

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH is issued every Wednesday and Saturday by THE TELEGRAPH PUBLISHING COMPANY, ST. JOHN, N. B., a company incorporated by Act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.

E. W. McCREADY, President and Manager.
Subscription Rates—Sent by mail to any address in Canada at One Dollar a year. Sent by mail to any address in the United States at Two Dollars a year. All subscriptions must be paid in advance.

In mailing price of subscription always send money by P.O. Order or Registered Letter.

Advertising Rates—Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper, each insertion, \$1.00 per inch. Advertisements of "Wants, For Sale, Etc.," one cent a word for each insertion.

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Correspondence must be addressed to the Editor of The Telegraph, St. John.

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph and The News

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 4, 1915.

LOOKING AHEAD IN THE WAR.

The London Morning Post publishes a significant article on the state of the war. It takes the ground that the time has come for the Allies "to begin to define clear and definite terms of peace" and that, "without selling the skin before killing the bear," it must be assumed that victory for the Allies is certain if for no other reason because "without undue strain Great Britain can maintain a naval blockade indefinitely and history has shown that such pressure alone would, in the end, secure victory."

This is a cable summary of an editorial utterance which is commanding much attention in Great Britain, and as the Morning Post is a journal of high standing this expression of opinion to-day will cause widespread discussion.

Undoubtedly it would be wholly wrong to assume that the Post believes this is the time to talk about ending the war. On the contrary, this is the time to prosecute the war with all possible vigor and with the unshaken determination to continue the fighting until the enemy is decisively beaten in the field. What the Post evidently desires is that the Allies shall consider and presently declare in concrete terms what they will insist upon having, with respect to the territory involved, guarantees of future peace, and compensation for the nations which have been wantonly attacked by Germany and her partners.

The Prime Minister has repeatedly said that Great Britain and its Allies, having drawn the sword in a just cause, would not sheath it again until the objects for which they entered the field had been secured, and he named among these objects security and indemnity for Belgium, Serbia and France, indicating that these countries must not only have restored to them the territory which the enemy has occupied, but that they must be compensated and have satisfactory guarantees for the future. France, no doubt, is committed irrevocably to the reconquest and retention of Alsace and Lorraine.

The Post now believes it wise that the position as defined by leading statesmen in general terms shall be followed up by a joint statement from the Allied powers giving details as to the terms upon which they will insist before fighting can be interrupted.

By its very introduction of the homely phrase about "selling the skin before killing the bear," the Post proclaims its belief that the war has entered upon a stage which shows it to be absolutely hopeless for Germany and Austria; that study of the whole situation now convinces the world that the Allies will be able to wear down the enemy beyond question and dictate such terms as may be thought just and necessary. The Post's argument is founded solidly upon the fact that the Allies' control of the sea is absolute and that there is no chance of its being broken in the future. And continued control of the sea is bound, as the Post points out, to mean victory in the end.

No statement as to terms, detailed or otherwise, would interrupt the fighting in any of the theatres of war. In Belgium, in France, in Serbia, and in Russia, the enemy today holds territory from which his forces must be driven at any cost, and this can only be done by pursuing the policy now being followed by the Allies, in massing on every front, gradually but surely, sufficient troops and munitions to give them a certain superiority during the coming months when the enemy's effective forces must necessarily begin to decline in numbers. There always is the chance that, on one front or another, the enemy may resort to the tactics of desperation and attempt to score one great victory after which he might hope to open peace negotiations and claim favorable terms because of the amount of Allied territory his forces occupy. The Post evidently believes that it would be well if Germany and the world at large were notified by the Allies in common that no cessation of hostilities, and that not even negotiations, will be considered until Germany and its partners have admitted the defeat of their armies on every front. No doubt many of the people in both Germany and Austria have been told that the war will soon be over because their forces still hold large sections of Allied territory, and in that way perhaps the resolution of the enemy's population has been stiffened from time to time. The time must now be within sight when the German and

Austrian forces will be driven back upon their own borders, and then the people of both nations, already suffering from lack of food, will begin to taste some of the real horrors of war such as have been experienced by the peoples of Belgium, Northern France, Serbia and Poland.

