

## THE RELIGION OF RUDYARD KIPLING.

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## I.—THE RECESSIONAL'S REVELATION.

The "Recessional" has been spoken of, and perhaps with justice, as one of the chief religious events of the past few years. It certainly was, to the better minds of the nation, the most impressive event in connection with the recent jubilee. It resounded throughout the Empire like a great organ note, and even among ourselves in distant Canada it produced a thrill of reverent patriotism. No worthy Anglo-Saxon in any land could have read the splendid verses unmoved.

"God of our Fathers, known of old—  
Lord of our far-flung battle line—  
Beneath whose awful hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

"The tumult and the shouting dies—  
The Captains and the Kings depart.  
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart.  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

"Far-called our navies melt away—  
On dune and headland sinks the fire—  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!

"If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not thee in awe—  
Such boasting as the Gentiles use  
Or lesser breeds without the law—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget—lest we forget!