, as a missionary Society,  
to express to the French public  
an opinion on the subject. Our  
sympathy for the Hovas <sup>can</sup> ~~is~~ only <sup>be</sup>  
of a religious kind. We know that  
much good has been done to that  
people by the Protestant mission  
& especially by the London Missionary  
Society. We are also aware that  
the Roman Catholic mission has

seen that success with a jealous  
eye and will, if they can, await  
themselves of the present events,  
for the furtherance of their views,  
and interests.

But the politic side of the  
question is very obscure and  
replete for us with danger as  
a protestant minority. We see  
that the english government  
hesitates to express an opinion  
on the acts of Admiral Pierre  
and his plans. Our own govern-  
ment appear to be as yet in  
the dark on ~~these~~ <sup>some</sup> points.  
Nevertheless there are among us  
men versed in the history of

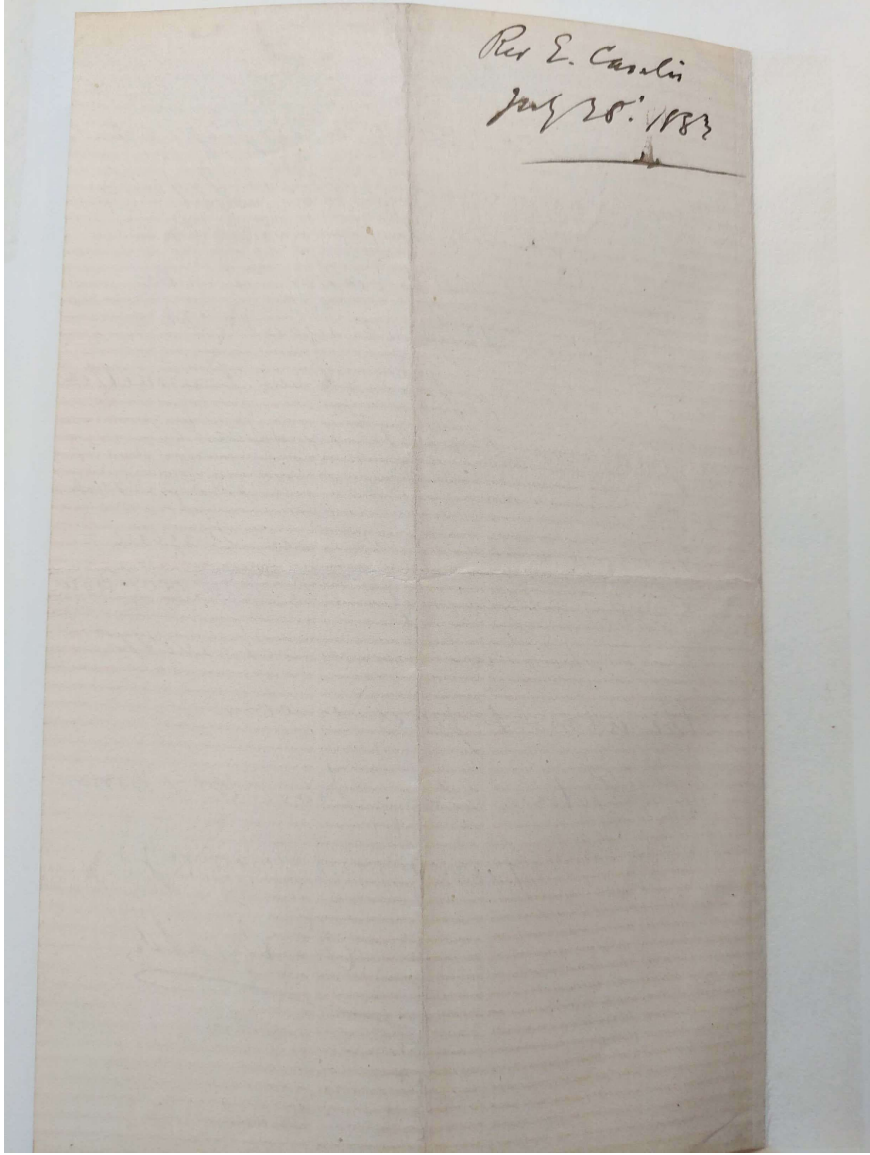
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Madagascar who are of opinion  
that the Lucie of that Island  
and her counsellors are in the  
wrong. At any rate, I am  
convinced that it would be  
impossible to find in our Committee  
a quorum capable to decide  
what we are to do in the present  
state of affairs & you know  
sufficiently our position to acknow-  
ledge that we must act with  
the utmost prudence.

Believe me, Dear Mr. Chesser,

Yours most sincerely,

J. Casady



Rev. E. Canlin  
July 28. 1883