The Post's article is significant because it would scarcely have been written had there not been felt in London the conviction that the world at large must now fully realize the utter hopelessness of the German cause.

ST. JOHN THE MAIL BOAT PORT.

We publish here a letter from Sir Thomas Shaughnessy to Sir Robert Borden, a letter which was written only a week ago, and which should be of lasting and decisive force when disputes arise concerning the merits of St. John as the natural winter port of Canada for mails and freight.

Canadian Pacific Railway Company, Montreal, November 23rd.

Dear Sir:—I wish that it were possible to comply with your request to have our passenger ships call at Halifax on the inward and outward trips this winter, but, as I said to you personally, I am convinced that it cannot be done in the interest of the country.

The war has brought upon us a condition of things with reference to our Atlantic steamship service, that could not have been foreseen, and that it will be difficult for us to satisfactorily meet, even with our greatest efforts. As you know, a great many of our ships have been taken by the Admiralty, and we have found it impossible to charter a sufficient number to replace them. In these circumstances, we must either utilize such steamships as are available to the utmost, or we must permit a substantial percentage of our Canadian exports to be diverted from our Canadian ports.

Apart from all other considerations, the Halifax call would involve a delay to our passenger ships of from two or three days on each round voyage, with a like reduction in their freight carrying efficiency. Our endeavor must be this winter to avoid unnecessary detention of a single hour, so as to secure the full advantage of their carrying capacity. By running direct to and from St. John, in these exceptional circumstances to which I have referred, no precedent is being established.

When normal conditions return, the Halifax mail service and the terms upon which it is to be conducted, will be open for consideration.

I have the honor to be, Yours very truly,

T. G. SHAUGHNESSY, President.

Right Hon. R. L. Borden, Ottawa.

This letter was in reply to one from Sir Robert Borden who had placed before Sir Thomas Shaughnessy telegrams and letters from the Halifax City Council and Board of Trade protesting vehemently against sending the Corsican and other mail ships to St. John and cutting out Halifax. The Halifax protests recited all of the old familiar and unconvincing arguments against St. John and in favor of Halifax, and Sir Robert was urged, somewhat bluntly, to have the mail ships switched back to the Nova Scotia port. Sir Robert approached Sir Thomas Shaughnessy very earnestly, no doubt, but could get no comfort. He therefore transmitted the Shaughnessy letter—which will long be famous—to the president of the Halifax Board of Trade. Halifax thereupon sent the Prime Minister a telegram telling him that his letter and that of Sir Thomas were "entirely unsatisfactory." Sir Robert then said the government would "take into immediate consideration the forwarding of mails by the Admiralty transports sailing to and from Halifax during the winter." This did not calm the people of Halifax and they called an indignation meeting yesterday to protest against the boats not going to their port and to ask Sir Robert Borden to demand of the contractors that they call here (Halifax) and land and embark the mails as heretofore. What the result of the meeting will be can perhaps be guessed with reasonable accuracy from Sir Thomas Shaughnessy's letter.

With that letter spread on the record, how can the government order the mail boats to Halifax, now or hereafter? In the face of that letter what excuse will there be, when the time comes for a new mail contract, to consider any winter port but St. John? Aside from politics and "pulls," considering only the national interest, having in view only quick despatch of mails and freight from the standpoint of the whole country, that letter means simply that St. John, being much nearer the heart of Canada than any other winter port, is the logical port for the winter trans-Atlantic business, mails and freight. It is a frank and convincing piece of evidence brought out in the stress of war time, showing clearly what the steamship companies would do as a straight matter of business if they were free from "influence" and pressure. That letter must be heard in the House of Commons in due season.

THE POWER TO ENDURE.

Before he left the British cabinet for the firing line Winston Churchill made a noteworthy speech in the House of Commons, parts of which came to Canada by cable at the time. In the course of that speech Mr. Churchill pointed out that up to the present time the French and Russian peoples have borne the brunt of the struggle on land. Great Britain, he said, is the reserve of the Allied cause, and the time has come when that reserve must be thrown fully into the scale. He said a further word which is worthy of thoughtful consideration here in Canada. This is it:

"It is no doubt disconcerting for us to observe that the government of a State like Bulgaria is convinced of an impartial survey of the chances that victory will rest with the Central Powers. Some of these small States are hypnotized by German military pomp and precision. They see the glitter. They see the episode. But they do not see or realize the capacity of the ancient and

mighty nations against whom Germany is warring to endure adversity, to put up with disappointments and misadventures, to recreate and renew their strength, to toll on with boundless obstinacy and with boundless suffering to the achievement of the greatest cause for which men have ever fought." (Loud cheers.)

