

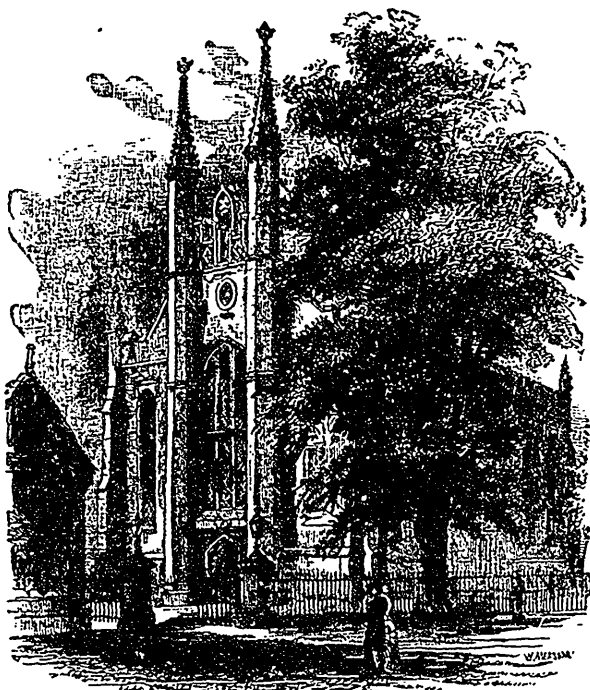
to answer the purpose for which it was designed; and it is now, perhaps, the most valuable adjunct to his great work.

To those who are so fond of asking, "What is the Church doing for the poor?" we can only say, pay a visit to St. Mary's, Plaistow, and carefully examine the varied operations which are so vigorously worked in that dense population, and you will have more than an answer to the question.

Our illustrations, which have been specially drawn and engraved by Messrs. R. and E. Taylor, from photographs taken on the spot, will give some idea of the scope of the work.

FREDK. SHERLOCK,

Author of "*Among the Queen's Enemies,*" etc.



PLAISTOW PARISH CHURCH.

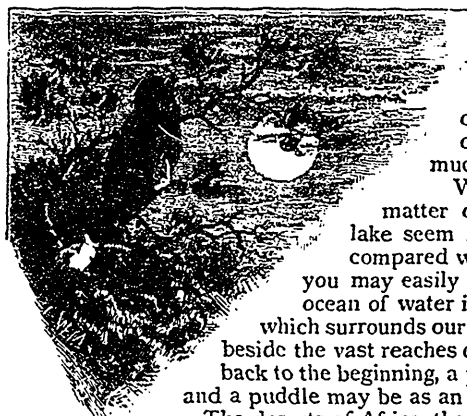
AWAY IN SPACE.

BY AGNES GIBERNE,

Author of "*Sun, Moon, and Stars,*" "*The World's Foundations,*" "*The Ocean of Air,*" etc.

I. SUN AND PLANETS.

(Continued from p. 118.)



THUS far we have looked upon our earth as large. But another view of the question makes the world seem small; because, instead of being compared with little objects on its own surface, it is compared with much greater objects away out in space.

We have already seen how size is a matter of comparison; how a pond makes a lake seem large, while that lake is a mere speck compared with the ocean. This line of reasoning you may easily follow out for yourselves. The entire ocean of water is small beside the mightier ocean of air which surrounds our earth, and the ocean of air is as nothing beside the vast reaches of space which lie beyond. Yet, to come back to the beginning, a pond is mighty compared with a puddle, and a puddle may be as an ocean to an ant.

The deserts of Africa, the wilds of America, the desolate regions of Asia, are little compared with Earth's whole surface; the entire earth is little compared with greater worlds which float in the Solar System, and the Solar System itself sinks into insignificance when one tries to picture the awful distances of the Universe. To a watcher on some far-off globe—if it be a watcher with eyesight such as ours—the great sun may seem only as part of a little gold-dust