FLOWERS ON NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN GRAVES.

Text: "The Tower of David, Builded for an Armory Whereon There Hang a Thousand Bucklers, All Shields of Mighty Men"-Sol., 4:4.



HE Church is here compared to an armory, the walls hung with trophies of dead heroes. Walk all about this tower of David, and see the dented shields and the twisted swords, and the rusted helmets of terrible battle.

So at this season, a month earlier at the South, a month later at the North, the American churches are turned into armories adorned with memories of departed braves. Blossom and bloom, O walls, with stories of self-sacrifice, and patriotism and prowess!

By unanimous decree of the people of the United States of America, the graves of all the Northern and Southern dead are every year decorated. All acerbity and bitterness have gone out of the national selemnity, and as the men and women of the South one month ago floralized the cemeteries and graveyards, so yesterday, we, the men and women of the North, put upon the tombs of our dead the kiss of patriotic affection. Bravery always appreciates bravery, though it fight on the other side; and if a soldler of the Federal army had been a month ago at Bayannah, he would not have been ashamed to march in the floral processions to the cemetery. And if yesterday a Confederate soldier was at Arlington, he was glad to put a sprig of heart's-ease on the silent heart of our

In a battle during our last war, the Confederates were driving back the Federals, who were in swift retreat, when a Federal officer dropped wounded. One of his men stopped at the risk of his life, and put his arms around the officer to carry him from the field. Fifty Confederate muskets were aimed at the young man who was picking up the officer. But the Confederate captain shouted, "Hold! don't fire! That fellow is too brave to shoot." And as the Federal officer, held up by his private soldier, went limping slowly off the field, the Confederates gave three cheers for the brave private; and just before the two disappeared behind a barn, both the wounded officer and the brave private lifted their caps in gratitude to the Confederate captain.

Shall the gospel be less generous than the world? We stack arms, the bayonet of our Northern gun facing this way, the bayonet of the Southern gun facing the other way, and as the gray of the morning melts into the blue of noon, so the typical gray and blue of old war times have blended at last, and or King James' translation without any rewision: "Glory to God in the highest. and on earth, peace, good-will to men.' Now what to we mean by this great observance?

First, we mean instruction to one whole generation. Subtract 1865, when the war ended, from our 1896, and you will realize what a vast number of people were born since the war, or were so young as to have no vivid appreciation. No one under forty-one years of age has any adequate memory of that prolonged horror. Do you remember it? "Well," you say, "I only remember that mother swooned away while she was reading the newspaper, and that they brought my father home wrapped in the flag, and that a good many people came in the house to pray, and mother faded away after that until again there were many people in the house and they told me she was dead."

There are others who cannot remember the roll of a drum or the tramp of a regiment, or a sigh or a tear of that tornado of woe that swept the nation again and again until there was one dead in each house. Now it is the religlous duty of those who do remember it to tell those who do not. My young friends, there were such partings at rail car windows and steamboat wharves, and at front doors of comfortable homes as I pray God you may never witness. Oh, what a time it was, when fathers and mothers gave up their sons, never expecting to see them again, and never did see them again crushed, and dead!

Four years of blood. Four years of hostile experiences. Four years of ghastliness. Four years of grave-digging. Four years of funerals, coffins. shouds, hearses, dirges. Mourning! mourning! mourning! It was hell let loose. What a time of waiting for news! Morning paper and evening paper scrutinized for intelligence from the boys at the front. First, announcement that the battle must occur the next day. Then the news of the battle's going on. On the following day still guing on. Then news of thirty thousand slain, and of the names of the great generals who had fallen, but no news out the private soldiers. Walting for news! After many days a load of wounded going through the town or city, but no news from our boy. Then a ng list of wounded and a long list of the dead, and a long list of the missing | I do not know that Barnegat lighthouse And among the last jut, our boy,

