

II

THE DISCIPLE'S SACRIFICE

"I fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ."—COLOSSIANS 1: 24.

"I FILL up that which is behind!" Not that the ministry of reconciliation is incomplete. Not that Gethsemane and Calvary have failed. Not that the debt of guilt is only partially paid, and there is now a threatening remnant which demands the sacrifice of human blood. The ministry of atonement is perfected. There is no outstanding debt. "Jesus paid it all." In the one commanding sacrifice for human sin Calvary leaves nothing for you and me to do. In the bundle of the Saviour's sufferings every needful pang was borne.

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood.

I can add nothing to that. There is nothing lacking. The sacrifice is all sufficient.