

CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

NATURALLY the first, but certainly the least thing we say about the Cross is that it happened at a certain place on a certain day. The background of the Cross is not Jerusalem but the whole world; its date is not a certain day but all time. I remember hearing Dr. Fairbairn many years ago say that "Calvary is an epitome of the world." It is even more than that. It is an epitome of two worlds, an epitome of God and of man. It is the whole truth of life, human and divine, focussed down to one intense point of light. Dr. Forsyth uses of the cross an epithet which I think is profoundly true. He speaks of it as being "superhistoric." There is a certain quality of timelessness and immediacy in it for every man who looks understandingly upon it; and it becomes to us, as it has been to every age, the clue to the inter-