It is well for Canadians, whose country has been free from the ravages of war, to consider how countries like Belgium, France, Serbia and Poland have endured the horrors which have come upon them, and yet, in the words of Mr. Churchill, have tolled on, with boundless obstinacy and with boundless suffering, never looking back, never for a moment giving way to despair, day in and day out facing the foe and fighting with all their power, determined to conquer in the end.

There is for us in Canada a mighty lesson in the courage and sacrifice of these peoples. Our own sacrifices, if measured by theirs, have been light enough. As a free people, whose destiny is at stake in this war, we cannot too frequently give thought to what has been done and what has been suffered in sixteen months of conflict by our Allies, and not only by their soldiers but by their civilian population. It is a thought that should make us both humble and resolved. We must give more, in both men and in money, and that quickly.

THE STORY OF AMERICAN EXPORTS.

The Department of Commerce at Washington has just issued statistics which show that there has been a steady gain in the enormous exports from the United States to the Allies in Europe and to the neutral nations surrounding the Teutonic Powers. The report deals with the American exports for the first nine months of the present year, with special reference to the figures for September. It makes the last American note to Great Britain appear ridiculous.

For example, while the greatest increase is recorded in exports to Great Britain, France, Italy and Russia, the figures for the export trade with neutral nations around the German alliance show a tremendous increase, a gain of 160 per cent above the previous year being noted. From January 1 to October 1, this year, exports to the value of \$274,000,000 were made to neutral nations in Europe; for the corresponding months of 1914 the total was \$108,000,000. To Denmark alone the increase was from \$12,000,000 to \$38,000,000; to Sweden, from \$9,000,000 to \$66,000,000; to the Netherlands, from \$7,000,000 to \$118,000,000; to Norway, from \$8,000,000 to \$32,000,000. Naturally, the exports to Belgium show a decrease of nearly fifty per cent.

From January 1 to October 1, 1914, the United States shipped to the nations which are now fighting the Teutonic Powers merchandise worth \$530,000,000, while the American shipments for the corresponding months of 1915 reached the great total of \$1,498,000,000. This represents an increase of 200 per cent. The Washington report explains that of this total the United Kingdom imported nearly \$850,000,000 worth of merchandise in 1915, as compared with \$374,000,000 in 1914. The 1915 figures for France were \$369,000,000, as compared with \$94,000,000 for the corresponding months in 1914. Other shipments also have attained staggering proportions. Russia took \$78,000,000 worth of merchandise. In 1914 the figures were \$17,000,000. The Italian shipments have increased from \$43,000,000 to \$183,000,000.

It is surprising in view of these returns, that there should be any complaint in the United States regarding the restriction of trade by Britain's fleet. The United States is deriving enormous profits from its war shipments. Each month the total grows. The detailed figures published by the American Department of Commerce tell their own story. Great Britain needs no better answer to Mr. Secretary Lansing's note.

THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

The question of postponing the federal elections until after the war was discussed by Liberal leaders at the annual meeting of the Ontario Reform Association in Toronto a few days ago. Hon. Mr. Graham brought that meeting a strong message from Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Hon. Mr. Graham said:

"There are those among us—the young hot-bloods—who say: 'If they (the Conservatives) are bound to break the truce, let us at them.' The message I bring from Sir Wilfrid Laurier is to ask you to remember that this is no time to be looking only for the momentary success of the Liberal party. He asks you to stand for something higher than present and immediate political success. He has made greater sacrifices than we have. He has a bigger vision than we who are younger. He asks you, the young men of Liberalism, and all of us to concern ourselves wholly with winning victories in Flanders, in Belgium and the Dardanelles, rather than winning party victories at the polls."

