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The War in Brief

SUMMARY OF THE
EUROPEAN WAR
FOR ONE WEEK READ AT A GLANCE

November 23.—Great battles are under way between the Vistula and the Warta, in Russian Poland, with Gen. von Hindenburg and Grand Duke Nicholas as opposing commanders, and on the Cracow-Czenstochowa front Petrograd reports meekly that the fighting continues (but from Vienna comes an official statement that the Austrian attack on the Russian army in the latter district is progressing favorably and that northeast of Czenstochowa two Russian battalions have surrendered.

Latest official reports from Flanders and France indicate that the opposing armies, except at isolated points, were resting, possibly because winter has interfered with active operations on an extensive scale. The French war office reports quiet at all points except in the Woerthe district, where the Germans, who made five attacks in mass in two hours were checked by French artillery fire.

The Socialists in Copenhagen, who are in touch with the Socialists in Berlin, estimate the men engaged on the Russo-German frontiers at 7,000,000, of whom 3,000,000 are Germans and Austrians and 4,000,000 are Russians.

The Italian newspapers print dispatches from Syria and Palestine, saying the Turks and Germans are making strenuous efforts to induce the population of Egypt to rebel against Great Britain.

Two sons of Gen. Christian DeWit, leader of rebel forces in South Africa, have surrendered to a magistrate, according to a Reuter dispatch from Cape Town.

November 22.—Two big battles both of which may have decisive results, are raging in Poland and a third of almost equal importance is progressing in East Prussia.

Of the three battles that now at its height, between the Vistula and Warta in which the Russians claim partial success is exciting the most interest.

Weather conditions, the frozen ground and the situation of the battle field favor a battle decisive to a degree not yet attained on any other field.

In East Prussia the Russian advance is moving slowly through the country surrounding Mazurian lakes. In Galicia fighting is continuing as the attack on Przemyśl is said to be developing in a manner to indicate the end is near.

All that region about Dixmude through which Yser flows is inundated and fighting appears to be taking place south of Ypres, where cannonading is in progress.

There has been no important action on the French front, but in the Aronne region the Germans have made vigorous attacks which the French say were repulsed.

On the French right the Germans have retaken Chauvencourt, part of which they destroyed a few days ago. German activity in the vicinity of Rheims has slackened.

November 21.—"Particularly quiet," is the description of operations in the Western zone given by the French war zone, although the usual artillery duels and attacks by infantry at various places were in progress. That Le-Val, a short distance northeast of Paris and at the crook of the elbow of the western battle front, was the scene of the principal infantry attacks. Here the French reported they held back a German attempt to capture the town, inflicting heavy casualties.

As for the East Petrograd has admitted a big reverse in Poland—a reverse in which the Russian armies have been pushed back at least 50 miles from the German border towards Warsaw—but Berlin remains reticent.

"In the Eastern theatre the newly commenced battles are proceeding," is all the German war office says. A semi-official report says: "Reasons of strategy prevent disclosure of troop movements." That these movements are "proceeding" is taken to mean that the Germans are still pressing against the Russians in an endeavor to drive them back into the Russian territory occupied a short time ago.

Along the East Prussian border the Muscovites claim they are continuously pressing forward and making inroads into German territory. Here also Germany makes claims.

November 20.—While all along the fighting lines in France and Belgium and in East Prussia, Russian Poland and Galicia, fierce fighting continues and engagements have been won and lost at various places, no where has a decisive result been achieved.

In the West the same ding-dong fighting that has been proceeding for weeks along the entrenched line that extends from the North sea to the Swiss frontier is being waged—here an artillery duel, there an infantry attack—with lines, however, remaining but slightly changing.

In the East the battling is more in the nature of field operations. Here claims of victories are made by both the Teuton allies and the Russians and the Russians admit at least one defeat, near Bzoune, Poland. Petro-

grad says that there the Germans forced back the Muscovite troops and gained a foothold near Lenczyca and Orton.

