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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1877.

NO. 40.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

" DOUBT"-You ask us " What is the Catholic and what is the Protestant population of the world." We find a reply in the Scientific Miscellany, which places the number thus: Total number of Protestants in the world, 48,935,000; total number of Greek Church. 56.360.000; total number of Catholics, 244,404,600. In Europe there are 154, 444,600 Catholies; in Europe there are 39.675.000 Protestants; in Asia there are 40,000,000 Catholics; in Asia there are 50,000 Protestants; in Africa there are 12.400,000 Catholics; in Africa there 10,-000 Protestants; in America there are 34,-110,000 Catholics; in America there are 9,150,000 Protestants; in Oceanica there are 3,450,000 Catholics; in Oceanica there 50,000 Protestants. Total Catholics, 244,-404,600. Total Protestants, 48,935,005.

"P."-There was some mistake in the wording of the paragraph to which you refer, and which has gone the rounds of the press. Wine, however, is taken at the service on Good Friday, but the bread alone is consecrated on that day, the wine having been invention of some sensationalist, but when we remember that the Catholic President of Ecuador was assassinated some time ago, there is ground for grave anxiety.

"P"-There 4,110,867 Catholics in Ireland to 1,260,510 Protestants.

* T. J. B."—Metepher and sentiment are very good, but our columns are occupied with glad to hear from you again.

We print a letter from a gentleman in Ottawa, on the Amnesty question. The letter contains a grave charge against Mr. O'Donoghue, and one with which we are in no way identified. We are sure that no Irish Catholic will judge O'Donoghue without hearing his side of the question.

HOME RULE.

We take the following from Mr. Auglin's paper-the St. John's Freeman. We are sure that the friends of the Home Rule cause will rejoice to notice that the Speaker is in favor of granting to Ireland that responsible Government that has made Canada prosperous and

"The Irish Home Rulers have again asked the British House of Commons to make enquiry into the reasons which, they allege, would prove that the concession of what is called Home Rule to Ireland is demanded by justice to that country and by a due regard for the general interests of the Empire, and again the motion was defeated by a large matime, which they believe is not remote, when justice must be conceded."

DISSENSIONS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The enemies of everything Catholic and Irish are fond of magnifying the smallest expression of dissent into a revolt. As a matter of fact it is in English politics and in the English Church that one must look for dissent and protest of every kind. The last exhibition in. this way took place in Ireland, when we learn from a contemporary that

"A long-threatened secession has at last taken place. The Protestant Bishop of Derry, Dr. Alexander, has retired from the Synod of the Disestablished Church, and has stated his reasons for this step in a letter to Primate Beresford. In the new preface to the Prayer-Book there are propositions, some of which, he says, are utterly, through unintentionally, misleading, some unintelligible, and some which 'define negatively,' in a way which he conceives to be an invasion of Christian liberty For example, 'on baptism the Church will cease to have any teaching, or rather will teach that opposite doctrines are equally true and equally recognised."

AUSTRIAN ARMAMENTS.

In view of the possible part that Austria may take in the present war, a look at her

armaments may be instructive. It appears that "When mobilized the Austrian army will number thirteen army corps with forty-two divisions of infantry and five of cavalry. The division represents paper called the Neckarbote, attacking the ecclethe tatical unit. A contemporary thus epitomizes statical policy of the Prussian government. The the tatical unit. A contemporary thus epitomizes the various branches of the service. Each division judge, a violent Blamarckian, having strongly of infantry consists of two brigades of six to seven summed up against the accused, the july brought battallons, two to four squadrons, three batteries, in a verdict of guilty, and Father Hescheler was one company of engineers, one sanitary division, sentenced to six week's imprisonment. It is the one company of engineers, one sanitary division, and commissariat column. The cavalry divisions consist of two or three brigades of eight to twelve and we fear it is not likely to be the last."

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squadrons, two or three batteries, one ammunition waggon, one sanitary division, and one commissralat column. According to the law the Austrian army would thus number, after the mobilisation:-

1. Regular army, 900,000, men, 150,000 horses, 24,000 conveyances; fighting force, 570,000, infantry, 50,000 cavalry, 1,700 field pieces.

