

two statesmen, one of whom always refused titles while dispensing them to others, while the other used all the means at his command to impress the public with pageantry and whatever else might tend to encourage British admiration for the throne and the privileged classes. There were no ceremonies at the unveiling."

IT IS ASSERTED BY REV. DR. IRSKINE N. White, secretary of the Presbyterian board of church erection, that there are built and dedicated every day in the year fifteen church buildings in the United States. Other authorities who do not agree with Dr. White say that the number per day will not exceed 12. It is estimated also that between \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000 annually is spent for new church buildings in the United States.

THE CHARGE MADE BY A EUROPEAN NAVAL officer that a low morale exists in the United States navy, prompted Secretary Moody to cause to be made an investigation concerning desertions covering the years 1876-'77-'78 and 1887-'88-'89 and 1901 and 1902. The conclusions of this investigation are stated as follows: Marked changes in the total strength of the enlisted personnel and accompanied by an increase in the percentage of desertion. Active efforts to secure the maximum strength is accompanied by an increase in the percentage of desertion. The year following a period of active enlistment, when the enlistment work has returned to its normal, the percentage of desertions decreases. The maximum percentage of desertion under peace conditions was a little less than 17 per cent; the minimum a little over 9 per cent; and the normal between 11 and 12 per cent. In 1876 the percentage of desertions was 16; in 1877, 11.6; in 1878, 9; in 1887, 9.2; in 1888, 13.4; in 1889, 9.1; in 1891, 16.8; in 1892, 15.2; in 1893, 15.2; in 1894, 10.2; in 1895, 10.1; in 1896, 11.5; in 1897, 12.8; in 1898, 5.7; in 1899, 13.9; in 1900, 14.7; in 1901, 16.7; in 1902, 14.1. There has been a steady decrease in the desertions since 1902. In March, 1903, there was an increase of 33 per cent in enlistment and but a 5 per cent increase in the desertions.

ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING FIGURES in the national capital was the blind chaplain of the United States senate, William Henry Milburn, who died in California on April 10. When Mr. Milburn was five years of age the sight of one eye was destroyed. The sight of the other eye gradually grew dimmer and twenty years later this clergyman was totally blind. At the age of fifteen he located with his parents at Jacksonville, Ill., and at the age of twenty became a traveling preacher under the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1845 when but twenty-two years of age, Mr. Milburn was elected chaplain of the house of representatives. In 1893 he was chosen chaplain of the senate.

THE GROSS INCREASE IN RAILWAY EARNINGS for the year 1901 amounted to \$110,000,000. It is now said that the total gross earnings of the railroads for about 200,000 miles of road in 1902 were \$1,700,000,000, which would represent an increase over 1901 in the neighborhood of \$105,000,000. A writer in the Chicago Record-Herald says that "twenty-three railway systems show gross increases of \$1,000,000 or more, from the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis with \$1,006,137 to the Pennsylvania with \$17,418,000. Only nine railroads show decreases, and these total \$9,812,000. During the past twenty years gross earnings of United States railroads have more than doubled. For 1882 gross income aggregated \$770,356,762, and for 1892 \$1,171,407,343, increase in that decade amounting to \$401,050,581. For the decade ending 1902 the increase was \$540,337,851. During the latter decade mileage increased from about 145,000 miles to about 200,000 and gross earnings from about \$5,000 per mile to over \$9,000."

IT IS THOUGHT BY THIS SAME WRITER to be worthy of note that during the past three years increase in capitalization have more than kept pace with increases in gross earnings. The total capitalization of American railways, according to the recent report of the interstate commerce commission made to the senate, is \$11,724,035,829 par value, which is \$223,000,869 in excess of the figures of 1901, while the latter year showed an increase over 1900 of \$357,080,062. If the present rate of increase is maintained 1903 will exceed 1902 by as great a figure. These increases in capitalization have had their effect upon net earnings, which have not always shown

increases in keeping with gross increases. A recent symposium of railroad presidents headed by A. J. Cassatt discloses their unanimous belief that gross earnings this year will equal that of last. Net earnings, however, may show a decrease, due to increased cost of operation, labor and materials. The declaration of the railroad presidents that there is sufficient traffic in sight now to insure at least three years more of prosperity is especially gratifying, coming as it does from a source vitally interested in knowing the facts.

BUTTE'S GREAT WEALTH IS THE SUBJECT of an interesting article in the Century magazine. In this article it is pointed out that more wealth is produced in Butte city every year than in some whole states. The revenue from the mines—some \$55,000,000—is equal to the income of the government of Holland. The recent great progress in every department of electrical development has been made possible in large degree by the energy of these men in Butte. For the city and its environs now produce a quarter of the world's entire product of copper, about two-fifths that of the United States. A single group of mines in the heart of the city—the Anaconda—yields more than twice as much copper yearly as all Germany. Nor is the treasure confined to copper. Butte is the greatest silver producing center in the United States, its annual output—some \$13,000,000—being nearly equal to that of the entire state of Colorado, which, next to Montana, has the largest production of all the states. And of gold Butte still yields considerably over a million dollars yearly.