Mr. N. W. Rowell, the Ontario Liberal leader, dwelt gravely upon the personal responsibility of every Canadian in connection with this war. Mr. Rowell said in the course of his speech:

"If ever there was a war which commanded the consecrated, whole-souled support of every man who calls himself a Liberal, that war is this war. Britain is fighting for every advance, every reform, every ideal of free government and democracy that the Dardanelles holds dear. It is up to every one of us to do his very utmost to aid in destroying the menace of Prussian militarism which prevents any guarantee of real peace and progress in the world."

Mr. A. J. Young, president of the Reform Association, dealt more directly with the election issue. He said, in part:

"Parliament has still a year of its legal life to live, and before then we hope the war will be over; but if by unhappy chance it still continues, authority can be obtained to prolong its

CLARENCE WARD PASSES AWAY

Thursday, Nov. 2.
Clarence Ward, the venerable official at city hall, a capable and widely known historian and beloved citizen, passed away early yesterday morning. He was a grandson of one of the founders of the city and throughout his life he maintained the best of the Loyalist traditions and had won a warm place in the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens.



THE LATE CLARENCE WARD.

Although almost an octogenarian, he preserved to a remarkable degree the youthfulness of his spirit, and kept in close touch with all matters of public interest. The young people as well as his older associates found him a genial companion with a never failing fund of humor and with a kindness and generosity of heart which endeared him to all who had the privilege of his acquaintance.

His chief writings in the past had been in the form of papers prepared for the Historical Society, and in historical writings for the newspapers, his series of articles on "Old Times in St. John" being the most important.

Mr. Ward was born in St. John seventy-eight years ago. He was the youngest of four sons of the late Charles Ward, merchant, and a grandson of John Ward, one of the Loyalist fathers of the city. The family originally came from England and settled in New York state, where they were among the most prominent of the early families.

Surviving Mr. Ward are his wife, a daughter, the late James Anderson; two daughters, Mrs. Orlando V. D. Jones of Chicago, and Miss Clara Ward of the internal revenue department in this city, and one sister, the wife of I. George Cracknell of the staff of clergy of the Church of the Resurrection (The Little Church Around the Corner), New York.

Life from year to year, one year at a time, until the close of the struggle. The thoughts of an election are particularly distasteful in these dark hours. With financial burdens piling up, our sons fighting and dying in France and Belgium, recruiting calls from one country to the other for more men to feed the insatiable monster, with fathers, mothers, and wives sacrificing their time and treasure, and giving their loved ones at their country's call, this is a time to forget party and think only of the great objects to be obtained—victory.

The Toronto Globe, in considering editorially the sentiments expressed at this meeting, advances the view that the life of Parliament might well be extended for one year, and that at the end of that time a further extension might be granted if necessary. The life of Parliament has still nearly a year to run, and it is not at all likely that an indefinite extension will either be necessary or in the public interest. What the country now needs in order that it may give proper consideration to this question is a public statement from the Prime Minister as to what the government proposes. That proposal will necessarily be dealt with by the House of Commons when parliament meets. It may be that no extension of the natural term of Parliament will be necessary at all. What is needed is an understanding between the political parties that such an extension will be given if it proves to be necessary. As the country does not desire an election, and as the political parties ought not to desire it, a reasonable agreement in the House of Commons should not be a matter of difficulty. Canada is talking war, not politics.

RECRUITING.

In the last official statement of recruiting made public by the Dominion government we are told that the Maritime Provinces have provided 15,000 men, that Quebec has provided 28,000, that Manitoba and Saskatchewan have enlisted 28,000, Ontario 64,000, British Columbia 18,000, and Alberta 17,000. Manitoba and Saskatchewan are given together, and so are the Maritime Provinces, as constituting the sixth military district.

It would be better if Ottawa would make up separately the returns for New Brunswick, for Nova Scotia and for Prince Edward Island. These enlistments are all on the records of the Department of Militia and Defence, and by making them up separately each of these provinces would have more clearly before it the work which remains to be done in raising additional recruits. It would be well if the number of recruits for Manitoba and Saskatchewan were given separately also. A definite statement of this kind for every province would undoubtedly assist recruiting, as it would bring home to every citizen a clear measure of the duty of his province and himself as a citizen.