2. Landwehr, 300,000 men, 24,000 horses; fighting force, 270,000 infantry, 13,000 cavalry.

Together 1,200,000 men, 170,000 horses 26,000 conveyances; fighting force, 800,000 infantry, 63,-

000 cavalry, 1,700 guns. The number of cannon, which in proportion was less than in any other large army, has now been increased with the introduction of the Uchatius cannon, the artillery will take the field with at least 2,000, perhaps 2,200 guns, and in the men who have served their time and retired it possesses excellent and sufficient reserves.

TORPEDOES.

Torpedoes are to sailors what mines are to coldiers—the most demoralizing of all dangers. Soldiers and sailors who face death with coolness, will blanch if they think they are going to be spun into the air like a rocket. Of late however, the science of torpedo warfare has enjoyed much attention, and we read of the "Whitehead Torpedo" being the most effective of all. We learn from a contemporary

"Whitehead torpedo is made from fourteen to consecrated before. The story may be the twenty feet in length, and eighteen inches diameter, as is in form much like a cigar pointed at both ends. The bursting charge which consists of guncotton, is contained in the foremost part or head, which is provided with a detonator. The after part holds a chamber full of compressed air, of a pressure of 800lbs to the square inch, which drives the engines that turn the steel screws by which the whole instrument is propelled. In the middle section of the torpedo is a balance chamber, containing a contrivance by means of which the entire apparatus may be submerged to any depth, from one foot to thirty feet, as may be desired, with the more pressing subjects just now. Will be certainty of adjustment being maintained. The Whitehead torpedo passes through the water at the rapid rate of twenty knots an hour, and may be trusted to do all that is required within a distance of 1,000 yards from its point of starting. It is sent on its deadily mission by being fired into the water from a tube, the frame of which is fixed in a port. The charge of gun-cotton is sufficient to make a hole on bursting of seventy fect area, the surface presented to torpedo attack by a ship like the Sultau being about 8,060 square feet. After the impact of such a weapon the ship against which is was directed would have no conceivable means of defence, the shock of attack and the atter destruction of the vessel would be simultadeous."

THE PERSIAN ARMY.

If the reports that come to us from travellers are to be relied upon, the Persian Army and commodious quays, is due to French talent will not be of much service to the Russians-if they become alley's. Dr. Armenius Vambery drove out of France, and whose services were Hungarian says that

"The Persian army is a mockery, a delusion, and a snare. As to its fighting power, if what he says be correct, it is even below that of the Servians. In the campaign against Merv sixteen years ago, 4.000 Turkoman cavalry defeated and captured a Persian army of 22,007 men. Dr. Vambery holds that on the very first sign of a disposition of the jority, only 67 voting for it, while over 400 voted sectators of All to join the Russians in a campaign against it. Yet the Itish people and their repre-sentatives are neither daunted nor dismayed. They but repeat their demands for justice and wait for the pounce down upon the unwarlike Persians, and speedily make them rue their folly. No one, adds Dr. Vambery, is better aware of this than the Shah's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mirza Husseln Khan, and from his intelligence and judgment, it is not to be supposed for a moment that he would lend himself to a policy which must end in the ruin of his country. However the learned Hungarian concludes, the Persians are vain, ignorant, and foolish, and in spite of their own interests and the dictates of common sense, they may rashly allow themselves to be led into an attempt against Bagdad."

BISMARCKISM.

Bismarck's name will be forever associated with Religious Persecution. Living in his time, we cannot well judge of the enormity of his crimes, but history will do ample justice to his infamy. We notice too that up the present the terrorism which he inaugurated is not abating. The London Universe informs

us that The Kingdom of Wurtemburg has about 1,800, 000 inhabititants, or about 600,000, are Catholics. While persecution was raging in the three surrounding States of Prussia, Baden, and Hesse, the Catholics of Wurtemberg had hitherto remained unmolested, and the priests of the diocese of Rottenburg, which is co-extonsive with the kingdom, had pursued their laborious duties without being ever brought into collision with the organs of the secular power. We are sorry to have now to report the first case of an infraction of this peace and harmony. A few days ago Father Hescheler, sub-regent of the Rottenburg seminary of priests, was tried at Tubingen, by a jury consisting of none but Protestants, for publishing a letter in a local first case of religious persecution in Wurtemberg, STIIL MORE DISSENSIONS.

