

responsibility? It is hoped that British sense of fair play and love for constitutional principles will eventually triumph over momentary passion, and that the ordinary course of law, justly executed, will be found sufficient to settle all existing difficulties. Just before the assassination the government had begun to act towards Ireland in a kind and liberal spirit, and everything promised an early settlement of all vexed questions, and we trust that the government will recognize the wisdom of a speedy return to that policy. It seems to us that a satisfactory condition of things could be sooner obtained by attempts at conciliation rather than coercion.

THE IRISH QUESTION has attracted the earnest attention of the continental press, but their knowledge of the subject is very peculiar. *La Republique Francaise* is astonished to think that after practising for three hundred years a combined policy of "seduction and violence" England has not yet succeeded in satisfying Ireland. There is nothing strange in the matter whatever. Ireland is too virtuous to sacrifice her honor, and too fond of liberty to tamely submit to violence. She simply wants *justice*,—the right of self-government  
—HOME RULE.

THE French government have voted religion a bore, and kicked it out of the school doors. Strange conduct to find in the land of St. Louis, and among the sons of the Crusaders! The government of a country once the greatest champion of the Cross is now among its greatest enemies, fostering a spirit of infidelity, infinitely more pernicious than the designs of the infidel hosts who fled from stout Charles Martel, at Tours, or from the noble Godfrey, on the plains of Palestine.

THEY have buried Darwin in Westminster

Abbey. This is certainly a very good evidence of the "Descent of Man." They began by burying saints—the friends and servants of God—in that one-time sacred edifice; at length they have placed there a man who believed himself the lineal descendant of a monkey! Westminster Abbey has become an aristocratic Potters' field.

How would it do for Mr. Gladstone to pay the "Arrears of Rent" out of the funds of the late Irish Church Establishment? Millions upon millions of pounds were obtained under false pretences from the Catholics of Ireland by that institution during the three hundred years of its existence, and the disgorging of a few millions now for the benefit of the mass of the population would be a very slight act of restitution.

THE tenth official bulletin of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America says that the general condition of the organization continues to improve. Sixteen new societies have been added since the date of the last bulletin.

ITALY is said to be secretly arming against France. Should a collision come, Italy must go down, and then the world would behold the anomalous spectacle of the nation that was the chief cause of "United Italy" breaking it up into its original fragments—for that would likely be the result of the defeat of the Italian armies.

*L'Opinions*, the Italian "Liberal" organ, is alarmed at the increasing influence of Vatican, and wildly calls upon the anti-clerical party to redouble their efforts to secure victory at the ensuing elections. In the fear that has taken the place of bravado, we see the shadow that precedes the downfall of despotism.