

Our Mother Church of England.

'Which is the Mother of us all.'—GALATIANS IV. 26.

DEDICATED BY PERMISSION TO THE LATE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

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OUR Mother Church of England
A faithful witness bears,
'Midst peace and happy sunshine,
Or strife, and storm, and tears:
The world may rage around her,
Or Tempest's voice may roar,
But one who stills the tumults
Is with her evermore.

Built on the sure foundation
Of Christ th' eternal Word,
She shows the need of cleansing
By water and by blood:

Taught by the sacred pages,
She holds the Orders three,
That those who preach glad tidings
May serve in just degree.

Within her grand Communion,
Throughout the ages gone,
The noblest hearts of England
Have rested, one by one:
Her very dust is sacred,
Her very stones are dear,
Her hallowed shrines have witnessed
The prayer, the praise, the tear.