The example of Dr. Alexander in dessenting from the Protestant Synod has been followed by the Archbishop of Dublin, and we learn from the Freeman's Journal that

"A most serious crisis has arisen in the affairs of the Irish Protestant Church. The conflict be-tween High and Low Church, which has divided the Synod from the beginning, came to a head on the motion to confirm the various amendments and alterations which have been made in the Book of Common Prayer. Against this proposition the Archbishop of Dublin delivered a most solemn and earnest speech, declaring that the Preface to the new Book of Common Prayer was a yoke which would strangle the Church as the Old Man of the Sea did Sinbad. The Primate denounced the new changes with equal vehemence, and after a most heated discussion, the debate—the result of which will be awaited with general interest-was ad-

TIPPEBARY.

Tipperary has many Richmonds in the field for the honour of representing it in the Imperial Parliament. We learn that the first who wooed the constituency was the present Sec. of the Home Rule Confederation of Great Britain,-Mr. F. H. O'Donnell, but on

"Learning that Mr. E. Dwyer Gray, of the Freeman's fournal, had resolved to stand for the seat, he retired readily. Mr. Gray was as prompt to act as to resolve, for he followed his address in person and held great meetings. Mr. Peter Paul McSwiney is also a candidate. His principles are similar to Mr. Gray's, and he avows besides that he is a son of the "premier county of Ireland." The name of Mr. Florence D. McCarthy is also put forward confidently. Mr. Gray seems the most likely candidate of all. He is young, vigorous, practical, and eloquent; he is proprietor of the most influential newspaper in Ireland; and he has the approval of the Archbishop of Cashel and the bishops of Water-ford and Killaloe.

Our latest news informs us that Mr. Mc-Swiney has retired, and that the contest now lies between Mr. Gray and Mr. Casey, the "Galtee boy."

ODESSA.

Odessa is one of the great grain depots of Europe, the chief port of the Black Sea, and the third commercial city of Russin. It is very old, and was settled by a colony of Tartars. The original fortifications-

"We read, were built by the Turks and reduced in 1789 by the Russians, who subsequently erec the principal fort which protects the harbour. The erection of the town as it now stands, with its wide, and, for Russia, clean streets, its terraces and and enterprise, the foundations having been laid by the Duc de Richelieu, whom the revolution promptly accepted by Russia. This immense traffic, the handling of which is the sole means of existence for a large proportion of the population, will be stopped by a blockade. Whether the Turkish fleet can accompileh anything more than a blockade, remains to be seen. The city is on the edge of a high plateau. The space between the quays and the cliff is occupied by barracks, and batteries dot the shore at narrow intervals. fort on the cliff at the southeast commands the entrance to the harbour and after it is silenced the invading vessels will float over a submarine tor-pedo town, which Russia for several years has been laying in the harbour as the best possible defence '54. The torpedoes recently sunk have rendered the harbour so dangerous that for some time property, and outside of London one in 30 owns a special pilote have been been as a special pilote have been special pilote the special pilote have been special pilote been special pilo against a repetition of the disastrous experience of special pilots have been required to guide the merchant vessels safely in and out."

KARS.

Russians are now bombarding, is the capital of the pashalic of the same name on the northern frontier of Armenia:

A contemporary describes it as a specimen Oriental mountain town, situated upon a rocky plateau 7,000 feet above the level of the sea, and having narrow dirty streets. It finds a reason for its existence, like all the towns of that neighbourhood, in the caravan trade, of which it is a recognized stopping-place, as the long trains of camel file from Persia and Armenia into Georgia and Circassia, re-turning by the same route. The trade carried on is in silks, Cashmere wool, Persia carpets, Latakia tobacco, wax, gallnuts, and opium, going into Russia, the manufactured good of England and America returning. Kars has always been the first bone of contention in any Armenian campaign. In the war of 1828-9 it was captured by the Russians and held for two years. At the treaty of Adrianople it was restored to Turkey, In 1855 it was again at-tacked, this time by Muravieff September 29, 1955; Muravieff was compelled to invest Kars, and finally reduced it by famine at the end of November, 1855 It was given up again by the treaty of Paris. The fortification of Williams were adequate to resist eighteen and twent-four pounders—the siege guns of those days—but will probably succumb to the five-inch rifles which Russia can now bring against them. Kars is a decaying place, with about 12,000 people and 3,000 houses. It once had twice as many. It possesses no military importance except as the first step on on the road to Erzeroum.

not aware that since the Crimean war the forti-

CUBA'S NINE YEARS WAR.

