

sacre were so horrible that even the chronic exaggeration of the Armenian mind fails to add anything to them. Mr. Paton was accompanied on this tour of investigation by Dr. Wright, an American missionary, stationed at Balmis. These gentlemen took testimony to the effect that when the Turkish soldiers and Kurds appeared at a certain village they collected some of the villagers who dared to protest against the outrages, and many of the dead men were cut up and thrown into a kettle and boiled like so much beef. The boiled pieces were then given to the villagers for food. The wretched creatures were compelled to eat their friends to the last mouthful. In another village a party of Kurds found a child asleep in a cradle. They overturned the cradle and smothered the child. Then they dissected the body and roasted pieces of it before the fire. As a climax they compelled the members of the family, including the child's mother, to eat the roasted pieces.

The refugees who tell these stories are, for the most part, ready to return to Armenia to wreak vengeance on their persecutors as soon as they are supplied with ammunition, arms and food by the revolutionary party, and as already stated, the only thing lacking is food.

The leaders and agents whom I have met are apparently sincere and trustworthy. It should be explained, in connection with the revolutionary movement, that there are three revolutionary parties, but until I have tangible proof of the active existence of them I shall continue to speak of the revolutionists as though there were only one party. The headquarters of the revolutionary party is in London, and it is from London that the head leader issues his orders to his executive leaders in Russia, Persia and Turkey.

It is my duty to give a word of warning to the kind-hearted persons in Great Britain and America who are subscribing funds for the relief of the Sassoun refugees. If these contributors have no desire to aid the revolutionary party they should ascertain very truly the ultimate destiny of their contributions.

LONDON, May 26.—Rev. Joseph Parker, D. D., in a sermon at the Temple yesterday, advocated war for the redress of Armenian wrongs, if necessary.

PARIS, May 26.—A conference of delegates of the Armenian associations throughout Europe was held in Paris today. It was resolved the scheme of reforms in Armenia, suggested by the powers, lacks necessary guarantees, and that no further promises by the Porte should be accepted.

ENGLISH AT THE HEAD.

More people speak English than any other language now in use in the civilized world, and the increase in the use of English is so rapid that it may ultimately outstrip all the European languages collectively. At the beginning of the present century French stood at the head of languages in general use. Then 20 per cent of the people of Europe and America spoke French.

Then followed, in the order named: Russian, 19 per cent; German, 18 per cent; Spanish, 16 per cent; English, 12 per cent, and Italian 9 per cent. French

was the language of treaties, of fashion, of international correspondence, and, to a considerable extent, of commerce. At the beginning of the present century twice as many people in Europe spoke French as English and twice as many spoke German as English. More people in Europe spoke Italian than English and, in fact, English had a subordinate rank.

Colonization in America and Australia, and particularly the enormous increase of population in the United States, favored the extension of English. Colonization in South and Central America favored Spanish, and in Brazil, Portuguese. One reason for the rapid and general extension of the English language has been that colonization from Great Britain has been very much larger than from other countries, and the English have made their influence felt more decisively than have the people of other nations in colonies. Thus, for instance, Holland has today extensive colonies in various parts of the world. The present population of Holland is 4,000,000, and of the Dutch colonies 24,000,000. The area of Holland in square miles is 20,000, and of the Dutch colonies 660,000. But the Dutch language has never been extended to any great extent by reason of these colonies, the inhabitants of which have never learned Dutch. The French, Italian and Russian languages have not been extended greatly through colonization. As a consequence of the changes through colonization and otherwise 110,000,000 people now speak English instead of 20,000,000 as at the beginning of the century. German has held its own without variance for nearly 100 years, and is still spoken by 18 per cent of those speaking any European language. Russian has fallen off a little, not in numbers, but in percentage, and so have all the Latin languages. The number of persons speaking French at the beginning of the century was 31,000,000, and now it is 51,000,000. The number of persons speaking Spanish at the beginning of the century was 26,000,000, now it is 45,000,000. The number of those persons speaking Italian has increased from 15,000,000 to 30,000,000—just double.

FAMILY DECADENCE.

The decadence of prominent families is a very interesting subject for the study of social philosophers. Here is the Field family, perhaps the most conspicuous for intellectual gifts that the country, at least of the present generation, has known. But with the passing away of the Field brothers this splendid prestige is now doomed to pass also. David Dudley Field's most talented son died in early manhood. One of Cyrus W. Field's sons recently passed away, after an unsuccessful career, and the other one can hereafter live only as a tolerated outlaw. Justice Field has no heirs who can maintain the family name, nor has Dr. Henry M. Field.

The late Moses Taylor, who in some respects was our greatest financier, has almost passed out of the memory of this community, excepting, perhaps, in banking circles. His grandson carries on the great banking house with which he was identified, safely, conservatively, but without any of these

flashes of genius-like suggestion, such as that one by which Taylor was enabled to stay the hand of panic by creating the clearing-house certificate. The grandson does not even bear Mr. Taylor's name, for he is the son of a daughter of Mr. Taylor, who married Taylor's junior partner, Mr. Tyne.

The great lawyers of a generation ago have, I think, without a single exception, left no sons to maintain their repute; tradition alone has done that. Those legal giants of the Hoffmans are extinct. James T. Brady was a bachelor. Charles O'Connor left no children. Governor Tilden's heirs were his nephews and nieces, and they tore up his will. With the exception of Hamilton Fish not one of the greater politicians of this state had sons who suggested the intellectual powers of the father. Wright, Marcy, Van Buren, Morgan, Fenton, are names known now only by tradition. General James Watson Webb was the only one of our editors who created a family distinguished for intellectual power. The Adams family, the Sherman and the Wolcott families are the only ones which have maintained from revolutionary days the intellectual pre-eminence of the founders.

The Adams family is the most conspicuous, since the gifts which made two of its members presidents, one a most successful diplomat in a most trying time, and three sons of the fourth generation—Charles Francis, Henry and John Quincy—have all been distinguished for commanding intellectual gifts. Roger Sherman probably bequeathed a heritage of intellect that has been more influential and long-continued than the record of any other American family shows, but as the strain runs almost wholly through the female side of the family the name itself is not so prominent. Senator Sherman and his brother, the general, were collaterally connected. Wm. M. Evarts and George F. Hoar, who are grandsons, and Chauncey M. Depew, who is a collateral descendant, Sherman's father being his ancestor; Governor Baldwin, of Connecticut, and his son, the present justice of the supreme court of that state, were direct descendants of Roger Sherman, but upon the maternal side.

Sometimes the intellectual heritage has skipped for a generation or two, as in the case of the Wolcotts, one of whom is now United States senator from Colorado, and another lieutenant-governor of Massachusetts. Connected with this family, and illustrating the literary capacity that has always been in it, is Bret Harte, although his relation is through the Griswolds, who married and intermarried with the Wolcotts. There were three generations of Wolcotts who were governors of Connecticut, the first having also been a member of Washington's cabinet. There were three generations of Griswolds, also governors of Connecticut, and the sons and daughters of the Griswolds and Wolcotts were given and taken in marriage, so that those of the third generation on either side had both maternal and paternal ancestors who were governors of that state. The power of the Vanderbilts to maintain their family influence and prestige in the commercial world rests upon a single life, that of the young man who is to be graduated from Yale next June.