

sued that incalculable injury is done to the morals of many by this very thing, while it is altogether a question whether any real good has ever emanated from it.

REPATRIATION IN QUEBEC.

FOR years past every season has witnessed a large emigration of French Canadians from the Province of Quebec to the United States—the reason of which is to be found in great part in the oppressions of the papacy, and the vigorous manner in which the tithe system is maintained—a system in itself most iniquitous and unjust. The results of the policy pursued have been most disastrous to the Province. Hundreds of young men, the bone and sinew of the land, have gone, with their strength and energy, to build up and enrich another land. In many cases this has been owing to a social and religious ostracism which is sure to be inflicted upon the hapless *habitant* who manifests dissatisfaction with Rome. The ban of excommunication cuts him off from all association with his neighbours, and leaves him shunned, despised and persecuted, by the most intimate companions of former years. We are glad to observe that the Government of Quebec has wisely empowered parliament to correct this growing evil, by enabling it to select portions of unsettled townships, divide them into farms of one hundred acres each, clear four acres and build small houses, to be given to selected immigrants, and to be paid for by them in instalments extending over a long term of years. Already, it is said, large numbers of French Canadians in the States have heard of this arrangement, and it is expected will embrace the opportunity of returning and settling in their native land. This will be a great advantage to Quebec, not only materially, but religiously. It is a fact that large numbers of the French who go to the neighbouring Republic lose that faith in the priesthood which

kept them, while at home, from cultivating sound notions of truth and liberty; and, doubtless, not a few of these returning will disseminate amongst their friends their new opinions; while many who left the Province because they could not peaceably worship God according to the dictates of conscience, will come back to be in the midst of their brethren, witnesses for their Lord.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

A PECULIAR interest gathers round the contemplated British expedition to the Arctic regions, and the hope—not without reason—is indulged that its results will far exceed those of any former expedition. Taught by the failures of the past, gathering information from every available source, and fitting and provisioning the vessels in the most perfect manner possible, there is ground to believe that whether the Union Jack shall be placed at the earth's northern pole or not, rich contributions to science will be made. Certainly if this should be as successful as the expedition of Her Majesty's ship Challenger to the Antarctic regions was, as described in his own masterly style, by Mr. Huxley, in the *Contemporary Review* for March, it will be worth all the immense cost incurred, even though the more immediate object of the cruise shall not be realized—namely, the discovery of the veritable pole. With what intense interest men have longed to know what the nature of that high northern region is; whether it is land or water; or whether, if water, it is open or frozen. Doubtless many will say, "Why this waste?"—but it is impossible to duly estimate the benefits to science generally that have been derived from the expeditions of the past, and this one will, in all probability, far surpass in that regard all the rest.

IRELAND AND HOME RULE.

EVERYBODY is familiar with the terms "Home Rule" and "Repeal.