When missing? How missing? Who naw him hat? Missing! Missing! Was | dozen nations, envious of our prosperto in the words or by the stream? How | ity, may want to give us a wrestle, vas he hurt? Missing! Missing: What urning prayers that he may get be men like those of 1812 and like those of Seard from. In that awful walting for | 1862 to meet them. We want them all news many a life perished. The strain | up and down the coast, Pulaski and of anxiety was too great. That wife's Fort Sumter in the same chorus of metal ton used before that time.

battle, and ever and anon she walks the flooro of the asylum or looks out of the window as though she expected some one to come along the path and up the steps, as she soliloquizes, "Missing! missing!"

What made matters worse, all this might have been avoided. There was no more need of that war than at this moment I should plunge a dagger through your heart. There were a few Christian philanthropists in those days scoffed at by both North and South, who had the right of it. If they had been heard on both sides we should have had no war and no slavery. It was advised by those Christian philanthropists, "Let the North pay in money for the slaves as property, and set them free." The North said, "We cannot afford to pay." The South said, "We will not sell the slaves anyhow." But the North did pay in war expenses enough to purchase the slaves, and the South was compelled to give up slavery anyhow. Might not the North better have paid the money and saved the lives of five hundred thousand brave men, and might not the South better have gold out slavery and saved her five hundred thousand brave men? I swear you by the graves of your fathers and brothers, and sons to a new hatred for-the champion curse of the universe-war! O Lord, God, with the hottest bolt of thine omnipotent indignation, strike that monster down forever and ever. Imprison it in the deepest dungeon of the eternal penitentiary; Bolt it in with all the iron ever forged in cannon or moulded into howitzers, Cleave it with all the sabres that ever glittered in battle, and wring its soul with all the pangs which it ever caused. Let it feel all the conflagrations of the homesteads it ever destroyed. Deeper down let it fall, and in flercer flame let it burn, till it has gathered into its heart all the suffering of eternity as well as time. In the name of the millions of graves of its victims, I denounce it. The nations need more the

War is more ghastly now than once, not only because of the greater destructiveness of its weaponry, but because now it takes down the best men, whereas once it chiefly took down the worst. Bruce in 1717, in his Institutions of Military Law, said of the European armies of his day: "If all infamous persons and such as have committed capital crimes, heretics, atheists, and all dastardly feminine men, were weeded out of the army, it would soon be reduced to a pretty moderate number." Flogging and mean pay made them still more ignoble. Officers were appointed to see that each soldier drank his ration of a pint of spirits a day. There were noble men in battle, but the moral character of the army then was ninety-five per cent, lower than the moral character of an army today. By so much is war now the more detestable because it destroys the picked men of the nations.

spirit of treaty and less of the spirit of

Again, by the national ceremony these departed soldiers were volunteers, not conscripts, and many of those who were drafted might have provided a substitute or got off on furlough or have deserted. The fact that they lie in their graves is proof of their bravery. Brave at the front, brave at the cannon's mouth, brave on lonely picket duty, brave in cavalry charge, brave before the surgeon, brave in the dying message to the home circle. We yesterday put a garland on the brow of courage. The world wants more of it.

... Again, by this national ceremony we mean the future defense of this nation. By every wreath of flowers on the soldiers' graves we say, "Those who die for the country shall not be forgotten," and that will give enthusiasm to our young men in case our nation should in the future need to defend itself in bat-We shall never have another war between North and South. The old decayed bone of contention. American slavery, has been cast out, although here and there a depraved politician takes it up to see if he can't gnaw something off it. We are floating off farther and farther from the possibility of sec-

No possibility of civil war. But about foreign invasion I am not so certain. When I spoke against war I said nothing against self-defence. An inventor told me that he had invented a style of weapon which could be used in self-defence, but not in aggressive warfare. I said, "When you get the nations to adopt that weapon you have introduced until they came back mutilated, and | the millennium." I have no right to go on my neighbor's premises and assault him, but if some ruffian breaks into my house for the assassination of my famfly, and I can borrow a gun and had it in time and aim it straight enough, I will shoot him.

