

also as a symbol of Christ as Mr. Isaac Myer says in his monograph on *Scarabs*, pages 63-64:

"After the Christian era the influence of the cult of the scarab was still left. St. Ambrose, archbishop of Milan, calls Jesus 'the good Scarabaeus, who rolled up before him the hitherto unshapen mud of our bodies.' St. Epiphanius has been quoted as saying of Christ: 'He is the scarabaeus of God,' and indeed it appears likely that what may be called Christian forms of the scarab yet exist. One has been described as representing the crucifixion of Jesus; it is white and the engraving is in green, on the back are two palm branches; many others have been found apparently engraved with the Latin cross."

AN ITALIAN WAR HERO.

Captain Riccardo Cipriani, some of whose letters from the Italian front we are publishing on another page, had been an officer in the Italian navy for twenty years but left the navy about six years ago. When war was declared he joined the aviation corps, as his letters explain, and died in action. The King of Italy awarded him a medal "for military valor" which was delivered to one of his sisters at the Naval Academy in his native city Leghorn. At the time of the award the King made the following statement: "Free from any kind of military obligation he enrolled as a simple military observer in the aviation service. In this capacity he made many daring and fruitful observations of the enemy's fire. Flying almost always under fire of the enemy, he finally fell when the enemy's shrapnel set fire to his aeroplane."

The Leghorn Gazette wrote on the same occasion: "He had a brilliant career, which he voluntarily abandoned when access to the highest grades in the navy could be considered practically a sure thing for him. But last May, when Italy declared war against Austria, Cipriani, eager to give his services to his country, although he was entitled to reenter the navy with the rank of *capitano di fregata*, chose to enroll as simple military observer in the aviation corps. He made many important flights, rendering great service, and showing at all times reckless courage. . . . Our brave fellow-citizen Riccardo Cipriani was the third son of Giuseppe Cipriani, brave patriot, who stopping the flight of the Tuscans at Curtatone (May 29, 1848) prolonged the fight which enabled the Piedmontese to win the battle of Goito. His uncle was Leonetto Cipriani, hero of Ceresara and governor of the Romagna."

With regard to the reference to Cipriani's father, his sister, Carlotta J. Cipriani of Chicago, to whom we are indebted for the letters, gives the following information:

"The signal service rendered by my father and uncle to the cause of Italy, was not, however, performed on the battlefield. They, and not really Cavour, were the originators of the alliance which brought Napoleon III to the aid of Piedmont in 1859 and 'made Italy.' Mrs. Browning, who was remarkably *au courant*, refers to this fact in her poem 'Summing up in Italy,' in the lines,

'Pepoli, too, and Cipriani
Imperial cousins and cozeners.'

"They had been able to perform this service, because, like the Buonaparte, the Cipriani had lived in Corsica for a number of centuries. Being quite

wealthy and very independent they had, unlike many other Corsicans, never asked any favors from the Napoleons, but had rather been in a position to render them service at different times, a thing that Napoleon III, who seems to have been very grateful, had not forgotten. In 1851 (?), returning from the first London exhibition at the Crystal Palace, my father and uncle took lunch with Napoleon at St. Cloud, on September 23, memorable and unknown date. After this lunch took place the conversation which changed the whole policy of Napoleon toward Piedmont and 'Italy in the Making,' and led to the French armed intervention of 1859."

Though written over two years ago, these letters are of interest as representing the opinion of an intelligent and loyal Italian (and, we may add, of half-German parentage). Our readers will note that the first letter quoted was written in April, 1915, before Italy entered the war.

THE ANGELS AT MONS.

Sir Oliver Lodge is not the only man in old England who believes in supernatural phenomena and ghosts. There are more in the common spheres of life, and this faith has produced a pamphlet which is being circulated in England through the office of the *Christian Globe*, 185 Fleet Street, London, E. C. It is a little two-pence edition of Pearson's *Rationale of the Angel Warriors at Mons*, and describes the appearance of angels in the German retreat from Mons and at the battle of the Marne and the Aisne in France. A report and discussion of these phenomena appeared some time ago in the *Christian Globe*, and according to the author of the pamphlet, John J. Pearson, there can be no doubt of the truth of the stories because they are vouched for by many credible witnesses, including Germans whose testimony consists in complaints that the bodies of dead Germans covering the fields of battle seemed to show no wounds or effect of weapons.

Poor Germany! She not only has to fight the innumerable armies of the Allies, but in addition to all these human enemies there appears a heavenly host, and the good Lord himself sends down a spiritual leader on a white horse commanding the countless squadrons of angels! It is a miracle that Germany still holds out and that in spite of all the Allies have not yet crushed her.

The main attack with which we are dealing here is the battle on the Marne.

"Humanly speaking, no earthly power could have arrested the Teutonic flood that swept through Belgium and over northeastern France; and it seemed to those of us who remembered the campaigns of 1870 that history would again repeat itself, and that the whole of northern France and the capital would have quickly succumbed to the might of the German power."

Only the intercession of the heavenly hosts could stop them, and it was "an angelic intervention on behalf of the Allies at and during the retreat from Mons, and in the tremendous conflicts on the Marne and Aisne, whereby the German hosts were hurled back just as it appeared Paris was about to fall into their hands."

Of course there may be infidels who do not believe the stories of the angel warriors, but that view is to be abandoned as Mr. Pearson quotes from the *Christian Globe*:

"To minds which can admit nothing but what can be explained and demonstrated on mathematical and physical grounds, a consideration of anything