Along the East Prussian frontier, however, Petrograd declares the Russians have made successive advances and claims that in Galicia they have captured the passes of the Carpathian mountains through which the Austrians would be forced to wend their way back into Austria in case of a decisive defeat. According to Berlin the Russians were forced to retreat near Souldau.

From Petrograd, however, comes the statement that a terrific battle of unexampled violence has been proceeding for four days around Souldau, the Russians endeavoring to avenge their former reverses at this place, throwing themselves upon the Germans with indescribable fury and carrying position after position by assault, despite the internal fire of the Germans.

November 19.—A launch from the United States cruiser, Tennessee, which was entering the Gulf of Smyrna to arrange for the cruiser to come into the harbor, was fired upon by the forts and compelled to return to the Tennessee.

Undeterred by wintry weather and floods, the Germans are still striving to break down the allies' defense along the Franco-Belgian frontier. Although the Berlin official report says the day was quiet there has been an almost continuous artillery duel, with occasional infantry attacks, but apparently without either side making progress.

The line from the coast to Nieuport, which has been receiving less attention since the Germans began trying to force the British out of Ypres, again has been subjected to a violent bombardment. South of Dixmude the Germans have been trying, under fire from the allies' cannon, to build works to check the flood which compelled them to evacuate part of their trenches.

In Galicia Emperor Nicholas' troops are driving the Austrians southward and westward and have engaged their rear guards at Dukla, at the foot of the Carpathian mountains.

The Servians and Montenegrins continue to fall back before large Austrian forces. It is stated from Vienna that Belgrade again is about to be attacked.

General Botha, commander of the Union of South Africa forces, again has been engaged with General De Wet's rebel commanders, but the final result of the battle is not yet known.

November 18.—According to information given officially to the press today, reports reaching Berlin from Geneva set forth that the British torpedo boat destroyer Falcon, the cruiser Brilliant and the sloop of war Rinaldo, have been disabled by German guns on the Belgian coast.

The Russians on the border of East Prussia are reported marching through snow, clad in sheep skin jackets similar to those the Japanese first wore in Manchouria. Blizzards have swept the trenches in Belgium and northern France, bringing great suffering. A large area of west Flanders around Dixmude has been flooded by the heavy rains.

If the Germans have abandoned their furious battering ram efforts to thrust back the allies' lines and reach Calais, their failure will constitute a distinct victory for the allies, it is asserted here, because the allies have not tried to accomplish more than to hold their own on the defensive.

Petrograd reports the Russian campaign developing favorably in east Prussia. From other sources it is reported the inhabitants are feeling before the menace of a second invasion.

On the Polish frontier and in Galicia two enormous armies are massing for a battle which may decide the fortunes of the war in the east.

The possibility is being discussed that the Austrians may abandon Cracow without defence rather than submit the city to a destructive bombardment.

November 17.—The admiralty announces the success of operations against the Turkish garrison of Sheikh Said on the Strait of Bab-El-Mandeb, at the entrance of the Gulf of Aden, and of the occupation of the Turkish forts at Turba by Indian troops, assisted by the British cruiser Duke of Edinburgh.

In some parts of England the storm has become a blizzard; on the sea a heavy gale rages; and the battlefields are getting their full share of wind and rain.

For the most part the opposing armies have been content to shell each other at long range, but the Germans have made several attacks around Ypres, according to the French general staff, have been repulsed with heavy losses.

A battle of some proportion is going on between the Russians and Turks at Kopruckeei, in the Caucasus the result of which may have a marked bearing on the war in that part of the world. Elsewhere in the near East, there has been no engagement of importance.

AUSTRIANS DEFEAT
ARMY OF RUSSIA

TAKE 15,000 SOLDIERS IN EN-
GAGEMENT IN POLAND IS THE
REPORT.

BIG BATTLE IN PROGRESS

Turks Meet Russians Near Return
and Win Fight With Heavy Dam-
age to Enemy.

