

tongue to the voiceless. And though the methods pursued in this country and in England may be different, the spirit is the same, and when again the white cliffs of Albion, as they rise from the ocean's blue, announce that 'Merry England' is near, and the heart of our guest beats high with the glad greetings of his own people, we would wish him to remember that there are those among them who are silent because God had sealed their lips.'

[These remarks by the Deaf and Dumb are truly touching. They show that although they are deprived of voice, still mind is there.]

### Census of Spain.

The following able article from the *New York World*, will be read with interest. The kingdom of Spain has for the last twenty-five years, passed through almost a death struggle. Civil wars and internal broils of all kinds have convulsed the nation. The Cortez and the Pope have been arrayed in opposition concerning the church's property, and the closing of monastic and other institutions. Our author says:—

Few great nations have ever experienced a decline at once so rapid and so immense as the kingdom of Spain. The decay of Italy, a country subject to the influence of a similar climate, peopled by an allied race, speaking a cognate tongue, and believing in the same religion, has been slow, when compared with that of the Iberian peninsula, and in its consequences infinitely less disastrous. Fallen as Italy is from the lofty position held by her governments and her people in the days of Tasso and Michel Angelo, she could yet produce, at the lowest stage of her political and commercial degeneracy, an Alfieri and a Canova, and in the cultivation of at least one art she still acknowledges no supremacy. But Spain sank at once from a potent and enlightened empire to the condition of a powerless and superstitious state. The historian of the conquest of Mexico was the last great name on her literature, as the artist of the conception was the last glory of her art. She was compelled to surrender into other hands the fruitful vineyards of Portugal, the wealthy provinces of Flanders, and the fertile lands of the Two Sicilies; she lost nearly all of her vast extra-European possessions; her throne became an object of strife among rival aspirants; her cities and plains were made the battle-fields of two contending nations, both of which were fighting in her name, but both of which regarded her welfare as a matter of secondary importance; and for more than a quarter of a century she suffered the incalculable woes of an internecine civil feud. The most brilliant of English prose writers has tersely described the condition of Spain under the rule of the last prince of the house of Austria. 'The arsenals were deserted. The magazines were unprovided. The frontier fortresses were ungarrisoned. The police was utterly inefficient for the protection of the people. Murders were committed in the face of day with perfect im-