There is no room on this continent for any other nation-except Canada, and a better neighbor no one ever had. you don't think so, go to Montreal and Terento, and see how well they will treat you. Other than that there is absolutely no room for any other nation. I have been across the continent again and again, and know that we have not a half-inch of ground for the gouty foot of foreign despotism to stand on. But I am not so sure that some of the arrogant nations of Europe may not evene day challenge us. I do not knew that those forts around New York Bay are to sleep all through the next century. will not yet look off upon a hostile navy. I do not know but that a half-

If foreign foe should come, we want

brain gave way that first week after the thunder as Fort Lafayette and brt FARM AND GARDEN. Hamilton. Men who will not aly know how to fight, but how to lie. When such a time comes, if it ever oes come, the generation on the stag of action will say, "My country will are for my family as they did in the oldiers' asylum for the orphans in the civil war, and my country will hnor my dust as it honored those who receded me in patriotic sacrifice, and uce a year at any rate, on Decoration Dr. I shall be resurrected in the rem brance of those for whom I died. Bre

I go for God and my country! Huzza!" If foreign foe should come, the id sectional animosities would have no power. Here go our regiments into he battle-field: Fifteenth New York plunteers, Tenth Alabama cavalry, Forteenth Pennsylvania riflemen, Toth Massachusetts artillery, Seventh Soth Carolina sharpshooters. I do not kow but it may require the attack of sone foreign foe to make us forget our about sectional wrangling. I have no fath in the cry, "No North, no South, no East, no West." Let all four sections keep their peculiarities and their preferences, each doing its own work ad not interfering with each other, each of the four carrying its part in the great harmony-the bass, the alto, the tear, | best for temporary use. the soprano-in the grand march of

Union. Once more, the great national coremony, means the beautification of the their beds or in our arms or on our laps. I suppose you have noticed that many of the families take this season as the time for the adornment of their family plots. This national observance has secured the arboriculture and floriculture of the cemeteries, the straightening up of many a slab planted thirty of forty years ago, and has swung the and thousands of tons were shipped scythe through the long grass and has brought the stone-cutter to call out the half-obliterated epitaph. This day is the benediction of the resting-place of father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister.

It is all that we can do for them now. Make their resting-place attractive, not absurd with costly outlay, but in quiet remembrance. You know how. If you creased to 1.95 tons, against an avercan afford only one flower, that will do. | age of 1.06 tons for the whole of the It shows what you would do if you United States, or 84 per cent above the could. One blossom from you may mean more than the duke of Wellington's catafalque. Oh, we cannot afford to forget them. They were so lovely to us. We miss them so much. We will never get over it. Blessed Lord Jesus, comfort our broken hearts. From every bank of flowers breathes promise of resurrection.

In olden times the Hebrews, returning from their burial place, used to pluck the grass from the field three or four times, then throw it over their heads, suggestive of the resurrection. We pick not the grass, but the flowers, and instead of throwing them over our heads we place them before our eyes. right down over the silent heart that once beat with warmest love toward us,

bodies will soon join the bodies of our foot and a half in diameter. departed in the tomb, and our spirits shall join their spirits in the land of the rising sun. We cannot long be separated. Instead of crying with Jacob for Joseph, "I will go down into the grave unto my son, mourning," let us cry with David. "I shall go to him."

On one of the gates of Greenwood is the quaint inscription: "A night's lodging on the way to the city of the New Jerusalem." Comfort one another with these words. May the hand of him who shall wipe away all tears from all eyes wipe your cheeks with its softest tenderness. The Christ of Mary, and Martha, and Lazarus will enfold you in his arms. The white-robed angels who sat at the tomb of Jesus will vet roll the stone from the door of your dead in radiant resurrection. Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout and the voice of the archangel. So the Dead March in Saul shall become the Hallelujah Chorus,

## GREATEST THINGS.

Moscow, Russia, has the largest bell in the world, 432,000 pounds. The Alexandrian Library contains

400,000 valuable books 47 B. C. The first theater in the United States was at Williamsburg, Va., 1752.

