

Church Mark.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

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"The Communion of the Church of England, as it stands distinguished from all Papal and Puritan innovations, and as it adheres to the doctrine of the cross."—*From the will of Bishop Ken, A. D. 1710.*

LENT.

This is the solemn even time for all,
The time to turn us from our earthly sun
Into the darkness where the shadows fall
And there to mourn o'er what our sin
hath done
Ah! cold and dark it seemeth in the night,
When sin doth here our saddened souls
d tain ;
Ah! how we long to turn us to the Light,
To feel the sunshine of His love again.
Yet even in the night God giveth stars
Bright stars of hope, to intercept our
woe,
To make us feel though sin's grim shadow
mars,
We cannot even then His love forego.
And soon the night shall usher in the Day.
"At even time there shall be light," we
say.

THE PRAYER BOOK AS IT IS.

A LECTURE on the above subject was recently delivered by Mr. Inglis, President of the Church of England Workingmen's Society.

Churchmen are often met by a taunt from those who are unacquainted with the Prayer-Book, and unused to its services, that it is only a set form of words for certain occasions, and utterly useless at all others; a collection indeed of vain repetitions. No prayer could be

vain except in the mouth of a vain person. The Prayer-Book was a treasure house filled with rare and priceless gems, waiting to be brought forth, to sparkle in all their beauty before high heaven. The lecturer went on to speak of the commendations that had been bestowed upon the Church of England by those who were alien to her pale, and quoted from the writings of the Rev. J. Cumming, and the Rev. H. W. Beecher, who wrote, "I am so ignorant of the Church service, that I cannot tell the various parts by the right names, but the portions which most affected me are the prayers and responses which the choir sing. I have never heard any part of a supplication—a direct prayer—sung by a choir; and it seemed as if I had not heard with my ear but my soul. I was dissolved. My whole being seemed to me like an incense wasted gratefully towards God." The lecturer characterized the various portions of the Prayer Book, and minutely described the different services, speaking strongly of the spirit of equality and Christian brotherhood which was everywhere set forth.