

soldiers at the Crimea will be an inspiration to noble-minded women for all time. She battled with fever and disease and won the tardy British government of the day to a realization of their barbarity in neglecting to provide doctors and nurses for a huge army in the field. When the Crimean war was over and Florence Nightingale's name was known wherever the English language is spoken a group of English soldiers at a dinner in London were asked to write down the name which had most endeared itself to them during the war. They unanimously wrote 'Florence Nightingale.' Queen Victoria proposed her health at a public dinner and the people of England voted her a fortune, which she generously returned to them in the form of a training school for nurses. She is spending the last days of her life in retirement. When she is laid away, her funeral will be an occasion for greater grief than that of a sovereign."

A NEW YORK ART DEALER, SPEAKING TO a correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, says that J. Pierpont Morgan's art purchases consisting of paintings, statuary, and other art objects, are fairly valued at \$7,000,000. Mr. Morgan desired to bring this stock to the United States, but he has learned that the duty would amount to \$3,000,000. It is pointed out by the Record-Herald's correspondent that recently Mr. Morgan made a statement before the board of assessors that his personal property is not worth more than \$400,000.

AN INTERESTING STATEMENT SHOWING that a large number of the world's most eminent men rose from a humble state is provided by a writer in the New York Press. It is shown by this writer that Euripides was the son of a fruiterer; that Terrence in his early life was a slave; that Virgil's father was a potter or brick-maker; that Horace's father was a freedman; Plautus was a baker. Greathead, bishop of Lincoln in the 13th century, began his career as a beggar, but his powerful talents adorned his brow with a miter. Luther was the son of a poor miner, Zwingli of a shepherd and Calvin's father was not distinguished either for affluence or learning. Boccaccio was the natural son of a merchant. Columbus was the son of a weaver and originally a weaver himself. Arkwright was a barber. Bunyan was the son of a traveling tinker. Bloomfield, Gibbon, Gifford, Linnaeus, Lackington, Dr. Carey and Roger Sherman were shoemakers. So was Whittier. Shakespeare was the son of a wool stapler and butcher, Cowley of a grocer.

ACCORDING TO THIS SAME AUTHOR-ity, Milton was the son of a scrivener. Ben Jonson was the son of a mason; Fletcher was the son of a chandler; Pope was the son of a linen draper; Collins was the son of a hatter; Beattie and Butler were the sons of farmers; Akenside and Henry Kirk White were the sons of butchers; Whitehead was the son of a baker; Thomas Moore was the son of a grocer; Gay was apprenticed in early life to a silk mercer; Sir Edward Sugden, Lord Tenterton and Jeremy Taylor were sons of barbers. Dr. Maddox, bishop of Worcester, was the son of a pastry cook. Dr. Milner was a weaver. Sir Samuel Romily was the son of a goldsmith. Richardson, the gifted writer, and Benjamin Franklin, the philosopher, were printers. John Hunter was the son of a carpenter and Scott, the commentator, of a glazier. Ferguson, the astronomer, was a shepherd in his youth. Defoe was a hosier and son of a butcher. Dymond, author of "Principles of Morality," was a linen draper and traded or wrote according as he had or had not customers. Woods, Curran, Jeffrey Brydges, Atkins and Lord Ellenborough were all the sons of humble tradesmen. Amyot was the son of a currier, Rabelais of an apothecary, Voiture of a tax-gatherer, Lamotte of a hatter, Massillon of a turner, Grienault of a baker, Moliere of a tapestry-maker, Rousseau of a watchmaker and Rollin of a herdsman. Claude Lorraine was a pastry cook. Quintin Matsys was a blacksmith. Horne Tooke was the son of a poulterer, which he alluded to when called upon by the proud striplings of Eton to describe himself. "I am," he said, "the son of an eminent turkey merchant." The husband and father of the woman who nursed Michael Angelo were stonemasons, and the chisel was often put in the hands of the child as a plaything.

