

OFFER OF A "GARDEN OF GOD."

SIR G. BIRDWOOD'S LETTER TO "THE TIMES."

In a letter published in *The Times* on April 21 Sir George Birdwood commended the decision of the India Office to enclose the special cemetery for Indian Muslim soldiers near the Woking mosque by a wall with Saracenic architectural features, and gave details of the manner in which a Muslim "Garden of God" should be arranged and laid out.

The letter has led Miss Constance Mary Faithfull, of Tunbridge Wells, youngest daughter of the late William Pitt Faithfull, of Sydney, New South Wales, to offer to Sir George Birdwood, through her solicitors, her freehold family house and grounds, extending over four acres, at Walton-on-Thames, and to meet the cost of laying it out as a general Muslim burying-ground. Miss Faithfull spent some years in India with a brother there, and the offer is inspired by a desire to show appreciation of the Indian soldiers who have laid down their lives in the service of the Empire.

Sir George Birdwood has submitted the offer to the Secretary of State in Council, with the recommendation that the property should be vested in that authority, and that the "Garden of God" should be administered by a committee chiefly composed of leading Muslims. Other letters sent to Sir George Birdwood suggested that he should receive subscriptions for the purpose and offered financial help.