Recruiting in New Brunswick, and we believe in Nova Scotia and Prince Ed-

ward Island also, has been going forward more briskly of late but it is not well to disguise the fact that even greater efforts are necessary. The demands of the war, considered in conjunction with the recruiting level established in other parts of the Empire, make it necessary that New Brunswick should rapidly enlist several thousands of additional soldiers. Public-spirited men in every community in New Brunswick are now giving consideration to this matter, and it must be everywhere recognized that speed and energy are most vital and necessary in order that the cause may not lack the full number of men which this province should furnish.

WAR COMMENT.

There has been much public discussion concerning the number of men employed in the war by the British Empire. The Prime Minister said some weeks ago that 8,000,000 men had enlisted in the land and sea forces, and that number has been mistakenly accepted by several publicists as an accurate measure of what the British Empire has done. But Mr. Asquith was referring to enlistments since the beginning of the war, and it is to be remembered that before the war began the British forces by sea and land, including the Territorials, amounted to 1,100,000 men. In addition to these and to the enlistments in the British Isles during the last sixteen months, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India have made large contributions. Today the British Empire as a whole has on sea and land about 6,000,000 men, of whom about 4,000,000 are to be credited to the United Kingdom. Furthermore, the raising of men is going forward steadily in every part of the Empire, though especially in the British Isles, and with the coming of next Spring, in spite of casualties, Great Britain bids fair to have at its command not only an admittedly supreme navy but a land force far exceeding the most daring estimates made during the early months of the conflict.

In pushing forward recruiting in Canada, we, like the other parts of the Empire, are helping to create the weight which will finally turn the scale in favor of the Allies. In this country we have as yet no real conception of the sacrifices made by Great Britain and our Allies in the matter of men and of expenditure. We do not yet begin to understand the meaning of their casualties and the deprivation suffered by their civilian population. We read about, but we do not really understand, the ravages of war.

In Great Britain today, the Great Britain which is waging war at sea, in Belgium, and in France, in Serbia, in Mesopotamia, and on several fronts in Africa, public men are warning the nation against the dangers that would arise from a premature peace. These men are not afraid of the issue of the war. They are confident of victory if only the public stand in all parts of the Empire can be held down to the hard and fast truth that an inconclusive peace would mean defeat for the time and would be followed by another war to settle the questions which this conflict should settle.

It has been pointed out that during the Civil War in the United States the greatest danger ever confronting the North was that the South might gain an inconclusive peace after three years of the struggle. The South was then in reality beaten, but it was still fighting strongly, and if terms could have been made at that time all the sacrifices which the North had made, and which finally resulted in victory and in lasting peace, would have been thrown away.

Consideration of this aspect of the war leads the Winnipeg Free Press to say:

"It might be well for the Allied nations to let it be known that any suggestion of peace at this time, whether put forward by king or cleric or potentate, will be regarded as a deliberate declaration of unfriendliness. The nations which have not had sufficient sand to get into this fight for civilization will please keep outside the fence for another year or two. The war is at, or near, the turning-point, and during the next year it will develop steadily against the Central Empires. Those who seek peace now are simply trying to save the Germans the fruits of their early successes, due to their treacherous surprise attack on the world."

And Germany must not be saved in that way. There is only one road to satisfactory peace, and that lies through more fighting, the pursuit of the war with increased weight and vigor. This means, among other things, that Canada will have to enlarge its recruiting programme, following the example of Australia, and steadily facing the fact that the self-governing Dominions must proceed upon the assumption that they may have to contribute twice as many men as they contemplated some months ago.

A London cablegram of yesterday gives the German casualties up to November 22 as 3,700,000. The daily wastage among the German forces is now placed at about 800,000 a month. Mr. Frederick Palmer said a short time ago that if the curtain of steel which surrounds Germany could be lifted it would reveal conditions which would surprise the world. The publication of the casualty list lifts that curtain to some extent. The Germans must realize the fatal nature of their own losses, and they see that month after month the war goes on without accomplishing the defeat of any of the opposing nations. Indeed even in Germany the knowledge cannot be avoided that the Allies are growing in strength. No one knows today how much more blood Germany will lose before admitting defeat. We only know that the German

nation is being shot to pieces and that continuous pressure upon every front, coupled with a growing knowledge of the certainty of the end, must in time bring the Germans to their knees.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

There will be general regret because of the death of Mr. Clarence Ward, a good citizen and a talented one.

