Original Poetry.

(For the Canadian Churchman.) SABBATH SONGS.

> No. II. PEACE.

Peace I leave with you, my Peace I give unto you.

Vast, comprehensive term, it all contains, All worth desire lies in that one word peace; It makes the crust a banquet, joyfull drains The cheerless cup of want, nor asks increase Of worldly wealth; with sweet contentment sings ; Amidst the brambles on life's bleak highway. With it, the desert blooms, rich fragrance springs From noxious weeds, vigour from foul decay.

Peace, leads its owner 'midst the vineyards oft At early morn-gives songs at night, and twines Sweet roses round grief's casement, breathing soft Upon his num'rous virtues after death. She makes the monarch lay aside his state And leads him to the sheepfold; every breath (In passions mull'd sea, subdued, sedate, And calm, if peace but bids be still. She gilds The sober past, brightens the future, known In the presents bliss; soaring aloft she builds Her glorious temple by the Eternal Throne.

Nymph of the snowy vesture, meek eyed peace, Tis thine to tune the Cherub's song, and string The seraph's lyre; and when at last shall cease Time's crazy wheels to move, thou shall bring The blood-bought family in safety home. But man, proud man, heeds not the heav'nly gift, Pleas'd with the straws, the bubbles, and the foam Strewing lifes surface, these with ceaseless thrift They struggle hard to obtain. Alas! 'tis this Opens the flood-paths of the cares of life; Tis this, that spreads the frown on Envy's brow This, gives to Jealousy the poisonous drug, Turning this bliss to gall; this, arms Revenge Of furtive glance; and scowling malice with The knife they destine for their victims breast: Frantic for trifles man his fellow kills, And peace is banished from a world of woe.

But, why should we our own brief morning waste, Or in the struggle blow life's candle out And leap into the dark; when peace, sweet peace Would light our lootstops down to hoary age, Giving us life and immortality Beyond the gloomy grave? Oh! who would have A hope that sets in dark and dreary night, Bounded by death's dark charnell house; when he Can have for asking, bright, eternal peace? It costs no wealth, the terms are simply these, ABK-AND RECEIVE, YOUR JOY SHALL THEN BE

WILLIAM OSBORNE:

St. Catharines, 19th Feb. 1853.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AT THE PRESENT DAY;

(Extracted from a series of sermons preached by the Rev. Francis B. Woodward, Chaplain to the English Congregation at Rome.)

Yes, the Church of Christ in the world is in a hostile element. She is in the world, but is not of the world, and does not smalgumate with the world. She is a kingdom, set up in the midst of the kingdoms of this world, but a kingdom diverse from them all; a visible community, but one whose principle of cohesion is impalpable and unseen; not drawing her origin from the decrees of princes, or the election of the people, but tracing her lineage to the fishermen of Galilee, and claiming the allegiance of the nations, in virtue of a commission transmitted to her by those who, in their own day, were the offscouring of the earth; living under all forms of civil polity, sometimes in alliance with them, sometimes independent of them, sometimes discountenanced by them-at al! times the object of their jealousy or of their fear; sometimes tempted to forget her high commission by the baits of wordly prosperity, sometimes apparently ready to perish in the storms of persecution, surviving earthly dynasties, and yet herself knowing no decripitude; and witnessing the decay and fall of empires, whose rise and slow maturity she has watched, and herself still fresh to proceed on her enward course, conquering and to conquer. Such is that mysterious society which has now held on her way for eighteen progress? And is it nothing that into both, centuries, in the midst of an adverse world. --- How are we to account for her continuance and her undiminished vigor? She has met the sword of open violence by no resistance. She has confronted the sophistries of human wisdom only by the preaching of the Cross. What has preserved her, what has prevented her from being swept away by the tempests, that drove her to worship in catacombs, and they not rather the workings of a Divine power to hide herself in dens and caves of the earth? | -- the tokens of a Divine presence within her? And what has saved her from being engulphed in the floods of worldliness, when kings became i may forfeit her privileges by unfaithfulness; her ministers and nursing fathers, and the and there is much in our present circumstanwealth of the nations was poured into her ces to fill us with apprehension. And no-