Congress declared war with Mexico, May 13, 1846; closed Feb. 2, 1848. Columbus discovered America, Oct. 12, 1492; the Northmen A. D. 985.

The electric eel is only found in the northern rivers of South America. The highest denomination of United States legal tender notes is \$10,000.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Ellas Howe, Jr., in Lendon is the largest city in the

world, containing a population of 4,-764.312 persons. First cotton raised in the United States was in Virginia, in 1621; first ex-

ported, 1747. The largest university is Oxford, in England. It consists of twenty-one colleges and five halls. First sugar-cone cultivated in the

United States, near New Orleans, 1751; first sugar-mill, 1758. The first illumination with gas was in Cornwall, Eng., 1792; in the United

States, at Boston, 1822. First telegraphy in operation in America was between Washington and Baltimore, May 27, 1844.

Printing was known in China in the 6th century; introduced into England about 1474; America, 1534. The great wall of Chius, built 200 H C., is 1,250 miles in length, 20 feet high,

and 25 feet thick at the base. Glass mirrora first made by Vone-

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof-Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.



HE Eighth Report of the Mississippi Experiment Station says:

In 1988 the station commenced a series of experiments with grasses and forage plants with a view of determining: 1. What plants

will restore fertility to the soil most rapidly, and at the same time give fair returns in hay or pasture.

2. What plants will make the most permanent meadows. 3. What plants will make the best

permanent pastures, especially for winter grazing. What hay producing plants are

Since the commencement of the work, 586 species have been grown, many of them on soils widely different in character. Sowings have cen made tombs, whether of those who fell in bat- at different seasons and under differtle or accident, or who have expired in ent conditions; seeds of the more promising sorts have been distributed to lanters in different parts of the sinte, and special attention has been given to the fertilizing and winter grazing values of each species. When this work was commenced, almost no hay was grown in the state, except what was used by planters for home consumption, into the state annually. The census report for 1880 gives the yield of hay in Mississippi as being only .83 tons per acre, against an average yield of 1.14 per acre for the whole United States. In 1893 the yield of hay for this state had doubled, being then 1.66 tons per acre against an average of 1.32 tons for the whole country. In 1895 the average yield in Mississippi had in-

Hunting for Honey in Texas.

average, and 114 per cent above the

average yield in the northern and cen-

tral states of the Mississippi valley.

Boston Evening Transcript: We have nad wonderful weather here for some weeks past, cold at times, but no frost for several weeks, and in consequence everything is in full leaf and bloom. We seldom have such a spring. The flowers are in the greatest profusion and infinite variety the hills and valleys are dressed in a coat of many colors. The great white heads of the Spanish daggers look like ghosts as they stand around on the hillsides. At a distance the leaves of the plant are visible among the general green, and or over the still feet that ran to service, the flower stalk stands tall and stately or over the lips from which we took the with its load of creamy bells, the whole we mean to honor courage. Many of kiss at the anguish of the last parting, cluster being often four feet from the But stop! We are not infidels. Our top buds to the lower flowers, and a

There is another shrub with purple flowers that is very much in evidence just now; some of the bushes are covered so closely with blossoms as to leave only little places through which the crisp green leaves show. The flowers are in clusters five or six inches long, drooping from the end of each twig, and one must see them to have an idea of their gorgeous beauty. There are whole hillsides of them, too, piled one tier above another. Still another shrub with a flower the color of peach blossom is the most beautiful of all. There are several large places on the range where cedar brakes have been burned, and they are almost entirely covered with these bushes, and in looking over the tops of them on a level it seems like a pink wall, with the old black cedar trunks and burnt pines looming over them in gaunt derision.

