



**"RISE UP SANDY, AN' GIT YO' MEAT"**

Mr. Bion H. Butler, of the Sand Hill Section Addressed Lincoln Audience Last Monday Night—Good Crowd Present—Many Ladies and Prominent Farmers Present.

The courthouse was well filled last Monday night for the address by Mr. Bion H. Butler, who hails from the sand hills of Moore county. The speaker was introduced by his old time friend, Mr. W. C. Warlick, who also is a Moore product.

Mr. Butler came to Lincoln to speak under the auspices of the local Chamber of Commerce, which organization seeks to extend its influence to all parts of Lincoln county, hoping to secure as members the farmers, that all may work together for the up-building of this entire section.

"Rise Up Sandy An' Git Yo' Meat" was the subject of Mr. Butler's talk. He told of his first visit to this section in 1882, traveling by the Piedmont Air Line, now the Southern, and of his visit to Gaston county, which is this section at that time impressed him. He said "I don't know whether you realize what God has done for Lincoln county when it comes to adaptability of soil. When I visited a California ranch I saw a corn crop as high as a man plowing would start at sunup and by noon he would be at the end of a row, when he would unhitch and eat dinner and start back to where he began, but that section is not adapted to cotton and wheat and corn as is Lincoln county. Indiana has never turned off as much corn per acre as can be raised here in Lincoln county and in North Carolina. As much as 227 bushels of corn has been raised on one acre in this state, North Carolina can beat any state west of the Alleghany Mountains raising corn. This section can produce as good if not better butter than any section of America and can do it cheaper as you grow the natural pastures, grass grows everywhere in this section of the state.

"If we don't go forward we go backward. Down in the sand hill section everybody belongs to the Board of Trade. The Farmers Union. Every county should have a demonstration agent. Catawba county, your neighbor is making a great success raising potatoes. Moore county is going to raise potatoes too, and we are going to find out exactly the kind of potato the people want. The famous Reepsville potato has the right to the kind he wants. That is the idea. Find out what they want and give it to them. Get together, cooperate. You have the organization in a Chamber of Commerce that make this a prosperous section. This organization is capable of doing for you what you want it to do. Don't let it die. It must have some definite purpose. One man can't do much, 50 can do much, 1,000 can do wonders. Perhaps you have not appreciated the possibilities of a live organization of this kind. I believe all men are public spirited. I am not in accord with the saying that we sometimes hear that before a town can grow there will have to be some funerals. The younger men must show to the conservative element that there is merit in what they undertake. I advise all—farmers, business men everybody to get in the local organization and make it what it ought to be.

"I notice you have started to building good roads in your county. The good roads movement started in Moore when a sample sand clay road was put down. This started the road building, and now there are perhaps 2,000 miles of good roads leading in all directions from Pinehurst. Think you are headed in the right direction. Lincoln only needs advertising and more people like those you already have.

Lincoln is a natural dairying section, there should be more attention given to cattle raising and dairying in your section. Grass won't grow so well in the sand hills. Grass grows freely in Lincoln. The silo and pastures and fine stock will make this the garden spot of the world. Why there is more grass on the court house lawn here than there is on any acres in Moore county.

"Let us all get together for a progressive Lincoln county. Get in the Chamber of Commerce organization and cooperation will do that which can be done no other way."

**REEPSVILLE NEWS.**  
April 14.—We haven't noticed any news from our village for some time so while sitting by the fire this chilly morning I have decided to write a short letter.

The farmers are very busy these days planting their crops. Seems as if you are going to have a little more winter.

The Reepsville school closed Saturday April 10. Large attendance, good time reported. After the exercises in the evening the Zion baseball team played with the Reepsville school grounds. The Reepsville boys won the game, the score stood 21 to 1. It was a very interesting game.

Mr. Lyman Kizer of A.M. College, Raleigh, spent Saturday night at home returning Sunday morning.

Mr. John Mosteller spent Saturday and Sunday home, returning to Lenoir College, Hickory, Monday.

Miss Virginia Warlick returned to Catawba College Monday.

Prof. L. Berge Beam, of Lenoir College, spent Saturday and Sunday at Reepsville.

The Lincoln visitors to Reepsville Saturday were, Miss Eva Dellinger, Mr. A. L. Quickel, Mr. Perkins, Mr. R. L. Sigmon.

Mr. Mike Kiser left Sunday morning for Scotland county where he will work on the farm for a while.