THE NEWS DISPATCHES UNDER DATE OF March 14 announced that two of the monopolies controlled by John D. Rockefeller sent out dividends aggregating \$21,500,000. The New York correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle says that of this sum \$20,000,000 represents the Stand-

ard Oil dividend for the second quarter of the year, being \$20 for each share of the \$100,000,000 trust, while \$1,500,000 is for dividends to shareholders of the Consolidated Gas company. John D. Rockefeller, who owns \$40,000,000 of Standard Oil stock, will receive a check for \$8,000,000, while his brother William, who owns only \$15,000,000 of the stock, will receive a check for only \$3,000,000. The declaration of the Standard Oil dividends shows that John D. Rockefeller's income from this source alone for the last ninety days has been \$88,888.88 a day. If continued for the rest of the year at this rate he will receive in dividends from Standard Oil for the four quarters \$32,333,333.20.

A YOUNG KENTUCKY LAWYER, CAPTAIN C. C. Calhoun of Lexington, has recently grown rich from a single fee. Captain Calhoun, as the special attorney for the state of Kentucky, recently delivered to the state authorities a certified check on the United States treasury for \$1,323,999.85. The Louisville correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle says: "He got the money due to the state for equipping union soldiers during the civil war. A year ago Captain Calhoun, a poor, but bright young lawyer, appeared before Governor Beckham and said that much money was due the state from the government. The governor said: 'All right, Calhoun, I'll appoint you to represent the state and if you collect you may get a fee of 10 per cent.' Young Calhoun was without funds, but he set to work at his task and spent many months in Washington looking through musty records of the civil war claims. After weeks of tedious work he secured facts and guides which proved that the government did owe the commonwealth of Kentucky the amount named. He then set to work to have the claim allowed. The proof was so positive that he succeeded in having the claim included in the general deficiency bill, which was passed by congress and signed by the president last week, and Captain Calhoun's fee, which will be paid to him at once, will amount to \$132,400. Captain Calhoun has just married and will purchase a big blue grass farm near Lexington. He will continue to practice law, however."

MILLER REESE HUTCHINSON, A YOUNG Alabaman, has recently won fame because of his efforts in behalf of the deaf. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune says that by means of his invention, Mr. Hutchinson enabled three children who were deaf, dumb, and blind to hear a pianist play Sousa's marches. A phonograph repeated the sounds and the sounds of their own voices uttering the words "mamma," "papa," and "hello," in quavering childish treble. The experiments were made at the laboratory of Mr. Hutchinson and were witnessed by many persons. The invention consists, primarily, of a transmitter, an ear piece, and a small electric battery. By means of these instruments sound is projected into the ear in a manner to simulate the auditory nerve. The volume of sound has nothing to do with the action of these instruments. The penetrating quality of the electric sound wave apparently disregards the mechanism of the outer ear and affects the inner ear direct. The first patient brought out to try the effects of the invention was Orris Benson, who is blind, deaf, and dumb. A physician tried to make him hear in various ways, but all his efforts were in vain. The little instrument was then clapped to the lad's ear, the current switched on, and Mr. Hutchinson said in an ordinary conversational tone, "papa." The youth worked his fingers rapidly in the sign language. The current was made stronger. The youth's eyeballs were raised and he smiled. Then he tried to repeat the syllables and in a weird treble cried shrilly, "pah-pah."

THE LOT OF THE ELGIN (ILL.) CLERGY-men is not a happy one, if the story related by the Elgin correspondent of the Chicago Tribune is to be relied upon. This correspondent says that "Elgin has a man who does not allow a minister while preaching a sermon to make mis-statements or misquotations from the Bible. The name of this man is Fred Troestle, and on several occasions he has created a scene in some of the most fashionable churches in Elgin. Troestle is a regular attendant at church, and a close listener. Whenever he hears the preacher making a statement in which he does not coincide he rises in his seat and tells the good man in the pulpit that he has made a mistake. It is related that one time the church people invited an eminent divine from Boston to occupy the pulpit temporarily, and the first day he preached Troestle was on hand, and promptly took issue with him on

a matter of Biblical history. Of course, the man was gently led from the church."