The warm weather brings the bees out in full force, and I am more than ever fascinated with the little insects. I never see one sipping at a flower or flying along in the air but he says: "O, no, you can't find my house; others you may find, but mine, never." And forthwith I take up the challenge and never cease hunting until I find it. Though two or three years may pass I seldom fail to do so eventually, and you have no idea what fascination there is in it after one has experience. I can usually, after seeing several bees go home and after getting the course laid off, run them home in a couple of hours, unless they go more than two miles. It seems ridiculous to any one who does not know their ways to make such a claim, but it can be done. To any eye except a bee hunter's a bee in the air is invisible. I question if many people over saw one flying, unless it was in the act of alighting on a flower, but they travel through the air as people travel on earth, and wonderful powers of sight they must have. Heides that, there is no doubt in my mind that there is an intelligent ordering of the whole business of the hive, and a means of communicating of one with the others.

Sometimes I take a lot of comb with a little honey on it, and set it on the top of a hill, or in an open place where I can see in all directions, and leave it for a day or two, until the bees are working at it strong, and can then run them home in a little while. When I have leisure I stay and wait for them to come, and encourage them by burning a piece of comb every half hour or so. If it is a warm, bright day in winter and the comb is within two miles of a swarm, they will come before the first hour is out. The first one, always doubling here and there, files in ever narrowing circules, until he finds the exact location of the sweet tians in the 13th century. Polished smell; he examines it from all sides, slowly buzzing around it, and finally alights, inserts his long, slim tongue

work, and in a few minutes is as full as he can fly. Slowly he rises, carefully scanning the country as he gets higher, so that he can tell the others the exact locality of his find, probably. As he gets still higher, he feels confidence,

and away he goes, slowly and carefully,

but directly toward home.

I generally time the first bee, and can judge accurately as to distance by that, allowing about fifteen or twenty minutes to a mile, going and coming. The bee never delays an instant, except to unload and make his report, and then is off again. If it is a reliable bee his first report is heeded and three bees, or in rare cases four, are sent at once after him, arriving at the bait a minute after the first one comes for the second load. Once or twice I have seen the first bee make two or three trips alone, as if his report had not been considered truthful enough for others to be sent to his aid. If the swarm is at work elsewhere there are seldom more than twenty sent to the new place, but if there is no more honey to be had they keep coming in regular detachments until, to the experienced eye, it is like a road to a populous town, and some are going loaded, others are hurrying along to have a hand in the spoil and seldom getting far from the beaten track. As one nears the hive (tree or cave, as it may be) the coming and going becomes incessant, some high in the air and others close to the ground, but all busy and eager to be doing their share. And to think that to most eyes all this is invisible! In all the men I have had here-probably 100 Mexicans in the last three winters-born woodsmen as they are, and true sons of nature, only one can see a bee in the air; another is learning the craft a

Cost of Raising Corn in Kansas.

little with my help. Truly, one may

have eyes and see not!

Kansas is certainly a great corn state. Statistics show that the average annual yield for all the thirty-four years, bad seasons and good, since 1861, has been twenty-seven bushels per acre for the entire state, ranging in different years from nine to forty-eight and fourfifths bushels. The product for twentyfive years ending with 1895 has had an annual home value averaging more than \$31,000,000, and a total value in that time exceeding \$776,000,000.

Secretary Coburn in the March quarterly report of the State Board of Agriculture, presents a detailed showing from sixty-eight long-time extensive growers, in forty-five counties which last year produced 140,000,000 bushels, giving from their experience "on such a basis as others can safely accept" each principal item of cost in growing and cribbing an acre of corn, estimating the yield at forty bushels. About two-thirds of those reporting prefer planting with listers, and the others use the better known check-row method, after the land has been plowed and harrowed.

