

THE CHURCH AND THE AGE.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has earned the gratitude of the Church of England by having published the Visitation Addresses he delivered last year.¹ They contain thoughts too valuable to be allowed to die in the hour of delivery; thoughts which are not for the diocese alone, but for the Church generally; thoughts that, coming from an Archbishop, will exert an influence which they would not have had if spoken by a meaner man. They will show the deep interest taken by the highest Prelate in the poorest person in the land. This is well, for there are many who, being utterly ignorant of their work, imagine the clergy to be solely occupied by praying and preaching, attending tea-meetings, and making themselves agreeable at bazaars. This book will prove to all such that their sympathies have a wider range, and that their activities are also exercised in the homes of the poor and the suffering. The author's stirring appeal to the laity for their assistance in works of benevolence and mercy must also bear good fruit, and will doubtless add many a recruit to the ranks of the Church Army. It would be unfair to the laity to ignore the fact that at the present time this assistance is being largely and generously rendered; still, however, there is scope enough for further exertions, and work waiting for willing hands. The thorough earnestness of the Bishop's tone which rings through every page will, it is hoped, prove to be infectious, and double the enthusiasm that may previously have been felt in the noble work of trying to make men somewhat better men than they were before. The language is terse, chaste, and scholarly; and is well calculated to win for the book a place on many a table where books of this class are but seldom seen. The volume is one for which we heartily thank his Grace; but it does not therefore follow that it must be considered perfect.

¹ *Christ and His Times*. Macmillan & Co. 1889.