Mr. F. B. Carvell's latest letter on the hay question should have two results: first, it should give the farmers a fair price for their hay; and, secondly, it should bring the whole matter before the Davidson commission.

Neither Emperor William nor Emperor Francis Joseph could master his emotion when the two monarchs met yesterday. Was it the emotion of guilty minds? Who should be a victim of such emotion if these two men are not?

Apparently the Kaiser still has hopes that King Constantine of Greece may ultimately swing to his side. But Constantine is hardly in a position to follow his own desires. The Allies have profited by their experience with Bulgaria.

The French Minister of War, in calling for the military class of 1917, intimated that the great drive on the western front is to take place in the spring. Then, he explained, the Allies will make "the decisive effort." By that time they should be able to strike with new power on every front. And by spring even Russia will have an abundant supply of guns and ammunition.

The farmers of the West are going to hold the government strictly responsible if they are not given the right to sell freely the products of the farm. There is about as much chance of them ceasing to demand this right, says the Winnipeg Tribune, as there is of the Red River changing its everlasting course and flowing south instead of north.

It would be interesting to know just what Brand Whitlock said to President Wilson with respect to the murder of Miss Cavell and other German crimes. It may be assumed that the Ambassador's statement would not increase one's respect for the nation which has horrified the world by its acts of crime in Belgium and its massacre of American women and children on the high seas.

The Canadian officer who escaped from a German prison camp and finally made his way out of German territory could write a thrilling story of his experience. He has been able to give the War Office much valuable information regarding conditions in the enemy's country. It requires a lot of courage and nerve to take such a chance, but Major Anderson apparently is well supplied with both.

It was not very long ago that Pancho Villa was looked upon as the man most likely to become the recognized President of Mexico. Today he is but a bandit leader with a price on his head. During the last few days he has murdered three American ranchers, a couple of American soldiers and several other very worthy citizens of the great United States. That does not make him any worse a murderer than Carranza, but Carranza has succeeded in getting himself recognized as the President of his country and apparently is trying to bring order out of chaos. Meantime other Villars are springing up, and the outlook for peace and quietness in Mexico is not at all bright.

What is to be done about German ownership of large tracts of land in British Columbia? The Montreal News demands an investigation, saying:

"Mr. H. C. Brewster's speech at the Reform Club yesterday raised a point which is of very grave importance to the whole Dominion. His statement is, briefly, that of the fifteen million acres of agricultural lands in his native province of British Columbia more than a third is held by speculative interests. It is well-known that the same circumstance is operative elsewhere, particularly in Saskatchewan, but the situation is intensified in the Pacific Province by the fact that several million acres of the most desirable lands are actually held by German or German-American syndicates. This state of affairs requires prompt investigation."

If Mr. Henry Ford is as wise as his business competitors believe him to be, he may be expected to abandon his peace trip to Europe. So far as one can learn his proposed mission is receiving no public support in his own country, while practically every responsible American newspaper from the Atlantic to the Pacific is condemning it in the strongest possible terms. The Boston Transcript points out that if Mr. Ford's scheme were not so utterly vain it would be vicious.

"Those who talk peace today, and those who crusade against American preparedness, are doing simply the work of a great conspiracy against the peace of the world. Mr. Ford has a great deal of money, honestly earned. He has a perfect right, under the law, to sink his gold to the bottom of the sea, and dissolve his bank bills and his bonds and securities in the general waters of the Gulf Stream, if he wants to. But he cannot achieve the mischief of securing a measurable Teutonic triumph by bringing this terrible war to a false conclusion now. It will have to be fought out to a different ending if blood goes on flowing for years to come."

The Nation, London, points out that the war so far has proceeded on the lines we might have expected, and that everything has not gone wrong. Referring to such "extraordinary victories as the Marne and the first Battle of Ypres," it says:

"If we could achieve these when we were far the weaker, what shall we be able to do when we are the stronger of the belligerent groups? Our own losses give us a sure indication of the scale of the enemy's wastage. The new adventure in the Balkans may hold unwelcome surprises for us, but can hardly turn to our permanent disadvantage. Russia is slowly regaining the power of the in-

itiative. Endurance is the watchword of the hour, and it is the last lap that tells."