The statements of all the growers summed up, averaged and itemized, show as follows:

COST OF RAISING AN ACRE OF

CORN. Seed .....\$ 0.07 Planting (with lister, or with check-row planter, including cost of previous plowing and harrowing) ..... Cultivating ...... 1.03 Husking and putting in crib... 1.18 Wear and tear and interest on Rent of land (or interest on its

value) ...... 2.41 Total cost .....\$ 5.71 ... 29.25 acre .......

C. D. Coburn.

Bacteria in Milk.-When the milk comes from the udder of the cow it is generally supposed to be free from bacteria. Yet five minutes afterward it contains whole colonies of bacteria washed out of the milk ducts, dusted off the flanks of the cows, blown by the wind from the filthy barn or stirred up from the bottom and sides of the milk pail itself. Thorough attention to all details of milk and milking will do much to overcome the troubles often found in the dairy and in dairy

Humus in Soil .- No soil can be made to produce good crops without the presence of a fair supply of humus or decayed vegetable matter. Freshly cleared lands, and lands which have not been plowed for many years, usually contain an abundance of humus, but when lands have long been cultivated in hoed crops like corn and cotton, the humus becomes exhausted and must be replaced before they can be made profitable. Just how this humus shall be supplied must depend on the circumstances of each plantation. When it can be had in sufficient quantity, there is no better material for this purpose than is stable manure, but as this can seldom be secured in sufficientamounts, recourse must be had to other materials.

Well-Prepared Ground .- The true rule is to sow no more ground than can be thoroughly prepared; but where the soil is not too compact, and is free from weed growth, plowing may sometimes be dispensed with and the upper crust be put in good shape to receive oats by careful harrowing. Thus it may be under way before the pressing spring work begins .- Ex.

Curtosities of Grafting.-The olive has been grafted or a juniper, apples on plums, a rose on an orange, peaches on myrtles, and mulberries and red and white grapes with peaches and apricots on the same stem, for, as the buds are distinct, the siem furnishes nutriment for all.

An agitation is progressing in England on the question of the government paying for tuberculosis carcasses animals that may be condemned by the inspectors.

in a drop of honey, sets his pump to THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON XL, SUNDAY JUNE 14-JESUS IS CRUCIFIED.

Golden Text--"Christ Died for Our Stas According to the Scriptures" - I. Corinthians 15:13-Story of the Trial before Pilate.



HE whole story of the trial and crucifixion belongs to this lesson. There is this advantage in this fact, that we can embrace within one view as a whole that which in all our former studies we have beheld in a succession of separate pictures, with weeks intervening between them. Time of the Trials.-

Between 1 and 2 o'clock till about 8 o'clock, Friday morning, April 7, A. D. 30. Place,—The high priest's palace, the hall of the Sanhedrim, Pilate's pretorium or judg-

nent hall, and Herod's palace. Rulers,-Tiberius Caesar, emperor of Rome Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea; Herod An-tipas, of Galilee; Calaphas, the high priest. To-day's lesson includes Luke 23: 33-46. The

explanations are as follows: 33. "The place \* \* \* called Calvary." The skull, probably from its shape, a knoll in the form of a skull. Calvary is Latin and Golgotha Hebrew for skull. Scholars now tend toward the belief that Calvary was the knoll in which is the grotto of Jeremiah, about 300 feet beyond the north wall of the city. "They crucified him." Jesus was nailed to the cross while it was lying upon the ground, then it. was slowly raised with the sufferer upon it. The feet of the sufferer were only a foot or two above the ground, and not as represented

n most pictures 34. "Pather, forgive them." These first words from the cross were probably spoken in the height of the agony, when the cross with the victim upon it was dropped with a sudden wrench into its place in the ground. "They know not what they do." They did not realize that they were murdering their Messiah, tho ne who loved them with an infinite love, the Son of God. Therefore, forgiveness was possold of God. Therefore, forgiveness was pos-sible for them, and a change of life. They had not passed the degree from which return was impossible. "And they," the guard of soldiers, "parted his raiment," those parts which could be fairly divided among them, "casting lots" for his inner coat or tunic,

which was woven in a single piece.