The greatest activity of the warring factions still appears to be centered along the front in Russian Poland between the Vistula and Warthe Rivers, where the Germans are endeavoring to press back the Russians to Warsaw. What the exact situation there is, however, has not been divulged. Both Berlin and Petrograd admit that violent fighting continues. Berlin says there is no change in the situation while Petrograd declares the Russians have obtained "some partial successes."

In the contests farther south in Poland and in Galicia a similar state of affairs apparently exists. Vienna declares the Austrian troops have captured 15,000 prisoners in lower Poland and that an important battle is proceeding near Donajes, Galicia, and in the Carpathians.

It is claimed also that two Russian battalions surrendered northwest of Czenstochowa and that the Austrians have resumed the offensive on the Cracow-Przemysl line. Petrograd says that on the front of Czenstochowa that of these was upon Ypres where the Berlin official report says the day was quiet there has been an almost continuous artillery duel, with occasional infantry attacks, but apparently without either side making progress.

Turkey, according to Berlin, has inflicted heavy losses on the Russians near Batum, Asiatic Russia. The Turkish cruiser Hamidieh and torpedo boats bombarded Tapse. The Ottoman forces on the Shat-el-Arab River declare they have defeated a British force and that a shot from a Turkish cruiser caused an explosion on a British gunboat.

Vienna reports the Servians resisting the Austrians in well-chosen positions near the Kelubara River which Cracow no essential changes have taken place but that in Galicia the Austrians have evacuated Novy-Sandez.

In the west there has been comparative quiet so far as infantry attacks are concerned but heavy artillery duels continue. The most violent Austrians have crossed. Nish says the Servian retreat before the Austrians is "for strategic reasons."

Russia has mined the Russian littoral of the Black Sea in many places six miles out from the coast.

A news agency dispatch from Holland and the fishermen as declaring that the German fleet is preparing for a decisive action in the North Sea. British aviators have made a daring attempt to blow up the Zeppelin balloon works at Friedrichshafen by dropping bombs. One British aeroplane was brought down by the German guns and an aviator captured.

A Petoria dispatch announces that the rebel general de Wet's force in South Africa again has been defeated. A German steamer has arrived in Buenos Aires with the passengers and crew of a British steamer and the crew of a French ship. It is possible the German commerce destroyers are again having active.

SECURITY IS MAINTAINED.

German Advance Apparently Penetrates Great District into Poland. London.—The veil of secrecy has been drawn over the battles between the Russians and the Austro-German forces. Headquarters of both armies confine themselves to briefest statements, saying merely that fighting continued.

News from unofficial sources, however, shows the German advance has penetrated farther into Poland than previously disclosed. Warsaw is threatened for a second time. General von Hindenburg's army has advanced as far as the Lovicz-Skiernewice line.

The battle in East Prussia seems to have died down but the Russians continue to advance in Galicia and still are fighting on the Czenstochowa-Cracow front.

The battle in Poland in the direction of Lovicz is the most critical one and the Germans have the greatest confidence in the outcome but Petrograd military observers declare Russia's overwhelming superiority in numbers again must tell, as when the Germans made their first attack on Warsaw. In Flanders and in France the armies seem to be enjoying a long-deserved rest.

An eye-witness with British headquarters in a statement made public certain confirmation of heavy German losses at Ypres. He speaks of decimated battalions, of hundreds of dead left before the trenches and of batches of bodies found in farm houses. Casualty lists show that the British forces also have suffered.

The Servians are making a stand against the Austrians in well-chosen fortified positions on the Kolubara River, but as the Austrians command superior forces it seems apparent that unless Balkan States come into the war Serbia is facing defeat.

COTTON MAY PASS
ALL OLD RECORDS

GINNING REPORTS TO CENSUS
BUREAU MAKE NEW RECORD
POSSIBLE.

