

hope. After the civil war was over the new government sent him to Germany to study military matters. When he returned to Japan he took a leading part in reorganizing the Japanese soldiery on the European model. Practically he is the creator of the modern Japanese army. During the Chino-Japanese war he had the opportunity of leading his men to battle and discovered that the trouble he had taken to train them had not been thrown away. He marched his army through Korea to Manchuria, winning dozens of victories on the way. His name became a terror throughout that country. When he got back to Japan nothing was good enough for him. He was the idol of the people, and all kinds of honors were showered upon him. General Katsura believes that the Japanese soldiers are the best in the world, and says that he would not fear the result if he had to lead them against any white troops."

A NUMBER OF BAPTIST COLLEGES APPEAR to have joined with those who object to receiving contributions from the Standard Oil magnate. A dispatch to the Chicago Inter-Ocean, under date of Alton, Ill., January 2, says: "John D. Rockefeller and the American Baptist Education society of 111 Fifth avenue, New York, have clashed, it became known here today, with the result that a number of Baptist colleges will hereafter decline to receive the donations which may be offered by the oil king. The society was organized several years ago, with President A. G. Slocum of Kalamazoo college, Kalamazoo, Mich., as president, and the Rev. H. L. Morehouse of 111 Fifth avenue, New York, as secretary. The society has superintended the gifts to the Baptist colleges in the United States. Since its organization Mr. Rockefeller has been one of its chief patrons. Recently some of the Baptist leaders have offered protests against the use of Mr. Rockefeller's money for such purposes, upon the ethical ground that the money came from a trust that wrung it from the poor people. The result was a clash with Mr. Rockefeller, which was also said to be one of the principal reasons for the recent resignation of Secretary Morehouse."

THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE mint shows the approximate distribution by producing states and territories of the products of gold and silver of the United States for the year 1903. The showing is as follows:

State or Territory—	Gold.	Silver—Commercial value.
Alabama	\$ 5,085	\$ 28
Alaska	6,921,157	16,540
Arizona	4,784,000	1,932,115
California	16,535,525	497,664
Colorado	22,000,000	7,517,812
Georgia	63,752	202
Idaho	2,067,183	3,915,000
Maryland	620
Michigan	39,832
Montana	4,134,367	5,400,000
Nevada	3,576,227	2,376,000
New Mexico	372,093	151,200
North Carolina	97,571	4,784
Oregon	1,364,341	67,500
South Carolina	102,573	145
South Dakota	2,889,137	179,965
Tennessee	41
Utah	5,064,599	8,100,000
Virginia	4,506	301
Washington	434,109	164,700
Wyoming	17,075	224
Totals	\$74,425,340	\$30,520,688

ACCORDING TO THE MINT DIRECTOR'S report, the principal increase and decrease for the year are shown as follows: Alaska, gold, decrease, \$1,424,000; silver, decrease, \$32,000. These decreases are due to the season in which running water was available being about a month shorter than other recent years. Colorado's gold decrease is \$6,468,000; silver, decrease, \$791,000. These decreases were due to the miners' strike, which greatly interfered with production. Idaho's gold increase is \$592,000; silver, increase, \$812,000. Nevada's gold increase is \$621,000; silver, increase, \$391,000. Montana's gold decrease is \$245,000; silver, decrease, \$1,619,000. Utah's gold increase is \$1,470,000; silver, increase, \$2,360,000. Washington's gold increase is \$162,000; silver, decrease, \$164,000. South Dakota's gold decrease is \$4,076,000, and Oregon's gold decrease is \$452,000. A total net decrease is shown in the gold production of \$5,575,000, and a net increase of \$1,100,000 in the production of silver.

THE ELECTION OF A WOMAN TO THE presidency of a railroad company is reported by the Chicago Inter-Ocean. A correspondent for that paper, under date of Colfax, Ia.,

January 2, says: "Mrs. T. M. Hooper was elected president of the Colfax Northern Railroad company today, succeeding her late husband, who controlled the stock of the road until his death a few weeks ago. The road is only twelve miles long, but handles a large coal tonnage, and is very valuable. Mrs. Hooper announces it will probably be doubled in length this year, opening up a large additional coal territory. It is a connection of the Chicago Great Western."

PARIS NEWSPAPERS ARE COMMENTING ON the unanimity of astrologers, magicians and clairvoyants in predicting a year of horrors for 1904. The Paris correspondent for the Chicago Inter-Ocean presents a sample of these predictions in this way: A leading astrologer named Jacob sizes up the situation as follows, and the others agree more or less as to detail: "Here is the horoscope for 1904, made at the moment the sun entered the sign of Capricorn: It indicates a year of great immorality in London. The viceroy of India abdicates. The United States has grave quarrels with Russia and Germany. Roosevelt falls sick and a conspiracy is hatched against him. Serious financial disasters visit America. The emperor of Japan has a grave accident. An attempt is made upon the life of the emperor of China. Volcanic shocks afflict Constantinople, Chili, and the Philippines. A fear of unhealthy literature and unlimited materialism arises. The French cabinet falls between April 7 and 19. A panic in a music hall, grave accidents, and popular disturbances visit Russia. An attempt is made to poison the czar. Serious dissensions appear between Russia and Austria. Great Britain loses prestige. The campaign in Thibet falls through. Tremendous failures occur in Calcutta and the Transvaal. Anarchistic troubles develop in Spain, the government being threatened. In China women are massacred. Everywhere are crimes of passion, mysterious deaths, and strange phenomena. Nineteen hundred and four is an anagram of 1409, the date of the birth of Joan of Arc. This year a wonderful child will be born with a high destiny, showing its power in 1924, an anagram of 1429, the date of the apogee of Joan of Arc."

