

trremely unlucky to kill the young sea-birds. "Oh, Mr. Bynoe, very bad to shoot little duck—come wind—some—rain—blow very much blow" was the solemn remonstrance of one of them to a gentleman who killed some very young ducklings as zoological specimens. They never speak of the dead. When a boy, hereafter to be mentioned, was questioned about his dead father, he was very unhappy, and refused to answer: "No good talk: my country never talk of dead man."

### EDUCATION IN RUSSIA.

Very little is known in this country of the habits, feelings, and state of civilisation of the Russians. We are accustomed to consider them a benighted nation of slaves, inhabiting a country into which the school-master has not yet penetrated; but the following statistical details, drawn from reliable sources, may perhaps give our readers a different impression, or at least enable them to form some idea of the actual state of public instruction in the empire of the Czar.

There are appertaining to the department of the Minister of Public Instruction—6 universities, 1 normal school 3 lycæums, 77 gymnasia, 433 district schools, 1068 town schools, and 592 private schools: in all 2810 establishments for education, under the care of 5594 teachers, and containing 119,327 students. This is in Russia proper. Russian Poland has, besides, 1539 schools of various kinds, frequented by 84,584 students, 183 of which are private institutions; and in the Caucasus are no less than 45 schools, 8 of which are private, with 235 teachers, and 3302 students.

There are 21 theological seminaries, belonging to the Greek Church, with 72 teachers, and 1261 students; 14 of the Armenian doctrine, with 45 teachers, and 729 students; 8 teachers and 668 students in the Lutheran establishment, and 11 Mohammedan schools, 7 of which are of the Shate order, and 4 of the Sannite persuasion, instructing in all 586 students.

There are 27 military colleges, all of which are under the direction of the heir apparent, the Grand Duke Cæsar Alexander. They are superintended by 865 professors, and are frequented by 2090 students.

In addition, there are 10 naval schools, with 3220 students, under the charge of 327 teachers.

The Minister of the Finance has 85 schools belonging to his department. He employs 461 teachers, and instructs 9779 students.

The foundations of the Empress Mary are 40 in number—30 schools for girls, 659 tutresses, and 5377 pupils, and 10 for boys, with 80 masters, and 1969 pupils.

There are 2 schools of civil engineering, with 85 professors, and 416 students; 3 law schools, with 93 professors, and 591 students, and 3 schools, appertaining to the Post Office Department, with 93 professors, and 591 students; and 6 institutions under the direction of the Secretary of State, with 96 professors, and 993 students. These are all, probably, intended to fit young men for official life. We must not forget an institution devoted to the teaching of the oriental languages, with 30 professors, and 207 students.

There are 26 agricultural schools, with 134 teachers, and 1592 students; and 2795 village schools in the domain of the crown, employing 2783 teachers, and giving instruction to 14,064 males and 4843 females.

Thus it appears, that in Russia 257,597 young persons are receiving instruction of some kind, from 14,577 teachers—at the rate of one teacher to 17½ pupils, a very favourable proportion to the student. The population of Russia proper may be set down at about 55,000,000, so that only one individual in 220 receives the benefit of instruction.

This is a small proportion, compared to the United States, where according to the last census report, 4,000,000 youth, at the rate of one in every five free persons, are receiving instruction from 115,000 teachers, in nearly 100,000 schools and colleges. Nevertheless, 250,000 well educated young persons, dispersed each year in the different quarters of that huge empire, cannot fail to gradually leave their mark upon the national character in good time.—*New York Evening Post.*

**ROME DREADS THE BIBLE.**—There are twenty-eight Roman-catholic schools in the city of New York, in not one of which is either the Bible or the New Testament read by the scholars, or read to them by the teachers. Roman catholics object to the use of the Protestant Bible in the public schools on account of *sectarianism*, and when the Bible is put away to please them, they complain that the schools have become godless; but when they establish their own schools, on the ground that the public schools are godless, they will not use in them the Douay or any version of the Bible!

**PATAGONIA.**—The English friends of the Patagonian Mission have not been disheartened by the melancholy fate of Captain Gardiner and his little but devoted band. More zeal than discretion was displayed in the outfitting and general arrangement of the first mission; and disaster terminating in the starvation of the whole company, was the result. At a recent meeting of the Society in England, a new plan was adopted for reaching those barbarous tribes. The mission is to be established at the Falkland Islands, where there are British residents, and from which intercourse can be had with the natives. We sincerely hope this second attempt may prove successful. "Among the last prayers of Captain Gardiner found in his journal, and written two days before his death, while fastidious, was one for the future success of this, to his noble and pious heart, cherished mission."

**A WORD ON COUGHING IN CHURCH.**—We copy the following from an autobiography which Hugh Miller published in the *Edinburgh Witness*:—

A simple incident which occurred during my first morning attendance at Dr. McCrie's chapel strongly impressed me with a sense of his sagacity. There was a great deal of coughing in the place, the effect of a recent change of weather, and the doctor, whose voice was not a strong one, and who seemed somewhat annoyed by the ruthless interruptions, stopping suddenly short in the middle of his argument, made a dead pause. When people are taken greatly by surprise, they cease to cough—a circumstance on which he had evidently calculated. Every eye was now turned towards him, and for a full minute so dead was the silence, that one might easily have heard a pin drop. "I see, my friends," said the doctor, resuming his speech with a suppressed smile; "I see you can be all quiet enough when I am quiet." There was not a little genuine strategy in the rebuke; and as a cough lies a good deal more under the influence of the will than most coughers suppose, such was its effect, that during the rest of the service there was not a tittle of the previous coughing.

**THE CHINESE WALL.**—It is stated by Dr. Bowring that if all the bricks, stones, and masonry of Great Britain were gathered together, they would not be able to furnish materials for the wall of China, and that all the buildings in London would not make the towers and turrets which adorn it.

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