**LINCOLN MAN INVENTS PLOW**

Mr. Robert Haynes Invents and Builds a Plow That Will Do the Work of Four Engine Plows—Operated by Gas Engine.

Mr. Robert Haynes, a Lincoln county citizen, has invented and built a plow that will tear up a 4-foot furrow. He was in town Wednesday taking one of these plows out to the farm of Mr. Thos. J. Ramsaur, where it was put to work preparing the soil for planting. The invention is something new in this line. Twenty-four rotating bull tongues are attached to a revolving shaft. The power for operating this plow is furnished by a gas engine tractor, of 20 horse power, using kerosene oil for fuel. Mr. Haynes estimates that it takes 5 gallons of oil per acre to operate the plow. With this outfit 4 acres of ground may be covered in a day, taking a furrow 4 feet wide. It is also a subsoiler, plowing 12 to 14 inches deep. Those who have seen this plow at work say that it tears up the ground at a lively rate, thoroughly pulverizing, and that on one occasion a small stump was taken up by the roots, though this is not its strong suit.

Mr. Thos. J. Ramsaur is owner of the one referred to above. Mr. Haynes purposes to build more of this one continues to give satisfaction, and he sees no reason why it will not.

With Lincoln farmers taking an interest in dairying, stock raising, and Lincoln enlisting them in the local Chamber of Commerce, building of good roads, better schools and silos, doing better farming, and inventing tools such as plows, the day is looking brighter for old Lincoln.

**COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES OF REEPSVILLE SCHOOL**

Held Saturday—Sermon by Dr. Rowe—Dinner on Grounds—School Exercises After Dinner—Play at Night Is Well Attended.

A successful term of the Reepsville public school came to an end last Saturday. The crowd in attendance was not as large as usual, but this was due to the fact that the pastors and friends were busy with home duties. A fair sized crowd was present however, and an enjoyable day was spent. The program was carried out as follows:

Song—All Hail the Power of Jesus Name.  
Prayer, by Dr. W. W. Rowe.  
Quartet—God is Love.  
Sermon by Dr. W. W. Rowe, of Catawba College.  
Song—Building—By school.  
Following this a splendid dinner was spread on tables in the open and all present enjoyed numerous good things to eat, of which the Reepsville people are noted. Chicken, ham, bread, beef, pickles, relishes, cakes, and various kinds and plentiful. The famous Reepsville cherry pie was on hand, and was the first to disappear.

At 2 o'clock the crowd assembled in the school building for the afternoon exercises by the school children, under the direction of the efficient teachers, Mrs. E. L. Sigmon and Miss Knoxie Kiser.

First on the program was a Song—Welcome—By School.  
"Play of the Passions," by 35 small children followed. Each of the little tots did well, taking their parts as follows: Innocence, Eva Rhine and Marjorie Sigmon; Love—Mary Bess Sigmon and James Jetton; Sadness and Sympathy, Farrell Holly and Eva Holly; Sleep—Florence Ward and Pearl Ward; Loneliness—Bessie Ward; Secrecy and Revealing—Sallie Mosteller, Carrol Carpenter and Marvin Smith; Anger and Hate—Jessie Smith and George Helms; Reproof—Carrie Hoover; Danger—Bertie Helms; Right—Annie Falty; Rescue—Paul Carpenter; Gladness, Louvella Rhine; Joy—R. A. Smith; Appeal—Elin Smith; Supplication—Bettie Goins; Illness—Forest Ward; Protection—Evelyn Mosteller; Faith—Taft Jones; Death—Lester Bivens; Remorse—Dan Helms; Designation—Rhea Hoover; Grief—Ada Rhine; Invocation—Luther Helms; Matrimony—Katherine Smith and Robert Rhine.

Next on the program was a song, "Try Again," by 35 children.

Mr. A. L. Quickel, of Lincoln, then presented to the audience, Prof. Berge Beam.

Prof. Beam's subject for the address was "Education." He was among people who knew him well and his discourse received close attention from beginning to end.

The last on the afternoon program was a song—Never Say Fail.  
At 7:30 at night a play—"Uncle Ephraim's Summer Boarders" was given, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The cast of characters was as follows: Every youth . . . . . Mike Kiser  
Work . . . . . David Mosteller  
Happiness . . . . . Mary Goins  
Truth . . . . . Dennice Hoover  
Pleasure . . . . . Russel Seagle  
Reason . . . . . Carlton Jetton  
Care . . . . . Edney Goins  
Temptation . . . . . Mary Seagle  
Conceit . . . . . Katie Mosteller  
Vanity . . . . . Katie Smith  
Trouble . . . . . Clyda Ward  
Vice . . . . . Jacob Hill  
Love . . . . . Katie Hoover

**WILL AID IN RAISING SUBMARINE F-4.**  
Honolulu, T. H., April 13.—George D. Stillson, chief gunner mate in charge of the diving operations for raising the submarine F-4 submerged outside the harbor since March 25, said today four expert divers probably would make a descent tomorrow.

