

that is contradicted by our violation of deepest Christian principle, the profession of Christian faith, combined with the ethic of the savage, and the bestiality of the jungle. It is vain to separate ourselves, as individuals, from national transgressions and contrast ourselves as innocent, with the guilty ones whose crimes sometimes find exposure. **We** are the people. **We** live under the system which the war is judging. **We** have profited by it. It is for **us** to repent in dust and ashes, to approach the Judge of all the earth, the advocate of the widow and the fatherless, the poor and those that have no helper, confessing our shame, and beseeching the mercy which, alas, we have too often denied to others.

The members of the Commission desire to join in the acknowledgment of national sin. They call upon all men everywhere to repent ; they entreat all ministers and teachers of religion to bear witness, at any cost to themselves, to national crimes, and the need of national repentance. They are persuaded that there can be no nation-wide revival of religion that is not inaugurated by nation-wide humiliation before the Being, whose Holy Love has been so flagrantly violated.

IV.—OUR FAITH IS IN THE HISTORIC CHRIST

In the fourth place, we confess our faith in Christ, the Historic Jesus, the Christ of Calvary, the living and exalted Lord, as the Saviour, even of such a world as this, the Redeemer of men who have so fearfully lost their way, the Hope of the German race, which has sinned so grievously and has been so awfully afflicted.

We are "not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ" (Rom. 1 : 16, 17). We are convinced that to-day, even as in the first years of the Church's history, it is "the power of God unto salvation." We firmly believe that the supreme function of the Church, i.e., of every individual believer, is to proclaim and interpret, illustrate and verify, in word and deed, "the glorious gospel of the blessed God." We confess that we have ourselves not always remembered this, and have sometimes turned aside from central themes, and have failed to give Christ in our preaching the supreme place that is His in the redemption of the world. If any of our brethren are conscious of like failure, we beseech and require them, by the mercies of God, that they "confess Christ before men" in daily life ; and that in preaching and teaching, they shall "know not anything save Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Cor. 2 : 2), and that they shall have one master motive in all their ministry to make Jesus known to men as Saviour and Lord, and to win to His allegiance all whom they can reach.