ON ONE OCCASION IT IS RELATED THAT when this faithful censor of the pulpit attended a lecture delivered by a well-known speaker, Troestle insisted upon making a few supplementary remarks at the conclusion of the address by way of correction of some of the statements made. One of the police officers of Elgin is in the habit of joining the choir at one of the Elgin churches, and Troestle has on several occasions appeared and "cut in," notwithstanding the presence of the minion of the law. Once the man was sent to the insane asylum at Elgin, but the superintendent claimed that the odd character was not insane, turned him loose, and he was never sent back. No one seems to know how he manages to survive, but he is always fairly well dressed, and will disappear for weeks, only to suddenly turn up in some church to take issue with the minister.

A DOG IS AN INDISPENSABLE ADJUNCT OF the German army. According to the Berlin correspondent of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, instructions were recently issued by the German war department relating to the employment of dogs in field service. These instructions provide that every infantry company must have at least two thoroughly trained dogs, but every battalion is not to have more than twelve. They must be thoroughbreds and of the best pedigrees. Hitherto Alredale terriers have been used, but experiments are being continued with German bird dogs. Provision is made for the training of the dogs to begin at the earliest age possible indoors and later in the field, where a dog must intelligently understand orders, like going forward to a vedette post or returning to headquarters, must give warning of the approach of strangers and must keep absolutely quiet at a whispered command to do so. The chief service of the dogs is keeping up rapid communication between the vedette posts themselves and also the posts and headquarters.

THE DEATH OF GENERAL BOURIUS, WHICH occurred recently at Versailles, recalls the assassination of the late President Carnot. General Bourius was riding with President Carnot and at the president's suggestion the general permitted the escort to be withdrawn. The tragedy resulted. The Paris correspondent of the Chicago Inter-Ocean says that Bourius was a broken-hearted man ever since that. When President Casimir-Perier pressed him to continue his functions at the Elysee palace Bourius declined, left Paris, and took up his residence in Versailles, where his existence ended in darkness and gloom.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL BE PAR-ticularly interested in a Paris cablegram under date of March 14 to the Chicago Inter-Ocean. This cablegram follows: The balance sheet of the state monopolies in matches and tobacco shows that the state realized a profit of \$4,472,649 on the manufacture of thirty-eight milliards of matches. The receipts from tobacco were \$8,300,000, of which \$6,650,000 were net profit. It is estimated that the average expenditure for tobacco and cigars per capita was \$2.20. In Paris the average was \$3.85.

THE CENSUS DEPARTMENT HAS RECENT-ly issued a bulletin concerning the geographical distribution of the population of the United States. According to this bulletin, nearly 96 per cent of the total population live in the country drained by the Atlantic ocean; over 53 per cent in that drained by the Gulf of Mexico; 44 per cent in the drainage area of the Mississippi river; almost 10 per cent in the area drained by the great lakes; 4 per cent on the Pacific coast, and half of 1 per cent in the Great basin. The proportion living within the region drained to the Atlantic ocean is steadily diminishing, while the part drained to the Gulf of Mexico is becoming relatively more populous, as is the case, in a still more marked degree, in the Great basin and the Pacific ocean region. Of the foreign born, 93 per cent live in the region drained to the Atlantic ocean, 36.4 per cent in the region drained to the Gulf of Mexico, and 15 per cent in that drained to the great lakes. The proportion in the region drained by the Pacific ocean is 6.1 per cent. Out of every 1,000 negroes, 998 are found in the regions drained to the Atlantic ocean and 61.4 per cent are in the lands drained to the Gulf of Mexico, the proportion in the west and on the Pacific coast being trifling.