**ROCK SPRINGS CAMP GROUND**

Reported Lincoln County Purposes To Establish Farm Life School On Rock Springs Campground Site.

Newton Special to Charlotte Observer, 13th:  
It is stated in official educational circles here that Lincoln county purposes to establish a Farm Life School on the site of the Rock Springs Campground which is just over the line from Catawba and for 100 years the popular gathering of four counties. The Lincoln authorities have made application for such a school to the State school officials and it is presumed that if the county meets the conditions, the same will be granted. One of the conditions is a site not less than 10 acres in extent. The campground contains about 18 acres, cleared and in timber.

It is reported that Albert Sherrill bought the campground recently for \$1,000 from the trustees, the sale being for the purpose of testing the title, and this proceedings may look toward the transfer of the property to the county.

But there is another story to the effect that Mr. Sherrill has purchased it to perpetuate the campmeeting, over which such a controversy has raged during the past several years, part of the people being opposed to the meeting, including several prominent clergymen. The friendly suit may be to decide whether the Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Church or the campground trustees really own the property. At any event, there is probably no doubt that the county would build an agricultural institution there if it gets the site. It would be an ideal place for such a school.

**MOUNT HOLLY ITEMS.**

Mr. Holly, N. C., April 14.—We notice the bridge force has returned and is hard at work. It will be remembered that the weather got so bad last winter that they had to suspend work until spring.

A large crowd of men from here went over to Charlotte Sunday afternoon to hear Rev. Chapman's sermon to men only.

Mr. and Mrs. Buren Howard of Kings Mountain were visitors to relatives here last Saturday and Sunday.

Prof. Ray Funderburk spent the week-end at Monroe with home folks.

Little Charlie Erwin McLean of South Point, is very sick at his grandmother's Mrs. M. A. Rankin here.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Lineberger spent the week-end at Charlotte.

There was quite an exciting time at near Farrar Brothers store near Mountain Island this afternoon when a negro shot and killed a white man whose name was Massey.

Rev. R. A. Miller of Rock Hill, preached a very able sermon at the Presbyterian church Monday night.

Mr. E. E. Thompson spent Sunday in Lincoln with his brother, Mr. T. H. Thompson.

Little Frank Tucker, son of Mr. W. L. Tucker had the misfortune of breaking his leg Monday afternoon while playing with a motorcycle.

Rev. Jackson of Lovesville motored over to Charlotte today to hear Rev. Chapman.

Mrs. Eppers of route two died Sunday and was buried at Hickory Grove Monday.

**LINCOLN COUNTY AND THE DEBATE**

Special to News.  
Chapel Hill, N. C., April 10.—About five years ago, president Graham says "an idea was started." This idea originated in the hall of the Diabetic Literary society of the University that year, an organization, was whose records the names of North Carolina's best and greatest men are enrolled, Z. B. Vance, President Polk, and others of equal fame whom the present members of the society hold in sacred reverence.

The occasion of the origin of this idea is as follows:  
Mr. Charlie McIntosh of Denver, Lincoln county, arose and in a logical and powerful manner asked the society to pass a motion for the establishment of a high school debating union and the society passed this motion and today the debating union stands far above any other phase of the extension work of the University. In honor to Mr. McIntosh the father of the high school debating union and appreciation of the fact that he was the instigator of so great a movement which in one way or another has affected more than one time every high school in North Carolina. I would like to announce to you what, doubtless many of you already know. It was Mr. McIntosh who struggling with many of his classmates during the commencement exercises of 1911 won the Willie P. Mangum orator's medal, the highest honor that the University has to give a man.

There is another significant way in which Lincoln county is connected with the recent debate other than the participation of the Lincoln high school in the debate. In the Lincoln high school high school represented by two girls who upheld the Ship Subsidy question, are winners. Lincoln county is glad that since those who represented her on the occasion of this debate have won in the final that the honor fell to Lincoln and why are we glad that Wilson won? For the simple reason that there is a superintendent of the Wilson High Schools, another illustrious son of Lincoln county, Mr. Coon.

