

A CIRCLE SHOWING THE RELATIVE NUMERI-CAL STRENGTH OF THE RELIGIOUS SECTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The above striking diagram shows the splendid progress of Methodism in the United States. Compared with the Episcopalian, Lutheran, the Presbyterian. Roman the Churches, which trace their pedigree for centuries back, Methodism is almost of yesterday, but in numbers, in power, in influence, it has outrun them all, except the Roman Catholic Church. That Church has been reinforced by the immigration of millions from the Old World, whereas Methodism has received only a few thousands from this source. It outnumbers the next four largest denominations after the Baptist, taken together. This point of vantage involves also tremendous responsibilities, but trusting in God, aided by His grace, this Church shall not be found neglectful of its tremendous obliga-tions and responsibilities.

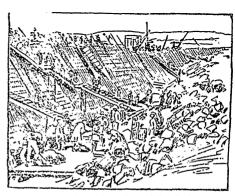
ENGLAND IN EGYPT.

The greatest work that has been undertaken in Egypt since the erection of the Pyramids is unquestionably the Assouan reservoir, which, after so many years of deliberation, is now in course of construction by the British and Egyptian Governments. From many points of view, indeed, the huge dam which is being thrown across the Nile by latter-day engineers eclipses the monuments of the Pharру The difficulties of the modern undertaking are immeasurably greater than those of its ancient predewhile the Pyramids cessors: and served no useful purpose, having been prompted, so far as we can see, by

nothing more than a love of vainglory, the Assouan reservoir is utilitarian to the last degree. By ensuring a perennial irrigation of Middle and Lower Egypt, it will multiply the fertility of the land of the Pharaohs many times over, and protect its produce from devastating floods. Thus it will render the lot of the tax-burdened fellaheen happier than ever it has been before.

And the glory of having initiated and carried through this beneficent enterprise belongs to England! English statesmen, like Lord Cromer and Sir William Garstin, have suggested it; such eminent engineers as Mr. W. Willcocks and Sir Benjamin Baker have designed it; the firm of Mr. John Aird, M.P., have contracted for it, and an English financial house—Mr. Ernest Cassel, of Old Broad Street —has provided the sinews of war.

has provided the sinews of war.
The dam will cross the Nile at a point where the First Cataract flows down into a narrow gorge, bounded on both sides by lofty rocks. water above the dam will thus form a vast lake, whose waters will be stored in the flood season for use in the dry months. The wall is to be constructed of masonry, built on a foundation of solid granite, and pierced by 140 under sluices and 40 upper sluices. The provision of under sluices will, inter alia, prevent the deposit of silt in the reservoir. The total length of the dam will be over a mile and a quarter, and its height will be 345 feet above the level of the Nile at low water. It will be 80 feet wide at the base, and 23 feet wide at the top, along which a carriage road will run. The dam will only slope outwards from the surface on its southern or reservoir side, which vill have to resist the pressure of millions of tons of water. On its northern



BUILDING THE GREAT NILE DAM.