000 to 100,000,000 below the disciples of Islam; from 100,000,000 to 120,000,000 below Brahmans (200,000,000); from 150,000,000 to 170,000,000 below Confucianists (250,000,000), and there are from four to five times as many Christian adherents as Buddhists! Here are four religions, any of which far outnumbers Buddhism.

When travelling in Italy some years ago we felt great interest in the enterprise of the Secolo of Milan in circulating an illustrated Roman Catholic version of the Bible, in Italian, in numbers at a halfpenny each, making ten francs for the completed book. Mr. Alexander Robertson says that the first edition (50,000 rpies) of this Bible is exhausted, and as the demand for it still continues, a second edition is being issued. This Bible has been sold in cities. towns, and villages; not only among the laity, but even among the clergy. In the arsenal of Venice, during the midday rest, the Secolo Bible is often read with the daily newspaper with which it is sold. One workman reads while the others sit round and listen. When the text and notes do not seem to agree they are quick to notice it, and one instantly cries out, "Ah, there the text and notes are at fisticuss," and form their own opinion on the passage.

## History has its Poetic Revenges.

In July, 1893, at Dillon's Bay, Erromanga, Marie Tangkou, the eldest son of the murderer of John Williams, was baptized in the presence of seven hundred people, and took his place at the communion-table. At the erection of the monument where the apostle of the South Seas fell in 1899, at Erromanga, the murderer's sons took part in the commemoration. Two, if not three of them, are now professing Christians, and one of them is a preacher.

Rev. Hunter Corbett, of Chefoo, writes of baptizing a man whose age was seventy-three, a widow of seventy-

nine, and another candidate of eights. eight years. At one station "a man brought his father, aged seventy-five on a wheelbarrow, a distance of five miles to apply for baptism. When the old man came before the session he said. in substance: 'My memory has so failed and I am so stupid and ignorant that I cannot answer any questions; all I know is that I am a helpless sinner, and that I love Jesus and trust Him for sal. vation.' The son promised to daily read and explain the Bible and do all he could to help his father live near to Jesus."

Dr. Duff once told an Edinburgh audience that if the ladies of that city would give him the cost of that portion, of their silk dresses which swept the straits as they walked, he would support all his mission schools in India.

The Mohammedan Mission, aiming to secure proselytes in this country, seems to have come to a speedy and disastrons end! Few false systems have long succeeded in supporting missionaries, and contributions have decreased rapidly. It is announced that "the Moslem missionary, Mohammed Alexander Russell Webb, has been obliged, temporarily at least, to abandon the missionary headquarters and publication office in New York, and retire to a \$1000 farm which his wife had bought in New Jersey." His clerk intimates that Webb himself is a pretender, and not an honest follower of Islam.

As to the "black death" now regnant in China, it may not be amiss to note that, like the cholera, it is an annual visitor, only this year more violent and virulent. Notwithstanding all the unsanitary smells that make the "Chinese quarter" everywhere so unsavory and unwholesome, the Chinese have two customs: they seldom drink unboiled water—even the poorest coolie making use of a weak solution of tea—and nearly everywhere in China the bucket system conveys excrements to the fields and