

Church Work.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

Vol. VII.

APRIL, 1882.

No. 2.

"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.

FORGIVENESS.

"Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us."—
Luke xi. 2. Revised Version.

Forgive us, Lord, because we have forgiven,
Not as we have forgiven, is our prayer ;
Earth is so lower far than highest heaven,
Man is not even as the angels are,
And thou to angels art as sun to star.

Measure Thy pity, not in our poor scale,
But in Thine own which weighs eternities;
We do our little part, we strive, we fail ;
Our wine of charity has bitter lees,
Our best unselfishness seeks self to please.

Our purest gold with base alloy is dim,
Our fairest fruit hangs tainted on the tree,
Our sweetest song heard by the seraphim
Would all discordant and unlovely be,
Save for the charity they learn from Thee.

But Thou canst pour forgiveness with a
word

O'er countless worlds, an all-embracing
ray :
Beyond our hopes, our best deserving,
Lord,

Forgive us, then, and we in our poor way
Shall catch Thy higher meaning as we
pray.

— S. S. Times.

THE IDEAL OF THE CHRISTIAN WORKER.

It is a terrible thing to throw up the ideal which God has given us, and to treat it as merely a magnificent dream ; for this is to despise the revelation of God. But it is, if possible, still more dangerous for our souls to neglect the commonplace things by which God is training and educating us, and making us fit for the future which He set before us in our childhood. How often do we lose multitudes of opportunities of doing little kindnesses, and making others happy, and glorifying our Lord, by feverishly straining after something which would have been quite right if it had been given to us by God, but which is being turned into an occasion of stumbling by the devil, who will always, if he can, take a truth and turn it into a snare? No life is really "commonplace" ; and the miserable distinction sometimes made between the so-called "religious" life and the "secular" life is simply one of the snares of the devil. A father, a mother, a