

Answers to Correspondents.

- "H. L. M."—The origin of the word "candidate" is from *candidatus*, clothed in white, and refers to the color of the toga which the old Romans used to prescribe for aspirants to office.
- "A. B."—Montreal was surrendered to the English by the French in 1760. It was taken by the Provincials in the American War of Independence, Nov. 12, 1775, and was retaken by the British June 15, 1776. The Church, Jesuits' College, Prison, and many public buildings were burnt down June 6, 1803.
- "IERNE."—It is quite true that it was in Ulster the last stamp of Irish Chiefdomship was made. Hugh O'Neill, Maguire, and O'Doherty were amongst the last of its upholders. Of Hugh O'Neill's character as a military leader of the highest rank there can be no doubt. Henry the Fourth of France held him to be one of the four best generals of Europe. The hero of Ivry placed himself first of the four, and O'Neill as third.
- "A TRAVELLER."—The law is different in many States of the Union: what it is here you had better learn from a lawyer. The most recent decision we know is one given in the Supreme Court of Michigan, where the judges held that an innkeeper is not liable for the loss of his guest's goods unless it be by his negligence. An innkeeper is held to guarantee the good conduct of his servants and all other persons in his house. Hence, when the goods of a guest are stolen or otherwise disappear in an unexplained way, the loss is presumed to be in consequence of the innkeeper's negligence. But when the loss happens by an accidental fire or other casualty coming from without, and of such a nature as to negate his negligence, he is not liable.
- "H. L. B." (Three Rivers), requests us to give him answer, "for divers reasons," as to the depth a person can dive below the surface of the water, and if it is possible to reach a depth of one hundred feet. The N. Y. *Sunday Times* gives answer to a question nearly similar, in this manner: "It is not possible to penetrate water to a depth of one hundred feet by diving, for the reason that the specific gravity of the body does not, nor can it acquire the force sufficient to penetrate the solidity of the water at that depth. The buoyancy of the water is such that the body would be thrown upward or held suspended temporarily at the point where the force ceases; particularly as it is more or less filled with air. In all submarine apparatus, the descent of the body is aided by dead-weight and the expulsion of air."
- "F. MCC." (Mount Royal).—The information you seek and other facts in addition will be found in the following paragraph clipped from an Irish paper just to hand: "There are about 3,061 languages spoken in the world, and its inhabitants profess more than 1,000 different religions. The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average of human life is about 33 years. One-quarter die previous to the age of 7 years, one-half before reaching 17, and those who pass this age enjoy a felicity refused to one-half of the human species. To every 1,000 persons, only 1 reaches 100 years of life; to every 100, only 1 reach the age of 65, and not more than 1 in 500 lives to 80 years of age. There are on earth 1,000,000,000 inhabitants, and of these 33,333,333 die every year, 91,821 every day, 3,370 every hour, and 60 every minute, or 1 every second."

"CATHOLICUS."—Yes; the Dr. Marshall whose death has just been announced was a distinguished convert to the Catholic Church. Rev. Dr. H. J. Marshall, the deceased, was educated at Oxford, and for five years was a clergyman of the English Church, during part of which time he was curate under the late Bishop Wilberforce, but gave up the cure to join the Catholic Church.

"TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE."—"P. B."—This oft quoted phrase is to be found in verses written by John Byron on a professional feud between the musical composers Handel and Bononcini. The passage runs thus: Some say compared to Bononcini That Myndoor Handel's but a ninny, Others aver that he to Handel Is scarcely fit to hold a candle; Strange all this difference should be 'Twixt Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

"NIMROD."—We dislike exceedingly to give answer to any question the decision on which involves a wager, and we have more than once stated so. However, the point on which you inquire is one of general interest, unhappily. Recently, in the Court for Crown Cases Reserved, in England, it was held by the judges that a stakeholder who takes no part in the arrangement for a fight with fists, and is not present at the fight, and does nothing more than hold the money, and pay it over to the winner, is not an accessory before the fact to the manslaughter of one of the combatants, who is mortally injured in the fight.

"A FRENCH CANADIAN."—There are Irish Saints whose festivals are kept more conspicuously in foreign lands than even in Ireland, and your motherland gives some instances. Thus, for instance, on each 30th of August, the coachmen of Paris celebrate the anniversary of their patron, St. Flacere, who, we are told, was born in Ireland about the year 690, went to France on a visit to the Bishop of Meaux, and there founded an hospital for the relief of pilgrims, travellers, and poor people. The first vehicles which were used to carry travellers to the hospital were called after the name of the saint, and the word has since become the general name for public carriages. St. Flacere is also the patron of gardeners, being reputed to have been a great botanist and to have surrounded his hermitage with flowers.

"THOMSON."—We have no need to refer to friendly authorities in support of the suggestion contained in your letter. Even the enemy admits that some good can come out of Ireland! If the following words were written by O'Connell or Mitchell or Father Burke, they would be received by persons ignorant of Irish history with a polite shrug; but coming from the pen of James Anthony Froude (*Hist. of Ireland*, vol. 2), they will demand attention. He writes:—"The Irishman of the last century rose to his natural level whenever he was removed from his own unhappy country. In the Seven Years' War Austria's best generals were Irishmen. Brown was an Irishman, Lacy was an Irishman, O'Donnell's name speaks for him, and Lally Tollendal, who punished England at Fontenoy, was O'Mullally of Tollenally. Strike the names of Irishmen out of our public service, and we lose the heroes of our proudest exploits—we lose the Wellesleys, the Pallisers, the Moores, the Eyres, the Cootes, the Napiers; we lose half the officers and half the privates who conquered India for us and fought our battles in the Peninsula. What the Irish could do as enemies we were about to learn when the Ulster exiles crowded to the standard of Washington."