Now let us turn for a moment to that which is probably more interesting to the people of Lincoln county, the actual participation of the representatives of the L. H. S. and the record made by the participants in this. The Supreme Court affirmed this a few remarks, as to the history of the contest before the best schools in North Carolina came to Chapel Hill, would be proper. A paragraph from the "Tar Heel" best expresses this. "The first stage of the contest, the first of the ten or fifteen schools are yet to report." From a letter-report it is found that forty nine of the best high schools in the state actually came to Chapel Hill and participated in the debate.

When the first preliminary came off Thursday night twelve affirmative and twelve negative teams were selected and Lincoln won a place in both of these groups. There were only five schools in North Carolina who had the honor of having both their teams represented in the second preliminary. They are Manteo, Carthage, Raleigh, Burlington and Lincoln.

Friday morning at nine o'clock Lincoln came up against eleven teams on the affirmative and eleven on the negative. Friday night these two teams debated for the Aycock cup in Memorial Hall and Wilson won the debate.

But because we lost in the finals that does not indicate that we did not make a fine record. We were handicapped in several important ways. This debate was fought on foreign soil. Fighting in place where neither one had ever been, this was not the case with the large majority of the schools who made the second preliminary. The recent debate is the first thing of the kind in which Lincoln was ever defeated. There are other ways in which we were handicapped, notably the sickness of three of our debaters prior to the coming to Chapel Hill. But we did make them fight to win and to illustrate this point I would like to quote Dr. L. R. Wilcox, a judge in the second preliminary on the negative side as saying to Professor Beam "Your girls made fine speeches" and then another judge on the affirmative who heard the boys from Lincoln speak said to Professor Beam "Your boys did well. This gentleman was Denn Stacey, a man who would not have said so unless he believed it.

Whatever may be the opinion of some it is the opinion of all those to whom I have talked and all those who heard Lincoln speak, that we have a right to be proud of the record we made in these debates, debating against experienced teams from much larger towns. There are several to whom I am indebted for the record which Lincoln made in this debate. First the debaters who have worked harder than any one else and deserve most of the credit. Then Professor Beam who put a great amount of his time and energy into developing a team that would truly represent us. Then since it is customary generally to select three people or groups don't you think that in as much as Mr. Love has devoted his time and driven the debaters not only to Dallas by auto but also to Chapel Hill in the interest of the Lincoln High School and its representatives that we place him among that group of people to whom we are indebted.

In Charlotte last week J. Hubbard McKay, riding a bicycle, collided with an ice wagon and received injuries from which he died next day. He was 23 years old, the son of a widow.

**NO PARDON FOR JAMES WILCOX**

Only Voice Raised Against Giving Pardon Is From Mother of Nell Crosey, The Murdered Girl—This Constituted Majority Opposition With Gov. Craig.

Raleigh Special to Charlotte Observer, 13th:  
Declaring that while there was only one voice raised against a pardon for James Wilcox, murderer of Nell Crosey, at Elizabeth City. But that voice was from a mother's heart, always constant and with justice on her side constituting a majority opposition, Governor Craig this evening definitely declined to grant the petition for pardon. In connection with this refusal the Governor issued a lengthy statement consisting of seven and a half typewritten pages.

Wilcox has served 12 years of a 30-year sentence for second degree murder. In his statement and reasons for refusing the pardon the Governor reviewed in detail the circumstances of the association of Wilcox and Nell Crosey as lovers the lovely and attractive personality of the ill-fated girl, the events of the fatal evening at the Crosey home, the disappearance of the girl and the conduct of Wilcox, together with the features of the trial and the final disposition of the case by the Supreme Court on 30-year sentence. He refuses to credit suicide and says:

"I cannot say that in this case there has been any miscarriage of justice. I believe that the demand for justice would not be satisfied by punishment of 12-years imprisonment for this crime. To release the defendant would in my opinion tend to lessen the confidence of the public in the law and would not be in accordance with the well-considered judgment of State as expressed by statute.

**Had Fair Trial.**  
"Wilcox has been dealt with sternly and satisfactorily. He has been defended by the ablest and skillful lawyers. He has been tried before just and impartial judges, with every advantage in selection of a jury. Two juries have pronounced him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. The Supreme Court affirmed the first verdict on the ground that it was influenced by the feeling of a community outraged by a horrible murder, after a careful and most deliberate consideration of the trial. The Supreme Court affirmed the judgment concluding the opinion as follows: 'Human tribunals may only deal with such cases in the light of such testimony as it is possible to obtain from man can say with absolute certainty what very truth of matter is, but calling to our aid the experience and wisdom of sages of the law and examining the testimony as it is certified to us, we are of opinion that it is sufficient to bring the mind of an intelligent and fair-minded jury under the conclusion to a moral certainty that the defendant is guilty.'"