Correspondents describe the fighting at Gorizia as the fiercest of the war. The Italians are slowly but surely closing in on the Austrian positions in that territory and a great victory is expected daily. One observer says:

"The struggle on the Isonzo has developed into one in which men's lives are paid out daily in hundreds for a few yards of trench or a rocky hilltop. The battle for the possession of Gorizia has become one of the great dramatic events of the war. The best evidence of how desperate is the condition of the enemy on the Isonzo front is found in the statement that 80,000 fresh Austrian troops have been sent forward to make up for the recent wastage. The defence of Gorizia is proving a fearful drain upon Austria-Hungary, which has to fight without German aid on the Italian frontier."

Edith Cavell.

(Rev. J. F. Johnson).

Ye, through whose veins flows the warm blood of freedom,
Surging restless like ocean's grand swell,
Ye who are landmen and ye, who are seamen,
List to the story of Edith Cavell.

She was a nurse for our army in Flanders,
Gentle and kind as a soft summer breeze,
Scattering brightness like spendthrift treasures of wealth for the pleasures of ease.

She was a flower from the sweet smiling Devon,
Fairer the fairest that grows on its banks;
She was a ray of the sunshine of heaven
Cheering the hearts of the men in our ranks.

If you should ask of the war-battered hero
Who for his country and king woundled fell,
Who nursed his life back when life was at zero,
Quick would he answer: 'Twas Edith Cavell.

Many a foeman she soothed in his anguish,
Quick to relieve him when death hovered near,
Never allowing her true zeal to languish,
Never refusing a smile or a tear.

What was her fate, then, and what is the story?
Surely no evil this angel befall!
All this is part of a true woman's glory
Shared by the sisters of Edith Cavell.

She was denounced to the German invader,
Charged with assisting his prisoners to fly,
Seized and imprisoned, with no one to try,
Tried by court-martial and sentenced to die.

Dark was the night of the Twelfth of October,
Brussels was silent—of life not a sign,
Save for the tramp of the guards, stern and sober,
Thinking of homes in the land of the Rhine.

List, through the darkness as midnight draws nigher,
Men are approaching with quick martial tread.
What secret deed does these armed men lead?
Where are they marching, by whom are they led?

On through the streets of the slumbering city,
Straight to their goal as a howitzer shell,
Grimly they march with their hearts steeled 'gainst pity,
Straight to the prison of Edith Cavell.

"Bring forth this woman who dared to defy us,
Bandage those eyes of the tenderest blue,
Let not their innocent brightness deny us
Strength to accomplish the work we're to do."

Thus spoke the leader. This answered the maiden:
"I have no fears of the terrors of death,
Long have I aided the sick and sore-laden,
Till the soul fled with the last gasping breath."

"Why should you blind me when death is so near me?
I should behold him with unbanded eyes.
Dead in my grave, you'll have more cause to fear me
When at my name England's men will arise."

"See, I have pinned here the flag that I love best,
Long has it waved o'er the land and the sea,
Let it remain when my soul shall have sought rest
Out in the measureless eternity."

Quick then a vision of home hovered before her,
Home that she loved in her own Devonshire;
Fainting, she fell on the pavement before her,
Stricken by love though a stranger to fear.

Quickly the leader then looked down upon her,
Pistol in hand for his ignoble part,
Swiftly he raised it, to manhood's dishonor,
Fired, and the bullet went straight through her heart.

Ye, through whose veins flows the warm blood of freedom,
Surging restless like ocean's grand swell,
Ye who are landmen and ye who are seamen,
This is the story of Edith Cavell.

Those Queer Girls.

He—I shall be perfectly miserable when I have to go away and leave you. I'd be so happy.—Boston Transcript.

"Mumme, why does Uncle John eat off his knife?" queried the little darling.
"Hush, dear!" replied mother in an aggrieved whisper. "Uncle John is so full of life that if he were to eat off the coal shovel he'd prefer it."

If you intend to do a mean thing, wait till tomorrow. If you are to do a noble thing, do it now.

THRILL

Kipling Describes Sea in Under Submarine—From the Sea