35. "And the people \* \* \* and the rulers also with them, derided him," scoffed at him. There was an unruly, turbulent crowd, shouting, scoffing, mocking. "He saved others; let him save himself," which of course he could do if he were the "Christ," the Messiah. They implied that he was a cheat, a mere trickster, who had deceived the people, unless he proved his power by using it to save himself from crucifixion. But he did not come down, in order that he might save others, and because

he was the Messiah. 26. "The soldiers also" took part in the mockery. It seemed absurd that this dying man was a king, yet by this act he was be oming a king over a wider realm than Rome

ever knew. 38. "And a superscription also was written over him." The white tablet nailed upon the cross above the head of the victim, to declare the crime for which he was crucified. "In letters of Greek," the language of literature and culture, read in all cultured circles of the world. Latin, for the Roman soldiers, the language of law and power. "And Hebrew," the language of the Jews, the language of religion. "One of the malefactors," called elsewhere "robbers." Probably Jewish fanatics, who made insurrection against the Roman power, and used this as a pretext for rapine and murder. "Railed on him" in his agony, wondering why Jesus did not exert his power if he had any. Pain does not necessarily make one better. "If thou be Christ," the Mess!ah, as Jesus confessed before the high priests.

"The other \* \* rebuked him." It is quite possible that he had heard Jesus, and seen his miracles, and had witnessed the trial. 41. "We indeed justly," showing his peni-

42. "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." This implies that the robber had heard of some of the teachings of Jesus. The robber showed that he believed in Christ as the Son of God; (2) in his love; (3) in his power to save; (4) in the immer tality of the soul; (5) in the kingdom of heaven.

43. "To-day," not in the far future, "shalt. thou be with me in paradise." a word signify-ing a pleasure ground or park, and designating the place of the happy dead.

44. "It was about the sixth hour." 12 o'clock. 'Darkness over all the earth," rather, with revised version, the land. "The ninth hour, 3 o'clock p. m., the hour of the daily evening

45. "The vell of the temple was rent." This. was the veil that hung between the holy place and the holy of holies into which the high priest entered once a year. It was 60 feet long. and 30 feet wide, and as thick as the paim of the hand. At this time were uttered the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh words from the cross, of which the last was, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit. Gave up the ghost," or spirit. Literally, breathed out his life. None of the evangelists use the common word for dying, but all, some form of expression denoting a voluntary yielding up of his life. As Jesus died there was an earthquake, which rent rocks and opened graves (Matthew 27: 52), and the whole scene deeply impressed the people, and even the Roman centurion declared, "Truly, this was the Son

## Platinum at the Center.

An ingenious geologist has propounded the astonishing theory that the center of the earth is a mass of molten gold and platinum. He says: "If you put into a bottle some coffee, some sand, and some quicksilver, fill it up with water and then shake it briskly, as soon as it has rested for a minute you will have a layer of quicksilver at the bottom, a layer of sano in the middle and a layer of coffee on top, with the water over all. That ie, the heaviest at the bottom and the lightest on top. At one time the earth was just like the contents of the snaken bottle. And as it has cooled it is likely that the heaviest of all the elementsplatinum-has gone to the bottom, that is, the center; and that the platinum is surrounded by a layer of pure gold. The gold that we find on the surface is merely a small quantity that, here and there got entangled with other things and was prevented from sinking."

ODDITIES OF NATURE.

The original inventor of paper was the wasp.

A flea's mouth is placed exactly between his fore legs. There are more muscles in the thie of

a rat than in a human hand. The offspring of a single fly in one summer, if none are destroyed, may Bumber 2,800,000.

The horn of the rhinoceros is not joined to the hone of the head, but grows on the skin like a wart or corn.