It is urged that the prisoner should be pardoned because he has contracted tuberculosis since his imprisonment. The State is not responsible for this. He has been humanely dealt with and his surroundings have been sanitary to a high degree. The physician says that he is now improving. When a prisoner has been sentenced to the term for minor crime and fact that he has contracted a serious disease while in prison appeals to me strongly for in such cases the law does not contemplate severe punishment under such circumstances.

"This case is different. James Wilcox has never repented, but has as this evidence establishes the horrible secret in his heart that was there on the night of November 20, 1901. A pardon on the ground of his improper conviction would be a vindication of him and a condemnation of the law and the administration of the law. A great number of people has asked him pardon. It is apparent that many of them have no conception of the evidence. There is only one voice raised against him, and that is the cry of a mother's heart that is always constant. She, with justice on her side, is the majority."

**WOMAN KILLS NEGRO WHO TRIED TO ENTER HOME.**

Kinston, April 8.—Mrs. Henry Heath, wife of Chinquepin Heath, of Jones county, shot and killed a negro who attempted to get into her home while her husband was away, according to a report which reached here today.

The negro told her to open the door or he would break it down. She told her small son to open it and fired twice at the intruder, who staggered off and died almost instantly.

Sheriff Taylor here believes the man was John Williams, a desperate character who some days ago engaged him in a pistol duel. The negro had several good teeth and resembled Williams in that respect Taylor will personally reward the woman if that is the case.

**COLONEL KIRKPATRICK IS CHOSEN CHARLOTTE'S MAYOR.**

Charlotte, April 13.—Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick won in the majority race in the primaries today over R. McNichol. Kirkpatrick's majority over McNichol was only 58. Kirkpatrick was a candidate of the old aldermanic charter. McNichol the new, or managerial charter. The contest was keen and exciting. Kirkpatrick is a member of the governor's staff and of a prominent family in Mecklenburg, a successful and prominent lawyer, and elder in the A. R. P. church.

Lieutenant Governor J. Elyson, of Virginia last week invited President Wilson to attend the United Confederate reunion at Richmond on June 1, 2, and 3. The President said he would consider the invitation, but could not make a definite engagement at this time, because of the pressure of public business.

Watching a ball game at Sanford, Eddie Stone, 10 years old, was struck in the breast by a pitched ball that passed the catcher, and died in three minutes.

**CAPTAIN BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GRIGG**

End Came Suddenly Last Friday—Native of Cleveland—Had Lived in Lincoln Since 1858—Prominent Banker and Citizen—Organized the First Bank Here—Confederate Soldier—Successful Business Career.

Lincoln's oldest citizen, in years of residence, Capt. Benjamin Franklin Grigg, died last Friday morning, at the home of his son, Mr. W. E. Grigg. The end came very suddenly at 12.15 o'clock. There was nothing to indicate the end was near earlier in the day, he having greeted the members of the household that morning, saying he was feeling as well as usual.

For the past several months he had been making his home with his son on account of failing health. He was born in Cleveland county Dec. 10, 1815, reaching the ripe old age of 79 years, 3 months and 30 days, Friday the day of his death was the 50th anniversary of the surrender of the Confederate army at Appomattox. He was well and favorably known throughout Lincoln county, and had been identified with Lincoln's business interests since 1858. In that year he came to Lincoln from Cleveland county. At first he clerked for a Mr. Hamilton who ran a store on the spot where the new Childs store buildings now stand. He continued in this work until the Civil war.

When the war started he was among the first volunteers and a brave Confederate soldier for four years; enlisted in the Southern Star, April 25th, 1861, of which W. J. Hoke was captain; W. M. Reinhardt, first lieutenant, Robert F. Hoke, second lieutenant. This company enlisted for six months and participated in the battle of Bethel, the first battle of the war.

After the disbandment of the Bethel regiment Capt. Grigg returned home and helped organize another company that was mustered into the service as Company F, Fifty Sixth North Carolina Regiment of which Henry F. Schenck was captain until his promotion, and Captain Grigg was first sergeant. On August 5th, 1862, he had the unusual promotion of first sergeant to Captain of his company, and he remained at the head of his company gallantly leading his men until the surrender.

