

fluence and power of her enemies are proportionately diminished.

## INDIA.

The loss of Bishop Milman, is one which can scarcely be calculated. It is in no way derogatory to his successor to say that he may be a very eminent man, admirably adapted for his position as Metropolitan of India, and possessed of an extraordinary amount of mental, spiritual, and physical advantages, and yet be very far behind the late Metropolitan of India. The Division of the Diocese of Calcutta, by setting off two Missionary Dioceses, will reduce the work of the newly consecrated Bishop within something like reasonable limits. We have several times referred to the Ceylon difficulty, and it is to be hoped that the uncertainty of the question at issue will not be much longer continued.

As if in mockery of the new title, which is soon to be proclaimed at Delhi, India has been visited by two of the most-terrible calamities on record. Millions of the population of that magnificent country are, while we write these lines, in danger of absolute starvation. It is the Bombay Presidency which has been visited with this especial scourge of India life. From the district of Candesh, towards the North, to that of Dharwar, towards the South, a broad territory runs down the Western side of the country. It contains forty-four thousand square miles, and has a population of six millions; but the area of scarcity of the means of sustaining life extend, we are told, much further than this. If the causes of the calamity should continue, it is calculated that the area of want may widen with alarming swiftness, until scarcity shall deepen into absolute famine.

The other calamity is a fearful cyclone which has visited Bengal. The sea has been borne in upon the coasts, and has swept along in one terrible flood, which at a moderate calculation is said to have cost the lives of two hundred and fifty thousand human beings. Up to eleven o'clock on the night of the catastrophe, there were no signs of danger, but before midnight the storm-wave swept over the islands at the mouth of the Ganges, in some places to the depth of twenty feet, washing the people out of their beds. Those who survived saved themselves by climbing the groves of cocoa-nut and palm-trees surrounding their villages. Almost every one perished who failed to reach the trees. The loss of life from the great cyclone of 1864 was only fifty thousand. And now a third calamity is feared—a general outbreak of cholera from the masses of putrifying bodies.

## GERMANY.

Our sympathies with this increasingly great and powerful nationality are chiefly connected with the Old Catholic movements. Their third annual Synod was held on June 14th, at Bonn, Bishop Reinkens presiding, and from the statement read by Dr. Van Schulte we gather that, in the whole of Germany, there are 15,710 enrolled Old Catholic members, representing 49,851 souls, to

whom sixty priests minister. At present there are nine Old Catholic Students in the University of Bonn.

## ITALY.

The most remarkable event that has taken place in Italy has been the death of Cardinal Antonelli. He had played a game, and lost it; so that his death may not have much effect upon the progress of events in the civilized world. Lord Palmerston, however, was in the habit of speaking of him as "the greatest of living statesmen;" and it is admitted that, had events and circumstances favored instead of thwarting this great Churchman, he might have attained an historic rank which would have connected him with Richelieu, Wolsey, Mazarin, and Ximenes. His birth was humble; he was not conspicuous as a student; he left the love of the Fathers, and the rivalry for fat Bishoprics with cravings for the tiara, to his brother Cardinals, while his business was with monarchs and cabinets. His political career, however, was a colossal failure, although he was vigorous and full of resource. Indeed, the whole course of Papal policy for the last thirty years is attributed to his genius and inspiration; and, although the Papal power has been rapidly decaying during that period, Europe has, more than once, awaited with breathless interest the message that should be sent by the grim and lean old man who was known to rule in the Cabinet of the Vatican.

## FRANCE.

This country has been steadily advancing in the process of "recuperation;" and there is nothing more remarkable in the history of the past year than the steadiness with which the French people have been minding their own business. It is, indeed, a most novel feature in the history of France, that at the present moment she not only seems to have resolved, but to have carried the resolution into practice, to abstain from mixing herself up with any of the political questions which have been agitating the whole of Europe.

Marshal McMahon has made a tour through the provinces, and has everywhere found progress in material prosperity, and even Lyons a model of peace and quietness.

The greatest writer of modern France, George Sand, has died during the year, aged seventy-two. She was the great grand-daughter of the celebrated Marshal de Saxe. In her writings she painted French scenery, and French rural life with unequalled power. She nowhere, however, shows a clear appreciation of the Christian religion; and though her aspirations were pure, and her imagination was as vivid as her eloquence, even her best works are far from satisfactory.

## TURKEY.

The Eastern question is still unsettled and the anxiety about it, in consequence of the Bulgarian and other outrages during the year, has attained proportions exceeding those of almost any

former occasion. Different opinions are still entertained as to the propriety of the course the English Government has adopted in reference to it. It is remarkable also that both in Russia and in England, the people have shown a much greater amount of excitement on the subject than their respective governments have exhibited in reference to it. Throughout the whole proceedings there has been very little danger of a collision between England and Russia. A month ago it seemed most likely that Russia would temporarily occupy Bulgaria, which England would not have opposed. At the present moment even that step is said to be unlikely, as it is discovered that she is not so well prepared to fight Turkey as she imagined. The Conference is postponed for some time, and in all probability a peaceful solution of the difficulty will be the result. We need only repeat what we have frequently stated, that English Governments, both Whig and Tory, have for many years, been more or less responsible for Turkish misdeeds. It was England that more than once fastened the yoke of Turkey around the neck of Egypt; and except in two cases, that of Greece in 1827, and that of Syria in 1860, her influence has not been less disastrous in other parts of the Turkish dominions. The cause of the Christians there ought to have been undertaken, in some way or other, by the joint powers of Europe, long ago; and had not England stood in the way, something of this kind would have been done.

## JAPAN.

This country is as remarkable in some respects as China; but differing from it, nevertheless, in two or three very remarkable particulars. In the first place, they have no ancient literature at all comparable to that of the "Middle Kingdom," the "Valley of the Sun;" and, neither their institutions nor modes of life are so stereotyped as those of China, while their language is more adapted to march in the wake of the civilizations of Europe. A great deal of progress has to be chronicled during the past year in many departments in that country,—although missionaries have to be particularly careful in the accounts they send out of their doings there, so that frequently, names and minute details have to be suppressed. Notwithstanding this, Japan must be looked to as a great agent in conducting civilization and Christianity in that part of the world. During the past year, the missions in the Anglican Communion have met with considerable success. Nor may we leave unnoticed the mission there in connection with the Holy Synod of Russia, which took its rise from the Diocese of Kamschatka in 1870. It is superintended by the Archimandrite Nicholas, the Priest Anatolim, twelve catechists, and thirty catechetical scholars, who are all engaged in spreading the Gospel. Two of the catechists, engaged at Saunade, have been prepared for Holy Orders, and two priests have been appointed for missionary duty there.