

Independents	5,014	} 0.8
Baptists &c.	29,952	
Soc. of Friends	3,696	
Jews	453	
Total	5,159,845	100

In the population for 1881 are included 1,144 persons who refuse to state their creed. We see the gratifying fact that with a loss of population in the decade of more than a quarter of a million, an emigration of 622,686 persons, at least eighty per cent. of whom were Catholics, and several years of severe trial and distress, the Faith of St. Patrick has held its own in Ireland, its relative status being the same as in 1871. In fact, the three leading denominations remain without material alteration; save that some of the members of the Disestablished Church have gone over to Methodism and other sects. Connaught, for generations the recruiting ground of the Protestant missionaries, who reported conversions by myriads, has lost about 10,000 Protestants since 1861, so that the Census Returns ought to close forever the ears and purses of the credulous against the proselytisers who boasted of their success on that seaboard.

ADVANTAGE OF SPEAKING TRUTH.

HEGIAGE was a distinguished Arabian warrior, but ferocious and cruel. Among a number of prisoners whom he had condemned to death there was one who having obtained a moment's audience, said: "You ought, sir, to pardon me, because the day when Abdarrhaman was cursing you I represented to him that he was wrong, and ever since that time I lost his friendship." Hégiage asked if he had any witnesses of his having done this; and the soldier mentioned another prisoner, who was about likewise to suffer death. The prisoner was called and interrogated, and having confirmed the fact, Hégiage granted the first his pardon. He then asked the witness if he had likewise taken his part against Abdarrhaman; but he still respecting truth, answered: "No; he did not consider it his duty so

to do." Hégiage, notwithstanding his ferocity, was struck with the prisoners greatness of soul. "Well," said he, after a moment's pause, "suppose I were to grant you life and liberty, should you still be my enemy?" "No," said the prisoner. "That is enough," said Hégiage, "your bare word is sufficient; you have given undoubted proof of your love for truth. Go, preserve the life which is less dear to you than honor and sincerity; your liberty is the just reward of your virtue."

THE WISE MAN AND THE FOOL.

A TALE OF THE FIRST HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY.

(From the French.)

CHAPTER III.

THE POPE AND THE OLD PIEDMONTÈSE. Piedmont and Turin had never before beheld a triumph such as the policy of Napoleon permitted and the piety of the Piedmontese prepared for Pius VII. Scarcely had the august traveller set foot in the territory of the 27th division (as the subalpine provinces were at that time called) ere the civil and military officers hastened to offer their respects. In whatever city, the Holy Father arrived he was duly received and addressed by the bishops, the generals commanding and by the prelates. The concourse of people was immense. His arrival and his departure were announced by the discharge of artillery, and the joyous voices of all the steeples. A moving spectacle met the eye all along the road from village to village; right and left the faithful had formed in line, as in the streets of a large city on a festival day, and that, as well by night as by day, for the darkness of the night was lit up by many torches, and lumps and candles. On the papal route, the smallest village became a populous city: the militia from the surrounding country was there in full uniform the magistrates in their robes, the clergy in choir, and the confraternities with their distinctive badges. It was no local gathering but a general movement of the whole population,