NOW LARGEST IN HISTORY

Total Ginned to November 14 This
Year Amounts to 11,642,708
Bales.

Washington.—Possibility of this year's cotton crop equaling or perhaps exceeding the greatest crop heretofore grown was indicated in the census bureau's fifth ginning report of the season, which showed the quantity of cotton ginned prior to November 14, was 14,624,708 bales, the largest on record. In the past seven years the average of the entire crop ginned to the end of this period was 75 per cent. On this basis the present crop would seem to be between 15,000,000 and 16,000,000 bales.

The ginning for the period from November 1 to 14 established a record of 1,795,626 bales, exceeding last year by 152,000 bales and 1911 by 458,000 bales. For the season, this year's ginnings exceeded the record by 811,000 bales.

In Alabama, Arkansas, Florida and Oklahoma new records for ginning to November 14 were established. Cotton ginned this year compared with 10,444,529 bales, or 74.7 per cent for the entire crop, ginned prior to November 14 last year, 10,299,646 bales or 76.4 per cent in 1912 and 11,313,236 bales, or 72.7 per cent in 1911. The average quantity of cotton ginned prior to November 14 in the past seven years was 9,406,645 bales or 74.2 per cent of the crop.

Ginnings prior to November 14, in North and South Carolina, with comparisons for the past three years of the entire crop ginned in those states prior to the date in the same year follow:

Table with columns for State, Year, and Spindles. Data for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama for years 1911-1914.

The next ginning report of the census bureau will be issued at 10 a. m. Tuesday, December 8, and will show the quantity of cotton ginned prior to November 30.

TURKEY OFFERS EXPLANATION.

Firing on Boat Was Not Unfriendly
Act But Warning Against Mines.
Washington.—Turkey has explained voluntarily to the United States through Ambassador Morgenthau that shots fired toward the American cruiser Tennessee's launch recently were intended merely as the customary warning that the port of Smyrna was mined and closed to navigation.

Although the explanation is informal it was stated at the White House and the state and navy departments that all danger of serious complications had disappeared.

Ambassador Morgenthau reported that two members of the Ottoman cabinet had fully explained the occurrence and high officials here said his message was filed before instructions sent to him from Washington to discuss the subject officially with the grand vizier could have been received. President Wilson and his cabinet regard the informal explanation as a certain precursor of a satisfactory formal explanation and guarantee by the Turkish government for the protection of Americans and their interests.

Federal Bank Has Quarter Billion. Washington.—The first statement of the condition of the 12 Federal reserve banks was made public by the federal reserve board. It includes operations for the five preceding days and is preliminary to detailed statements hereafter to be issued weekly. Members of the board do not expect rediscounting operations to be as large.

Cash on hand: Gold coin and certificates \$203,415,000; legal tender silver certificates etc. \$37,308,000; total \$240,723,000; rediscounts \$5,697,000; all other assets \$95,000; total \$246,420,000. Capital paid in, \$18,072,000; reserve deposits, \$227,138,000; federal reserve notes in circulation, \$1,215,000; total \$246,420,000. Gold reserve against all liabilities 87 per cent; cash reserve against all liabilities 105 per cent; cash reserve against all liabilities after setting aside 40 per cent gold reserve against federal reserve notes in circulation 105 per cent.

Cotton Prizes Given.

Washington.—Awards in the cotton essay prize contest inaugurated as a part of the campaign to aid the cotton industry were announced. eBroton Dutton, aged 15, of the Mercy Home Industrial school, Birmingham, received first prize, \$20; Abram Robinson, 12, Brooklyn, and John Locke Green, Thomason, Ga. tied for second honors, \$10; Jonathan Daniels, 12, and Frances Vinciguerra, of New York, tied for the third prize.

COTTON MILLS IN
STATE GROWING

SINCE 1896 THERE HAS BEEN
STEADY WAVE OF PROGRESS
IN THIS LINE.