For nine years the Cuban's have been in a state of active insurrection against the Spaniards. A gentleman who has served with the insurgents estimates their loss during that time at \$0,000 men. During the nine years active service, the insurgents have received no pay, and while the Spaniards hold the coast the Cubans hold most of the centre of the island. At present the Cubans

have only 18,000 men under arms to oppose to the 80,000 Spanish regulars and 40,000 volunteers. The lack of arms is their great drawback. There are two or three men for every rifle, and they have material for 50,000 men, if they could get muskets and ammunition. A gentleman who has served in the Cuban army estimated the loss of the insurgents during the nine years of the war at 30,000. The 18.000 new Spanish troops that were to have ended the war have failed to make even their presence perceptible. They are mostly boys, some of whom are under 17, and are demoralized by a march of any length.

THE GLASGOW IRISH.

There was a mass meeting of the Irishmen of Glasgow a few weeks ago. The meeting was called to support the policy of obstruction, which is now persued by Messrs. Biggar and Parnell. At that meeting there were men of extreme and men of moderate opinions—there were Seperatists and there were Home Rulers. Mr. John Ferguson, the sterling Presbyterian patriot was in the chair and delivered one of his fine manly speeches. During his address he

My idea in this matter is that in working the principles of our national independence much sacrifice must be made by rational men to the opinions of their neighbours. The opinion of the Irish majority—the opinion of the people of Irclond-must determine the course of action we are to pursus (hear, hear). What the people of Ireland want it must be our duty to help them to obtain, let the cost be what it may (hear, hear). If they want separation, why, then, it will be our duty to work for it, and enable them, as far as we can, to get it; but at present the poople of Ireland say, by the voice of their members that they are for Home Bule, and we shall, in accordance with that expressed and wish of the majority, strive to obtain for Ireland the blessings of self government in a national parliament in College-green (loud cheers.

THE SECRET OF FRENCH PROSPERITY.

France has more than once astonished the world by her recuperative powers. She 'has sprung to her fall under circumstances which would leave the country that beat her, prostrate for ages. This is accounted for by the peculiar ownership of the soil by the people. The Pilot

The difference between the ownership of the soil in France, England, and Ireland is an interesting political study. In France there are more than 5, 000,000 peasant proprietors of the land, while in the United Kingdom, with about the same population, there are only 200,000 or one British for every twenty-five French landowners. Other nations borrow almost wholly from outsiders, while France raises her money mainly from her own people. More than 4,000,000 French men and weman subscribed to the public debt. In France on person in seven is a landowner. In England one person house. In Scotland one in 400 is a landowner, and one in 28 has a house in his name. In Ireland one in 315 owns land, but only one in 120 has title

to a house. The state of Ireland in this respect is deplorable Kars, the town in Asia Minor which the indeed. In the latest returns we find that of the cussians are now hombarding is the capital of 20,000,000 acres of land in Ireland, 17 individuals owns 1,400,000 acres; 108 persons own 4,000,000 two acres; persons own 282,199 acres; and 202 persons, own nearly one-third the surface of the whole country. There are 36,000 persons entered as landowners who hold less than one acre."

FAMINE IN INDIA.

The latest reports from China informs us that the famine is unabated. A Correspondend of the Paris Temps draws a distressing picture of the miseries which have been general in the famine districts for the past few months. He says:-

to carry some provisions to a small village in Shantung returned horror-stricken with what they had seen. The inhabitants were putting an end to their sufferings by suicide, and in one family the father and mother to avoid witnessing the death agony of their starving children, had buried them alive. The famine has been caused by the failure of the barvest for two years running in the districts which are generally very fertile. Neither grain nor fruits are to be had at any price, and the land seems to have been schorched by a burning wind. The grass hu mility."
by the roadside has been devoured to its very roots The writer of this quotation was evidently by the famishing people who have stripped all the trees of their bark and foliage. As the winter has been exceptionally severe many of the sufferers have fication of Kars have been strengthened and improved.

been exceptionally severe many of the sufferers have of bankers here to purchase a hundred thousand pearsnee of the survivors is most ghastly.

been exceptionally severe many of the sufferers have of bankers here to purchase a hundred thousand head of cattle.

VEBY LIKE A WHALE.

