

EXCELLENCE OF OUR LITURGY.

THE great value of a form of prayer is that the worshipper knows beforehand what supplications are to be offered, and every soul may find a simple, direct expression of its needs without the effort to catch the words or understand the meaning of another's prayer; so that GOD alone may draw forth our admiration, and interest our hearts. People will say that they feel more stirred to devotion by extempore prayer: but how are they stirred? Is it as by an eloquent speech or sermon? Then their so-called devotion is not a prayer at all, the spirit does not draw nigh to GOD.

The audible repetition of the General Confession and some other prayers by the congregation is calculated to correct a false view of public worship which is common at the present day, that the whole of the service rests with the minister, and that the congregation comes together to hear him pray and preach. Our Church is accused of giving too much power to its clergy, and of making too great a difference between them and the laity; but I know of no Church which assigns so large a part of the public services to the laity as she does, nor any other that teaches so distinctly that the public worship of GOD ought to be joint offering of minister and people alike.—*A Study of Morning Prayer; Rev. John Bristow, A. M., Belfast.*

If you are asked to do a right thing, answer by doing it. It is a short answer, but does not give offence.

PERSONAL WORK.

EVERY man needs the inspiration of personal work for the good of others. It is not enough to make eloquent pleas for charity or to give generous sums of money; what is needed to keep the heart warm is personal contact with misfortune and suffering. Every community has its aged, its sick and its poor to whom a visit is often a better medicine than the doctor's prescription, and more grateful than the gift of bank bills. Do you carry the sunshine of your prosperity or the brightness of your good spirits across these darkened thresholds? If you do not you are missing the best way of making your own life rich, of preparing for your Sunday School lesson if you are a teacher, of fitting yourself for the giving of inspiration and sympathy, the best things that men bring to each other.—*Christian Union.*

THE TRINITY.

It was not for those living in the Old Dispensation to know of the doctrines of the Trinity so definitely as we do who are living in "the last days." We are told that GOD purposely concealed from the Jews the doctrine of the Trinity because, in the semi-civilized condition of things, men were inclined to idolatry, and could not receive the developed teaching of the Godhead. But Biblical students of our day have been able to trace this great truth in the writings of the Old Testament. We find an allusion to the Trinity, in GOD the Father speaking in the plural number in the creation: "Come let us make man in our image."