LATE STATE CAPITOL NEWS

Review of the Latest News Gathered
Around the State Capitol That
Will Be of Interest to Our Readers
Over North Carolina.

Raleigh.

While farmers and cotton mill men have been howling ruin and destruction, the Commissioner of Labor and Printing has been getting in real, substantial reports on the cotton mill industry of the state. The report is not quite ready in full yet, but enough of it is, to show a steady growth of the industry during the year.

The temporary lull in the business conditions resultant upon the war cannot be regularly figured up in an average of conditions. It is an artificial condition liable to pass away at any time, bringing in its wake a wonderful avalanche of new business.

According to the figures collected by Commissioner M. L. Shipman there has been an increase in the number of spindles for the state of North Carolina from 1896 to 1914 of 2,815,917. Or, in other words, in the last eighteen years two-thirds of the spindle capacity of the state has been created.

A table has been constructed to show the advance. From 1896 to 1910 there was a steady growth. Not a single year up to that time failed to show a substantial gain over the preceding year. But in 1911 the number of spindles dropped from 3,457,702 to 3,381,703. Then immediately began another steady wave of growth. The onward march passed the 1910 record in 1913 by over 200,000 spindles.

Table showing the number of spindles and looms in North Carolina from 1896 to 1914. Columns include Year, Spindles, and Looms.

Governor Stuart Says Come Ahead.

The threat of Governor Locke Craig to invade Virginia on Thanksgiving Day with his full staff did not phase the Virginia Governor. He stated the "first, furthest and last" propaganda of the Tar Heel delegation in the face and then said, "Come ahead."

He did not use those precise words but that is what he meant. "On my return from my little sojourn in the rural districts of the state, I have your letter informing me of your purpose to honor our state by a visit on the occasion of the football game between the University of North Carolina and the University of Virginia to be played in Richmond on Thanksgiving Day. I am delighted to know that you are going to pay us a visit, and with full knowledge of the dangerous character of North Carolina soldiers as shown by their celebrated first, furthest, and last propaganda, I am going to take down the bars at the state line and take the consequence of the invasion of the unarmed soldiery of the Old North State. We have a warm welcome awaiting you. I shall expect you to be my guest during your stay in this city. I would be glad if you would come up the night before and spend Wednesday with me, as I will be obliged to leave Richmond at eight-thirty on the evening of Thanksgiving Day."

Will Ask More Money for A. & M.

The executive committee of the A. & M. College board of directors met and went over matters in connection with the needs of the college. It was decided to ask the incoming legislature for an increased appropriation for the maintenance of the institution, owing to the increased attendance. The present appropriation is \$85,000 per annum. The committee will ask for a \$10,000 increase for the next two years, \$5,000 each year. The committee will ask for an appropriation to erect two dormitories.

\$140,000 Worth of Revenue Stamps.

Forty thousand dollars worth of revenue stamps were received in the office of Internal Revenue Collector J. W. Bailey. Mr. H. M. London, chief deputy collector stated that during the past several days there has been received into that office in all about \$140,000 worth of stamps. These will be distributed in compliance with the war tax, parts of which went into effect on November 1st, and may be obtained by postmasters in this district from the collector's office, just as in the Spanish American war.

Forest Fire Loss Over Half Million.

As leading up to a yet more formidable campaign in the approaching legislature for advancement in protection in this state against the destructive forest fires that have blighted so many valuable timber regions in recent years, the annual report of forest fires during 1913 by State Forester J. S. Holmes is just issued by the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey.

The report sets out that "fortunately for North Carolina, there is very decided growth of public opinion in favor of fire prevention which will undoubtedly soon result in securing definite assistance from the state," this statement being in accordance with a showing that during the year North Carolina lost through about the same number of fires—600—about 60 times as much timber as did the state of Washington which has a model forest protection system through cooperation with the general government. This in the face of the fact that North Carolina's stand of timber is estimated only one-sixth of that in Washington state.