AN INTERESTING ARTICLE ON AN interesting current topic recently appeared in the Washington Post. This article was entitled "History Repeats Itself After Two Decades," and made a comparison of the political history and progress of President Arthur and President Roosevelt. The Post says: "In June, 1880, an Ohio man, James A. Garfield, who had been conspicuous in the lower house of congress, was nominated by the republicans for president. A New York man, Chester A. Arthur, was nominated for vice president. Soon after his inauguration, President Garfield was assassinated. Vice President Arthur became president. President Arthur soon had to deal with corruption in the postal service. Discord arose among the republicans of New York state. President Arthur made no secret of the fact that he desired the nomination in 1884. President Arthur had the support of the New York leaders. The convention of 1884 was called to meet at Chicago in June. The situation in New York state gave concern to the republican leaders. The democrats went to New York state for their presidential candidate. President Arthur was defeated for the republican nomination. In June, 1900, an Ohio man, William McKinley, who had been conspicuous in the lower house of congress, was nominated by the republicans for president. A New York man, Theodore Roosevelt, was nominated for vice president. Soon after his inauguration President McKinley was assassinated. Vice President Roosevelt became president. President Roosevelt soon had to deal with corruption in the postal service. Discord arose among the republicans of New York state. President Roosevelt has made no secret of the fact that he desires the nomination in 1904. President Roosevelt has the support of the New York leaders. The convention of 1904 has been called to meet at Chicago in June. The situation in New York gives concern to the republican leaders. The democrats are looking to New York state for their presidential candidate. Will President Roosevelt be defeated for the republican nomination?"

THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, speaking through Chief Justice Fuller, delivered an opinion January 4 in a case involving the question whether Porto Ricans are entitled to free entry into the United States. In 1902 the authorities at the port of New York refused to admit a Porto Rican woman, Gonzales by name, on the ground that she was likely to become a public charge. In the opinion delivered by Chief Justice Fuller, it is held that the Porto Ricans owing al-

legiance to the United States, and to no other government, are therefore entitled to enter the United States at their pleasure. Referring to the act of 1900, creating a civil government for Porto Rico, the court said that the woman was a citizen of Porto Rico under that act and adds, "There was nothing expressed in the act nor reasonably to be implied therefrom to indicate the intention of congress that citizens of Porto Rico should be considered as aliens and the right of free access denied to them."

IN THIS OPINION, THE SUPREME COURT says that the question is not one of citizenship, but rather one of alienage. Chief Justice Fuller says: "We are not required to discuss the power of congress in the premises, or the contention of Gonzales' counsel that the cession of Porto Rico accomplished the naturalization of the people, or that of Commissioner Degatau that a citizen of Porto Rico is necessarily a citizen of the United States. The question is the narrow one whether Gonzales was an alien within the meaning of that term as used in the act of 1891. We think it clear that that act relates to foreigners as respects this country, to persons giving allegiance to a foreign government, and citizens or subjects thereof, and that citizens of Porto Rico, whose permanent allegiance is due to the United States, are not aliens, and upon their arrival by water at the ports of our mainland are not 'alien immigrants' within the intent and meaning of the act of 1891."

COMMENTING UPON THIS DECISION, THE Indianapolis News says that while the opinion is a righteous one, "it must have taken a good deal of ingenuity to reach it." The News points out that "the court has held that we have the right to impose taxes on the trade of these people who owe allegiance to the United States—taxes that are supposed to be levied only on foreign trade. Now it is said that the Porto Ricans are not foreigners, though we taxed their trade as foreign trade. Under the Porto Rican act the people of Porto Rico are not citizens of the United States, but of Porto Rico—and yet Porto Rico is a part of the United States, and the Porto Ricans, though not citizens of the United States, nevertheless owe allegiance to it."

DOUBTLESS THERE WILL BE VERY general agreement with the opinion of this Indiana newspaper that "clearly one result of our oversea acquisitions is to introduce a good deal of metaphysics into the body of our law." The News says that there are many things suggested by this decision on which the court did not pass. For instance, how could the Porto Ricans become citizens? They did not become citizens by annexation—at least congress did not intend that they should. Probably a Porto Rican moving to the United States would have to be naturalized. Yet he could not swear allegiance to the United States, for that he already owes—according to this decision. He could not renounce allegiance to another sovereign, for there is no other sovereign. But we can all be content to know that the Porto Ricans are not foreigners, and that they can come to this country whenever they please. At least they have the right of locomotion throughout our national domain. Not being citizens, and yet owing allegiance, can it be said that they are subjects?

IN A RECENT ISSUE, THE COMMONER RE- produced from the Chicago Chronicle an article claiming that the house in which Andre, the British officer, who was executed as a spy during the revolutionary war, yet stands in the little village of Tappan, near the border line between New York and New Jersey, and about twenty-five miles from New York city. In this article Andre was referred to as a major general and it was said that he was shot. Several readers of The Commoner have written to correct this plain error. Andre was hanged at Tappan, October 2, 1780. He was not a major general, but held the rank of major. One correspondent who directs attention to this error advances the opinion that Benedict Arnold who betrayed his country and with whom Andre, who was merely serving his country, was co-operating, should have met the fate meted out to the unfortunate British officer.

IN SPITE OF THE ASSURANCE GIVEN TO the New York World by the Russian minister, it is reported that on January 5 a mob bent upon a general massacre was raised in Kishineff. The police were able, however, to suppress the riot, although a number of Jewish residents were attacked, many of them being knocked down and trampled upon in the streets.