

the comparatively well off took part in this. The almost utter want of money circulation rendered it difficult for the largest proportion to express, in this shape, the good will cherished. One individual—and neither old in years nor in business—gave £3 as his share in the above gift. All this is certainly deserving of praise, and should be known, in order to stimulate others to do likewise, and even do much better. For while this shows considerable improvement in Belfast, it does not represent fully, nor does it approach nearly, what Christian congregations should, and what they *could* do, if once the glory of their Master was truly recognized as the chief end of their being. While the narrow-minded and worldly may object, the truly Christian will feel and acknowledge, when most in advance of his neighbors, that by a very little self-denial much more could easily be done.—*Com. to Patriot by one of the Trustees.*

The Census of Newfoundland.—The census of this the oldest Colony of Great Britain was taken last year, and the results have just been published. It shows the progress that the Island has made in twelve years,—the former census having been taken in 1857. In that time the population has increased only 18 per cent., or from 124,288 to 146,536. Ecclesiastically, the greatest advance has been made by the Wesleyans,—they having increased 43 per cent., or from 20,239 to 28,990. The Kirk numbers now 401 as against 302 in 1857. Of the 401, there are 291 in St. John's,—the rest being probably scattered about on the French Shore and Labrador. As the census of 1857 gave us 290 in St. John's, we have increased by exactly one in twelve years. In the same time, the Free Church has decreased from 425 to 374, though over the whole Colony they have increased from 536 to 573, or about 7 per cent.,—the same rate of increase as the Roman Catholics, whose numbers stand 56,805 and 61,059. The Church of England now numbers nearly as many as the Romanists, having gone up from 44,285 to 55,184, or at the rate of 24 per cent. It is a melancholy fact that, owing to our divisions, two men of the ability of the Revds. Messrs. Harvey and McRae should be kept in St. John's, where there isn't a Presbyterian population sufficient to make one good congregation, only some 660 souls in all. One would hardly judge from this that there was a lack of men in, or of candidates for, the ministry, or that the church was not able to spare more than one missionary to every million of the heathen; and yet, melancholy though the fact is, how can we expect one or the other body to give way, unless a general Union be effected?

NOTES OF THE MONTH.

In the British Parliament, business has so accumulated that the Prime Minister has proposed morning sittings. The Irish Coercion Bill has been passed, and is now ready for operation in a country where it is vastly needed. Between three and four thousand outrages of all degrees of villany graced the annals of that beautiful isle & the ocean for 1869. Liberal as were the provisions of the Land Bill, the Roman Catholic clergy, who are the real political leaders of Ireland, pronounced it inadequate. With an instinct of self-preservation, they felt that with the removal of every grievance, their craft was in danger. We are forcibly reminded of Esop's fable of the wolf and the lamb at the stream of water. Meanwhile, what with shooting and "tumbling" landlords, administering illegal oaths, and sending missives of terror, life in Ireland must be of quite an exciting nature.

WE shall not consider the English Education Bill safe till it has been passed. It provides for religious teaching at a certain hour, at which objecting parties may absent themselves. The teaching intended seems to be the Bible, the catechism.