The report gives in detail the forest fire losses in the mountains, Piedmont and coastal regions of this state with the losses and the cost of fighting fires.

In the mountain region there were 126 fires that burned over 100,350 acres of forest destroying \$30,693 worth of merchantable timber, \$76,425 worth of young growing timber, \$39,812 worth of other valuable products and \$10,120 worth of improvements.

In the Piedmont region embracing 41 counties there were 258 fires that destroyed \$74,088 of merchantable timber, \$193,225 of young growing timber, \$34,786 of other products of value and \$29,615 of improvements. There was expended for fire fighting in this region only \$4,433.

The 41 counties classed as coastal region counties had 137 fires reported, with an acreage of 71,298 burned over, destroying \$66,041 of merchantable timber, \$48,828 young growing timber, \$86,966 of other products and \$17,800 of improvements. In this region \$9,386 was spent in fire-fighting or protection.

Will Conduct Fifteen Dairy Schools.

Fifteen dairy schools will be conducted during December jointly by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the A. & M. College. Dates and places of these schools have been announced by Prof. Alvin J. Reed, in charge of Dairy Farming Investigation. According to the custom two schools will in some instances be conducted on the same day. The schools begin on November 30 and will close on December 23.

The dates for the schools are as follows:

- Friendship school, Alamance county, November 30th.
Guthrie school, Forsyth county, December 1st.
Patterson Farm school, Caldwell county, December 1st.
Mocksville school, Davie county, December 2, 3 and 4.
Miranda school, Rowan county, December 3rd.
Salemberg school, Sampson county, December 7th.
Trap Hill school, Wilkes county, December 7th.
Stem school, Granville county, December 9th.
Jefferson school, Ashe county, December 9th.
Boone school, Watauga county, December 11th.
Valle Crueses Industria school, Watauga county, December 12th.
Granite Falls school, Caldwell county, December 14, 15 and 16th.
Oak Hill school, Caldwell county, December 17, 18 and 19th.

Opinions of Supreme Court.

Medlin vs. County Board of Education, from Wake, no error, Clark, C. J.; Simmons vs. Green, from New Hanover, affirmed; Murphy vs. Insurance Company, from Cumberland, no error; Morgan vs. Benefit Association, from Forsyth, affirmed; Hanford vs. Southern Railway, from Alamance, no error; Lefler vs. Lane, from Davidson, new trial; Miller vs. Telegraph Company, from Davidson, no error; A. E. Smith vs. Postal Telegraph Company, from Guilford, new trial; Standard Trust Company vs. Bank, from Guilford, new trial; Montcastle vs. Wheeler, from Davidson, affirmed; Finch vs. Michael, from Davidson, affirmed; Bain vs. Lamb, from Guilford, no error; Pate vs. Pate, from Stanley, error; James Sanitarium vs. Power Company, from Scotland, no error.

296 Cotton Mills in the State.

The annual report of the cotton mills show 296 in the state. Of the cotton mills 277 report capital aggregating \$54,482,662. The number of spindles reported is 3,704,709, looms 62,056, cards 8,913 these being operated by 143,227 horsepower, the majority being operated by electric current with steam power second. The cotton mills consume approximately 371,823.28 pounds of cotton and the approximate yearly output is valued at \$80,602,743. These mills employ 54,963 persons.

Prizes for Fire Protection.

Commissioner of Insurance James R. Young is perfecting plans for issuing a series of prizes to school children of the state for the best reports on fire protection in their homes and as observed in their neighborhoods, the prizes to be awarded, one in each of the 100 counties and to be probably \$3 each. There will be a requirement that a minimum number of schools in the county and a minimum number of children in each of the schools competing enter the contest before a prize will be permitted.

INTERNATIONAL
SUNDAY SCHOOL
LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director Sunday School Course, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 29

CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 15:22-23. (Luke 23:29-43).
GOLDEN TEXT—Surely he hath borne our grief and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.—Isa. 53:4.