THAT THE FIRST REAL STEP TOWARD lightening the labor of children as they climb the ladder of learning was the product of the imagination, not of some fond mother or gentle woman teacher, but of a bewigged and be-titled university doctor, is an interesting fact presented by a writer in the Household Magazine. According to this writer three hundred years ago children were taught to read "by force of arms, so to speak, through hardships and with bitter toil on the part of the teacher. It was Johann Comenius, however, who first conceived the daring idea that children could be taught by the aid of the memory and the imagination working together. 'By means,' he quaintly expressed it, 'of sensuous impressions conveyed to the eye, so that visual objects may be made the medium of expressing moral lessons to the young mind and of impressing those lessons upon the memory.' In other words, the good Herr Doctor had the bright idea that picture books could be useful to children. Comenius made his first picture book and called it the 'Orbis Pictus.' It contains rude wood cuts representing objects in the natural world, as trees and animals, with little lessons about the pictures. It is a quaint volume, and one that would cause the average modern child not a little astonishment were it placed before him. As truly, however, as that term may be applied to any other book that has since been written 'Orbis Pictus' was an epoch-making book. It is the precursor of all children's picture books, and modern childhood has great cause to bless the name of Comenius."

AN INTERESTING STORY RELATING TO the intelligence displayed by a dog is related by the Lovelock, Nev., correspondent for the New York American. According to this story, William White, a miner, started on a prospecting trip and travelled through a long canyon until he came to the mouth of a tunnel. The interior of the cave was dark, and as he walked inside he did not notice a shaft forty-five feet deep in front of him. He fell into the aperture and did not regain consciousness until several hours later, when it was dark. His dog remained on guard at the mouth of the tunnel all night long. When day came White looked about for a means of escape. He found none, and settled down to die of starvation and thirst. Calling to the dog he bade it go in search of help as a last resort. The animal bounded off, and an hour later rushed into Cottonwood panting and exhausted. Its actions indicated that something was wrong, and it seemed to urge some one to follow it. The animal would not rest until a party was trailing along after it in the direction of the pit. White was rescued several hours later by means of a rope.

IN THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT SERIES of the forthcoming volume of foreign relations of the United States, appears a note addressed to the state department by Mr. Powell,

United States minister to Santo Domingo, telling of the courtesies extended to General Maximo Gomez on the occasion of the visit of the Cuban soldier to Santo Domingo. As a testimonial of their regard for the general, the minister said they allowed him to view "one of their sacred treasures by exposing to him the casket containing the bones of Christopher Columbus and permitting him to handle the same." The Associated press says: "The relics are contained in a casket eighteen by ten inches and twelve inches deep, and this was the fifth time they had been exposed to public view, the minister said. In the box, he added, was a bullet said to have been embedded in the leg of the discoverer and which was never extracted. They claim from this evidence that the present relics are the mortal remains of the early discoverer. The minister added that he was permitted to hold some of the relics in his own hands."

THE TOWN OF LAFAYETTE, COLO., ENJOYS the distinction of having a bank presided over by woman. The president of this bank is Mrs. Mary A. Miller, and she is said to be the only bank president in the country. The Lafayette correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, referring to this bank president, says: "She is practically owner as well as manager. The offices in the institution are kept in the family, for Mrs. Miller's son George is vice president, her son James cashier, and his wife, Elizabeth, assistant cashier and paying teller. Mrs. Miller moved into Colorado with her husband in 1863, traveling by ox team, and taking into the state the first threshing machine. Mr. Miller died in 1878. When coal was discovered on her land in 1887 Mrs. Miller became a rich woman. She leases the mines to the operators and invests her large revenues through her bank. Mrs. Miller is regarded as the foremost business woman in the state."

ST. PETER'S CHAPEL IN THE TOWER OF London is said by a writer in the Sphere to have more sad memories than any other place in London. This writer says that in St. Peter's chapel the head and body of the Duke of Monmouth were placed under the communion table after his execution in 1685. Within four years the pavement of the chancel was again disturbed, and hard by the remains of Monmouth were laid the remains of Jeffreys. Macaulay, in recording the fact, wrote an eloquent description of the chapel. In truth, there is no sadder spot on earth than that little cemetery. "Death is there associated—not as in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's with genius and virtue, with public veneration and imperishable renown; not as in our humblest churches and churchyards with everything that is most endearing in social and domestic charities—but with whatever is darkest in human nature and human destiny, with the savage triumph of implacable enemies, with the inconstancy, the ingratitude, the cowardice of friends, with all the miseries of fallen greatness and of blighted fame."

"THROUGH SUCCESSIVE AGES, BY THE rude hands of jailers without one mourner following," according to this same authority, "the bleeding relics of men who had been the captains of armies, the leaders of parties, the oracles of the senate, the ornaments of courts, were carried to St. Peter's. Thither was borne, before the window where Jane Grey was praying, the mangled corpse of Gullford Dudley, Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset and Protector of the realm, reposes there by the brother whom he murdered. There has mouldered away the headless trunk of John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester and Cardinal of St. Vitalis, a man worthy to have lived in a better age and to have died in a better cause. There are laid John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, Lord High Admiral; Thomas Cromwell and Earl of Essex, Lord High Treasurer. There, too, is another Essex, on whom nature and fortune had lavished all their bounties in vain, and whom valor, grace, genius, royal favor, popular applause, conducted to an early and ignominious doom. Not far off sleep two chiefs of the great house of Howard—Thomas, fourth Duke of Norfolk, and Philip, eleventh Earl of Arundel. Here and there among the thick graves of unquiet and aspiring statesmen lie more delicate sufferers; Margaret of Salisbury, and those two fair queens who perished by the jealous rage of Henry. Such was the dust with which the dust of Monmouth mingled." In a note he adds: "I cannot refrain from expressing my disgust at the barbarous stupidity which has transformed this most interesting little church into the likeness of a meeting house in a manufacturing town."