

America, 36,780,000; in Europe, 138,517,000; in Asia, 4,166,000; in Africa, 1,051,000; and in Australasia, 180,000. Of the 27,800,000, the population of the United States, 21,000,000 are set down as Protestants, and 2,500,000 Roman Catholics; the remainder being Jews, Mormons, Infidels, etc.

**IMMORALITY IN IRELAND.**—In 1856, of children under 15 years of age, 51,756 received public relief, and of which 7,468 were illegitimate. In 1859, 30,799 were relieved; of which 9,367 were illegitimate.

**PIDGONS.**—One man in Michigan shipped one hundred and sixty-four barrels last spring.

**WORCESTER'S DICTIONARY.**—Twenty-five thousand copies of this work have been sold in the States, and twenty thousand have been ordered by one firm in England.

**SICILY.**—This Island, the largest of a group, is situate in the Mediterranean, and is about 188 miles in length; by from 31 to 109 in width. It is 344 miles round, and contains an area of 15,875 square miles. It contains a chain of mountains, of which Mount Etna, 10,824 feet above the level of the sea, is the highest; it is eighty miles in circumference at the base.

Sicily is divided into seven Provinces, having Palermo, the residence of the Governor General, as its capital. It is a handsome town, five miles in circumference, and strongly fortified; and contains a population of 175,000 inhabitants. The Straits of Messina, which separates Sicily from the Kingdom of Naples, varies in width

from one to four miles. The whole Island is strongly fortified. The population of Sicily is about 2,000,000—all Catholics. They are intelligent, gay and witty.

**FERTILIZING LANDS.**—The "Scientific American" deals out the following remarks by way of comment on the communication of one of his correspondents. From these remarks it will be seen that the article referred to asserts, but does not prove, that land may be continuously cropped without manuring:—

The constituents of the soil for raising crops mean those manures called "fertilizers." If our correspondent and his neighbors have cultivated their farms for a number of years without manuring them, and have taken several crops from them during those periods, and at the same time have greatly improved their land, then they have discovered the "philosopher's stone," and we recommend their appointment as professors in all our agricultural colleges and schools. We assert without fear of successful contradiction, that every crop taken from the soil requires to be restored again in constituents in some form, under the penalty of future barrenness. We know that on the rich river-bottoms of the West the soil is very deep, and it will take many years to exhaust it, but thousands of farms have become barren in this new country on account of not restoring the constituents of crops regularly to the soil. We know something about farming practically, but have not learned in the same school as our correspondent and his neighbors. If he is right, what a lot of fools must those farmers be who spend money for guano, superphosphates, podrèttes and other fertilizers. If one man can improve his farm and take crops from it regularly for thirty