

Church in the old provinces of Prussia in the year 1872 shows the sum total of converts to be 16,474 persons, of whom 15,455 were formerly Roman Catholics, 964 Dissenters, and 55 Jews. The numbers are greatest in the Catholic provinces of Silesia and Rhenish Prussia, where respectively 5378 and 2898 Roman Catholics turned Protestants. Similar things could be said concerning France, Belgium, Bohemia, and Hungary. And how stands the case in America? We believe that neither in Canada, the United States, nor Mexico, is Rome holding her own. The stars in their courses fight against her in free countries, though her massive unity standing over against the apparently isolated units on the other side seems so imposing that we are always inclined to credit her with more power and success than really belongs to her. Instances of this are numerous. To take the case of little Prince Edward Island; any one who lived there between 1860 and 1870 must have heard continually that Rome was gaining so rapidly that she would soon have the majority, but when the census was taken it was found that the percentage of increase during the decade was decidedly in favour of the Protestants. Roman Bishops have again and again declared that vast numbers of the Irish who emigrate to the States abandon their old faith. Dr. Smith, who has been a bishop of the U. S. Episcopal Church for forty-one years, lately published a statement to the effect that in every year of his episcopate he himself had confirmed more converts from Romanism than have gone over to Rome from the whole of their forty-four dioceses. The experience of other churches is to the same effect. And in Mexico, Protestant congregations are being formed with unexampled rapidity. Rome's gains during this century are showy. The gains of Protestantism are substantial.

5.—The Sister Church is prosecuting its Acadian and its Trinidad Missions vigorously. Rev. Mr. Christie leaves this month to assist Messrs. Morton and Grant in Trinidad. We are happy to see that in connection with the Acadian Mission, a church is being built at Grand Falls, N. B., a most eligible site

for which was placed at the disposal of the Building Committee by our Presbytery. Rev. Mr. Paradis also writes concerning a tour made by him along the north shore of New Brunswick to collect money and interest the people in the Mission, that "the people connected with the Kirk of Scotland seem quite as much interested in it as the people of our own church."

6.—Rev. Robert Candlish, D. D., Principal of the New College, Edinburgh, died on Oct. 19th, in the 68th year of his age. He had been a man of war from his youth, undoubtedly a prince and a great man in Israel. Possessed of an intellect subtle and solid, and of an extraordinary share of the *perferendum ingenium Scotorum*, he was distinguished in many walks: a great preacher, a great man of business, and the most ready and powerful debater in Scotland. By way of sneer, he was sometimes called "the Pope of the Free Church," but in such a church no man could even aspire to anything like the position of Pope, much less hold the position for thirty years, without the most extraordinary combination of qualities. The great men of the Scottish pulpit, McLeod, Guthrie, Candlish, have all been taken from us within the last few months, and who shall supply their places?

## MISSIONARY REPORTS.

### Cruise to Labrador and Newfoundland.

(Continued.)

In last month's issue when the space allotted to us was exhausted we had reached Indian Tickle, going North. This was on Friday, 22nd Aug. Then, all was smooth and bright and pleasant, but very different was the scene on the 9th of Oct., 1867, when a truly terrific hurricane which swept the whole coast raged with peculiar fury in this little strait, and left awful devastation as its work.

The fishermen and their families, the clustering vessels, loaded with the fruits of their Summer's toil, and into which they had crowded, ready to leave for their Winter homes; where were they? And when these went down beneath their feet, or were dashed to pieces on the rocks, where were the houses they had left, and which should have sheltered in their sore distress the few