treasury? It was His presence, and His almigh- I thing can guide our Church through her diffity power who has promised to be with her even | culties and dangers, except the effectual to the end of the world. It was His presence | interposition of that almighty power, whose who on the Lake of Galilee, rescued the infant | unseen presence is still, we trust, amongst us. Church from perishing in the waters. "God was in the midst of her," therefore was she "not removed." And the same God is still with her, and therefore she need not fear, " though the waters rage and swell, and the mountains shake at the tempest of the same." And the same presence of the Incarnate God, disorders and quiet her agitation, but the that guarantees the permanence of the Church same Almighty word which allayed the turbid at large, is that which alone can ensure the waters of the Sea of Galilee. "Not by safety of any particular brauch of it. Par- | power, nor by might, but my Spirit, saith the ticular branches, indeed, of the Church may Lord." But that Spirit will not be withbe cut off, or have their candlesticks, re- held from the earnest supplications of a praymoved, without impeaching Christ's fidelity ing people. But, my brethren, while in this in the promise of His continued presence, time of our distress, we thus follow the Apos-Music o'er the good man's grave, while it shines which was made to the Church at large, and the when in jeopardy, by calling to Him who not to individual branches, anymore than to alone can save us from perishing, we must individual members. But so long as the remember that we have a part to act, and presence, which is the life and security of the; that we must act it. whole Church, is in any particular branch, so long must that branch partake of the life of the stability of our Church, that we cease the parent stem. She is founded upon the from our mutual contentions. The gentle rock, and the gates of hell shall not prevail spirit of holiness and peace is driven away by against her. And this my brethren, is my poisy dissension, and dwelling amidst the strife hope of the Church in which God's providence of tongues. We have enemies enough on both has cast the lot with most of us. The pre- sides of us, without turning our arms against sent seems an awful crisis in our Church's history. There is much to try, much to dishearten, much to alarm, and much to humble us. Dark clouds are gathering, which indicate a coming storm or rather the first gusts of the tempest have already burst upon us. The hearts of many are failing them for fear. And the strife and contention which agitate the Church's bosom and shake her to her centre, fill the minds of some of the most hopeful of her children with gloomy forebodings, that she will afford a sad illustration of the principle that a house divided against itself shall be brought to desolation. But not withstanding all these causes of grief and fear, I do not despair of the fortunes of our Church. On the contrary, inspite of the taunts of her enemies; in spite of the desertion of faithless or faint hearted sons, who have forsaken her in her hour of need; in spite of the loss of some whom we could ill afford to lose; I believe that our Church will yet rise out of her present humiliation. Much additional trial and much chastisement may be before her; but I believe she is destined yet to do great things in the earth, and will yet be God's chosen instrument in the regeneration of mankind-And this, I believe, not merely because the mighty empire with which she is identified gives her almost a world-wide field of operation; not merely because she is the great witness in the world of Catholic truth, and unadulterated Christiauity; not merely because she can trace her commission by succesive transmission to the Apostles, and whatever degree its rules and regulations are through the Apostles to Jesus Christ; but because she is exhibiting, in spite of her present disorders, signs of renewed life and vigor, which betoken the working of a Divine presence within her. Two centuries ago she lay prostrate by an overthrow that to many seemed annihilation; and yet she was afterwards restored by a "great deliverance." And is it nothing that, in these latter times she has been awakened from the worldliness and sloth, in which the century of prosperity and case have plunged her? Is it nothing that she has been aroused from the Erastianism and latitudinarianism into which reliance on the secular arm was hurrying her, and taught to know her own powers as a living member of Him whose kingdom is not of this world? Is it nothing that a daughter Church in another bemisphere is keeping pace with the giant growth of the empire in which it is planted, and making advances scarcely parallel in the history of Christian into parent and offspring, there has been infused fresh energy and fresh life; more carnest devotion, greater self-denish, larger liberality in support of Christian objects? Are these the symptoms of a decaying Church?

But, still, the purest branch of the Church

going to be extinguished; that she is going

to be cast away like a withered branch? Are

Our Church will never never be saved by human schemes, or human contrivances, by semi-political meetings, or by latitudinarian compromises, or by the judgments of secular tribunals, or by parliamentary legislation.-Nothing will save her-nothing can heal her

And, first and foremost, it is essential to one another; and a house divided against itself cannot stand. Perfect unanimity of opinion is impossible to be attained in any community of men; and amongst those who hold in common, the great varieties of the christian creeds, differences on earthly matters ought not to be allowed to break the unity of the Christian brotherhood; and so far as others may be in error, we may be sure that charity, and forbearance, and Christian kindness, are more likely to win them to the truth, than angry bickerings, uncharitable judgements, and calumnious imputations. Let, then, "all bitterness, and wrath, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from us, with all malice;" and we shall not only experience " How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," but we shall find, that in that unity is the true secret of the Church's strength; for the God of peace dwells with them that love peace, and live in peace; and where He is, external dangers will assail in

But, secondly, it is essential to the stability of our Church, that her members pay due regard to her Scriptual authority, that they act upon her principles, and use the means of grace which she provides. No Church can possibly stand, if her laws are habitually slighted, and her ordinances habitually disregarded by her members. This is evident from the nature of the case. Universal disregard of the rules and regulations of any society, on the part of its members, would be ipso facto a dissolution of that society; and in dissregarded, in the same degree is a step taken towards its dissolution. It is the same with regard to the Church. She can claim no doubt, a Divine sauction for the authority that she exersises, which renders it dangerous to slight it. But she stands on the same footing with all other societies, in this particular, that she can be maintained only by the acquiescence of her members in what she prescribes, each sacrificeing his private fancies to the common order; abstaining, on the one hand, from unauthorized innovations, and on the other hand, adhering to her clear, indubitable, unmistakable laws and institutions. I know well that there are many good people amongst us, alarmed at the numerous perversions that have lately taken place, and justly jealous of anything that might promote that unhappy movement, have an uneasy fear of Church authority and Church institutions, as tending to lead to Romanism. This is a feeling with which it is hard to deal, inasmuch as one really does not know what it means. If the Church of England be, what I am sure we all believe her to be, the greatest bulwark against, and most formidable antagonist of, Romanism, surely there must be some confusion of mind, in supposing that Are these the indications that her light is faithfully obeying the Church of Eugland tends to make a man a Roman Catholic.

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