He was married on Jan. 1, 1863, to Miss Mary-Jane Metcalf, and the union of children died in early life. One, a daughter, Mrs. Mary Alice Grigg married a Mr. Donavan, and lived in Georgia, but also died several years ago. One son, Mr. W. E. Grigg, cashier of the County National Bank, is the only surviving member of the family.

After the war Capt. Grigg returned to Lincoln and worked at the tailor's trade for some time, and served as the entrance to the streets were bombarded yesterday, and that a cruiser and destroyer were struck by the Turkish fire.

Messages from Vienna to Rome quote an Austrian official as saying that a state of siege probably will be proclaimed in Austria on account of popular unrest occasioned by the advance of the Russians through the Carpathians. It is reported also that Emperor Francis Joseph has decided to make the territorial concessions desired by Italy provided the latter takes up arms for Austria and Germany. This report, however, is not generally credited in Rome.

The Austrian announcement that the Russians have been checked in the Carpathians was reported at Petrograd where it is said further Russian advances have been made. Ussok pass apparently is the key to the situation and on account of the strong Austro-German forces massed in that district the Russians have been unable to force their way through. The last Russian official report, however, announced capture of three villages and 2,700 prisoners in the fighting in the pass.

**GERMAN RAIDER WILL BE READY FOR SEA IN TWO WEEKS.**

Newport News, April 12.—It is expected that the British consul here will protest to the American government against allowing the Kronprinz Wilhelm to leave. The German vessel New York harbor last summer without clearance papers and the British government will contend that because of this fact the ship should be held here.

The naval tug Patuxent is guarding the ship today. It was reported that the German ambassador visited the raider and conferred with the captain. Admiral Fletcher commanding the Atlantic fleet, received a message from the President that the precedents established in the case of the Prinz Eitel would be followed regarding the Wilhelm. Experts today expressed the opinion that the ship would be in worse shape than the Eitel. The bottom is covered with weeds and the plates below the water line have sprung.

Captain Thierfelder of the Wilhelm, stated that the ship would be ready for sea in about two weeks. He said "I came when I got ready and I will leave when I get ready." While here the ship can receive messages over her wireless, but cannot send any.

Captain Thierichens of the Eitel and Capt. Thierfeld, of the Wilhelm, will dine together this evening. **L. MYSELF WILL NOT INTERNE SHIP.**  
Newport News, Va., April 14.—"I myself will not intern."

This was the emphatic declaration of Lieutenant Captain Thierfelder late today when informed by newspapermen that it was generally reported that the German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm would ultimately intern at this port.

The lieutenant captain expressed his opinion of reports and twice reiterated his declaration "I myself will not intern."

**IN THE WAR ZONE**

London, April 13.—Field Marshal Sir John French's message to his countrymen at home that "I know when the time comes for us to make our great move we can break through the Germans," and the British eyewitness statement that there are plain signs of the "gradual weakening of the German resistance" are accepted here as an intimation that the present pressure on the western front shortly will develop into events of vast scope. It is expected that the next three months will be especially memorable in this epoch-making war.

Military writers believe the reported French successes between the Meuse and the Moselle—an important region between the rival fortresses of Verdun and Metz—have given a promising opening for the spring campaign. They regard it as a signal for the final offensive which has been waiting the arrival of adequate accumulations of men, equipment and supplies.

Suspension of infantry fighting in this important Verdun district has been quickly ended, as was expected by the gallant German attempt to recapture the position of Les Eparges, possession of which enabled General Joffre to give another twist to the screw of the vast wherewith of St. Mihiel, that bastion-like projection into the French line which the invaders have held tenaciously for so many months.

The Russian offensive in the Carpathians continues to meet a strenuous defense by the combined Teutonic armies and although it appears to be slowly winning its way forward toward the plains of Hungary, it has encountered enormous difficulties.

To relieve the pressure on the Russians is an additional reason for the activity of their allies in the west.

London, April 12.—British shipping firms have demanded that England make new reprisals upon Germany for the continued destruction of shipping vessels. They are circulating a petition asking that the German prisoners be carried on English vessels traversing the war zone, believing that this will safeguard the vessels from submarine attack.

It is possible that the government may decide to grant this petition as it is evident the German submarines would hesitate to sink a ship on which there were hundreds of German prisoners, who would certainly perish as a result of the act.

After prolonged lull, operations at the Dardanelles have resumed on a small scale. An official report from Constantinople says the batteries at the entrance to the straits were bombarded yesterday, and that a cruiser and destroyer were struck by the Turkish fire.

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