At last we are informed that the sea-serpent has been caught. There is no mistake about it this time. It has been captured at the picturesque little town of Oban, in Scotland. We hear from New York that:-

"Foreign papers received late last night, publish a circumstantial narrative by a resident of Oban, Scotland, from which it appears the sea-serpent has been actually captured at that place. The correspondent writes :—"A most extraordinary event has occurred here—the stranding and capture of the veritable sea-serpent in front of the Calcdonian Hotel, Oban. About 4 o'clock yesterday an animal or fish of gigantic size was seen sporting in the bay near Heather Island. It was of the serpent species, carrying its head fully twenty-five feet above the water. A number of boats were soon launched and proceeded to the bay, the crews armed with such weapons as could be got handy. A little past 6 the monster took the ground on the beach in front of the Caledonian Hotel of George street, and his proportions were now fully visible. A party of volunteers, under Lieut. David Menzies, now assembled and fired volley after volley into the neck, according to the directions of Dr. Campbell, who did not wish for scientific reasons that the configuration of the head should be damaged. Its exact appearance is as follows:--Extreme length 101 feet; the thickest part about twentyfive feet from the head, which is eleven feet in circumference. At this part is fixed a pair of fins four feet long by nearly seven feet across. At the sides further back is a long dorsal fin extending for at least twelve or thirteen feet and five feet in front, tapering to one foot."

WHAT THE ENGLISH PRESS THINK OF THE WAR.

The Standard should be an authority upon England's Eastern policy. Considering that it is the organ of the Government when it speaks it is likely to indicate something near the policy that the Government is likely to pursue. It says:-

"In Asia we stand alone, since it cannot matter to Germany, to Austria, to Italy, or to France whether our prestige among Asiatic races be threatened or not; but even in regard to the campaign in Asia it is clear that precipitation would be the worst of counsellors. It is possible that the dread of offending the Powers of Central Europe may render Russia cautious and moderate in European Turkey, and the wish not to arouse against her all the strength of the British Empire will make her circomspect and forbearing in Asiatic Turkey. But to speak of localising the interests affected by the war is another thing. If Russia should be defeated, or, being victorious, should be willing to forego ome of the fruits of victory, the entire ques may be localised. On any other supposition a world of questions will come to the front, and will likewise demand a settlement. Who can doubt by what means they, too, would be settled?"

The Daily Telegraph writes even stronger. It says:-

"Is there any one who can believe that the conquest of Constantinople by Russia, and the inevitable extension of her will over Asia Minor, would not shake our Indian Empire to its foundation? Let those answer who know how much our sway and our usefulness in the East depend on moral as well as on military supremacy. Thus a weakness of statesmanship, a shrinking from national duty, whatever might be the cause—sentiment, apathy, or dulines of intellect-would not merely plant a foe on the flank of our roads to India and our colonies in the Pacific, but put in peril India itself. England, at a conjuncture so grave, is bound by the highest motives which can govern the conduct of nations to form a clear and long-sighted concention of the task thrust upon her by Russia, and then to carry it out with the iron resolution which has been

IBISH, ENGLISH AND SCOTCH MORALS.

more than once displayed by our forefathers."

The Scotsman, a newspaper which has always been rather prejudiced towards Ireland and the Irish, is forced to pay the following tribute to Irish morals and to the beneficent effects of the Catholie religion on the people:

England is nearly twice, and Scotland nearly thrice worse than Ireland. Something worse has to be added, from which no consolation can be derived. The proportion of illegitimacy is very unequally distributed over Ireland, and the inequalities are such as are rather humbling to us Protestants and still more as Presbyterians and as Scotchmen. The division showing the lowest figure is the Western, being substantially the Province of Connaught, where about nineteen-twentieths of the population the Celtic and Roman Catholics. The division showing the highest proportions of illegitimacy past few months. He says:—

That in Chili and Shantung districts districts the distress has reached such a height that a part of the inhabitants of these large provinces are literally dying of hunger. Two Europeans who had courage to carry some provisions to a small village in Shantung the ingless productions of integratinacy is the North Eastern, which comprises almost or equally divided between Protestants of Roman Catholic, and where the great majority of the Protestants are of Scotch blood, and of the Prosbyterian Church. The sum of the whole matter is, that somi-Presbyterian and semi-Scotch Ulster is fully three, times more immoral than wholly Popish and wholly Irish Connaught —which corresponds with wonderful accuracy to the more general fact that Scotland, as a whole, is three times more immoral than Ireland, as a whole There, is a fact, whatever may be the proper deduction. There, is a text whatever may be the sermon-we suggest that the sermon should have a good deal about charity, self-examination, and

> A Pera despatch to London, dated Saturday says, I have learned on the highest authority that the British Government have ordered awell-known firm