Last Sunday we saw Jesus on trial before Gentile power. Today's lesson brings us to the central event of his saving mission to men. We must read all four accounts of this event attentively, reverently, humbly, for it cannot be treated even as other events in the life of our Lord.

I. The Procession to Calvary, v. 21. 'Twas a physically exhausted Christ that left the judgment hall. A night of vigil, mocking, buffeting and without food since the previous evening left him too weak to bear the cross. Then it was that a son of Africa, Simon of Cyrene, was "impressed" to bear the burden. The Romans demanded that the victim bear his own cross. He accepted the human help, but refused the aid of the guard, Matt. 27:34. Luke gives us at this point the incident of the weeping woman. Mark 15:23 seems to indicate that Jesus had to be assisted to the place of the cross.

On the Cross.

II. The Place, Calvary, vv. 22-27. Here we see him, the brightness of God's glory and the express image of his person, the incarnation of truth, in whom dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily—"crucified." Sin has none its worst. The Scriptures are fulfilled, Ps. 22:15, Zech. 12:10. It was necessary for our salvation that he should die exactly as he did, Gal. 3:10, 13; John 3:14; Deut. 21:23. Even the parting of his garments was prophesied, Ps. 22:18. The presence of two malefactors had also been foretold, Isa. 53:9, 12.

III. The Passers-by at Calvary, vv. 29-32. The people and the priests joined in heaping scorn upon him. Even those that were crucified with him reproached him. Yet he loved them all. There seem to have been no gibes for the two thieves, John 19:12, II Tim. 3:12. The cry of the mob now "save thyself" (v. 30). 'Twas spoken in mockery, but they spoke a truth, nevertheless: It was necessary for the good shepherd to give his life for the sheep, John 10:11, and by no means to use his power in saving himself. They did not believe on him after the resurrection of Lazarus; it is to be believed that they would have accepted him had he "saved himself?" To have saved himself would have been for him to take himself out of the hands of God—an act of disobedience.

IV. The Person on Calvary, vv. 33-40. In the midst of this awful scene, in the confusion of the mingled cry of the mob, there is sounded one note of triumph. As Jesus was being "lifted up from the earth" (John 12:32), one of those, his companions, ceased to revile him, and cried out, "Art thou the Christ?" and, to be literal, "if so, save us." The other seems to have had his vision cleared, for he rebukes his fellow criminal by saying that their condemnation was a just reward for their deeds. Turning to Jesus he exclaims, "Remember me . . . in thy kingdom." The answer was immediate and significant, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." This is a graphic illustration of the whole meaning and symbolism of the cross. In his undying hour the Savior of men loosed this sinner from his sins and granted him the right to fellowship with him in the life beyond.

Jesus hung upon the cross three hours,

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned he stood,
Sealed my pardon with his blood,
Hallelujah what a savior.

His Faith Triumphant.

Then God drew the curtain, for even he could not look upon that scene (II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 1:13). We do not believe the eclipse theory, but rather that God caused the darkness, another illustration of the closeness of man and nature, Rom. 8:20, II R. V. The dying cry, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me," was uttered when Jesus sensed the full and complete realization of being separated from the Father. Death is not annihilation, but separation, and Jesus was separated from the Father because of our sins, Isa. 53:6. Yet in that terrible moment his faith does not waver, for he cries, "My God." Conscious of his personal innocence, but suffering for the sins of others, his faith is triumphant.

This lesson suggests that all who study it yield themselves to a searching self-examination. Such a manifestation of divine love should call forth our utmost confidence and our unquestioned trust in our divine redeemer. The revelation of the enormity of man's sin as seen on Calvary ought to fill us with an uncompromising hatred of sin. The story of the Savior's sufferings ought to impel us to a constant conflict with sin.

Those who witnessed the event of that day saw him "stricken, smitten," but God was in him reconciling the world to himself.