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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

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Week ending Monday, November 21, 1910.

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### Death of Leo Tolstoy.

The aged Count Tolstoy, in his 83d year, and in very frail physical health, was reported on the 11th to be missing from his home at Yasnaya Poliana in the province of Tula. The news was vague, but it appears that he quietly left home some time in the latter part of October, accompanied by his physician, Dr. Makovetsky, and went first to the convent of Shamardino in the province of Kaluga, where his sister Maria has long been a nun. His daughter Alexandra found him there, and on the 13th proceeded with her father and his physician ostensibly toward Moscow. Later, however, the party changed cars and boarded a slow local train going in the direction of Caucasia, from which it is conjectured that Tolstoy was intending to join a colony of Tolstoyans on the shores of the Black Sea. The journey was, however, interrupted by his serious illness, and the party left the train at an obscure flag station, Astapova, where the sick old man could only be

cared for in the little station building. His fever ran into bronchial and lung inflammation, and he sank rapidly. Other physicians were summoned, and his daughter nursed him constantly. The Countess Tolstoy and several members of his family came to Astapova, but at first it was not thought advisable to excite him with their presence. As death approached, however, the Countess and others were admitted to the sick chamber. The end came early in the morning of the 21st.

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Tolstoy is to be quietly buried on the hill at his old home and birthplace, Yasnaya Poliana. The Russian Church has made efforts during these days of his passing, to have him return to the faith from which he had been excommunicated in 1901. The following telegram was addressed to him by Antonius, the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg, who is the presiding officer of the Synod:

Since the very first moment of your rupture with the church I incessantly prayed, and I pray now, that God may restore you to the church. Possibly He is soon to summon you to the judgment seat. I implore you in your sickness now to reconcile yourself with the church and the orthodox Russian people. May God bless you.

Count Vladimir Tchertkeff, Tolstoy's literary executor (vol. xii, p. 301), and others nearest to the dying man, regarded it as impossible to present the telegram. As an unreconciled excommunicate, it is considered as out of the question for the Church to grant this literal follower of the Christ, religious rites of burial, although, according to the dispatches, the Czar and the Premier, Mr. Stolypin, have indicated their desire that the great Russian should be interred with the Russian religious burial services. Though the police of Moscow gave explicit orders that the regular theatrical performances should be given on Sunday, fearing the gathering of idle persons in public places, according to the dispatches the managers were forced to close their houses because the actors refused to play on the day following the death of the great teacher "of free speech, free thought, and an equality of free men."

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### Meeting of the Fels Fund Commission.

The Joseph Fels Fund Commissioners (pp. 761, 1076, 1087, 1110) have been holding their first fully representative meeting. The sessions were called for the Liberal Club, 46 East 29th St., New York City, beginning November 19. Contributors to and friends of the Fund were invited to be present, and invitations were also sent to all persons who had been known at any time as critics of the Fund, or of its administration.

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At the first session the Hon. Robert Baker of