

# Church Work.

*We Speak Concerning Christ and the Church.*

A Monthly Pamphlet of Facts, Notes and Instruction.

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Vol. XVI.

DIGBY, N. S., AUGUST, 1891.

No. 6

*The red marks enclosing this paragraph indicate that the subscription is due, and the Proprietor will be glad to receive the amount as early as possible. The date marked with the address on each paper is that to which that paper is paid up.*

## THE REASON WHY.

BY THE REV. JOHN MAY, M. A.

I love the Church ; for she was framed  
By Apostolic hands ;  
Her corner-stone is Christ Himself,  
On which she firmly stands.

On Prophets and Apostles too :  
Foundation broad and deep ;  
With warders on her battlements,  
A ceaseless watch to keep.

I love the Church ; for hungry souls  
Here eat the bread of heaven ;  
Here, to the thirsty traveller,  
Are purest waters given.

I love the Church ; for she is old,  
Her hoary head is wise ;  
I ask no infant sect to guide  
My steps to Paradise.

I love her for her Liturgy,  
Her prayers divinely sweet,  
So Scriptural, devotional,  
Time-honored, and complete ;

I love the grand old Church, because  
She loves the sacred Word :

And, for her homage to the Book,  
Is honored by her Lord.

I love the Church ; for, everywhere  
The foot of man hath trod,  
She plants the Cross, and points the way  
To Paradise and God.

I love her for the gifted sons  
Who strike her hallowed lyre ;  
And for her martyred saints, gone up  
In chariots of fire !

Why do I love the Church ? Because,  
A wise and watchful guide,  
In weal and woe, in life, in death,  
She's ever by my side.

She brings the children to her Lord,  
And lays them on His breast ;  
She smooths the pillow of the dead  
In their last place of rest.

Ah ! who would not a Churchman be,  
Confest, in heart and life ?  
Who would not flee the fevered realms  
Of Sect, and Schism, and Strife ?

Then, happy in her fold, may I  
Have grace and wisdom given  
To live in her, to die in her,  
And so ascend to heaven !

One earnest gaze upon Christ is  
worth a thousand scrutinies of self.  
The man who beholds the cross, and  
beholding it weeps cannot be blind,  
nor perilously self-ignorant.—*Dean  
Vaughan.*

Miss Miller

Apr 90