

Church Mark.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

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"The Communion of the Church of England, as it stands distinguished from all Papal and Puritan innovations, and as it adheres to the doctrine of the cross."—*From the will of Bishop Ken, A. D. 1710.*

LINES FOR THE NEW YEAR

THROUGH PEACE TO LIGHT.

I do not ask, O LORD, that life may be
A pleasant road ;
I do not ask that Thou wouldst take from
me
Aught of its load ;
I do not ask that flowers should always
spring
Beneath my feet ;
I know too well the poison and the sting
Of things too sweet.
For one thing only, LORD, dear LORD, I
plead :
Lead me aright,
Though strength should falter, and though
heart should bleed,
Through Peace to Light.
I do not ask, O LORD, that Thou shouldst
shed
Full radiance here ;
Give but a ray of peace, that I may tread
Without a fear.
I do not ask my cross to understand,
My way to see ;
Better in darkness just to feel Thy Hand,
And follow Thee.
Joy is like restless day, but Peace divine
Like quiet night.

Lead me, O LORD, till perfect Day shall
shine,

Through Peace to Light.

—A. A. Proctor.

THE NEW YEAR.

As the old year closes there must be in every thinking mind and feeling heart a solemn and regretful feeling of duties imperfectly, or not at all, fulfilled ; of wasted opportunities for good ; of thoughtlessness and thanklessness towards Him in whom we live and move and have our being. The very best of us must look back upon the closing year with this sense of loss to ourselves, and we must cry, "Father, we have abused Thy good gifts and Thy long-suffering mercy ; we are all unworthy that Thou shouldst prolong the life which has been spent so little to Thy glory !" But the NEW YEAR is here. It opens before us with the hope, the promise of better things ! In proportion to our sense of our past short comings is the earnestness of the desire, in some measure, to atone for the