

# Church Work.

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.

## NEW YEAR'S HYMN.

BENEATH the moonlight and the snow  
Lies dead my latest year ;  
The winter winds are wailing low  
Its dirges in my ear.

I grieve not with the moaning wind,  
As if a loss befell ;  
Before me, even as behind,  
GOD is and all is well !

His light shines on me from above,  
His low voice speaks within—  
The patience of immortal love  
Outwearying mortal sin.

Not mindless of the growing years  
Of care and loss and pain,  
My eyes are wet with thankful tears  
For blessings which remain.

Be near me in mine hours of need,  
To soothe, to cheer, or warm  
And down these slopes of sunset lead  
As up the hills of morn !

—*J. G. Whittier.*

## THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

THE new year may be the same

and yet another. It may be the same in its manner of living, its broken resolves, its failures ; or it may be another in its more worthy living and aspiration. With too many, passing from one to another is like crossing the equator. It is little more than passing an imaginary line, with no reformation, no new experience, no improvement or change of any sort. They wish, and are wished in turn, a happy new year ; but they are not happier, save for the moment ; nor more hopeful, nor more true and steadfast to the real purposes of life. The same sunshines in 1884 as in 1883 on the evil and on the good ; but the evil are not necessarily any better, make no better use of God's gifts. And if not better, then worse. The new year is old in old habits, hearts, characters, in unsatisfactory and unworthy lives. It is the old story over again, only the worse for the repetition. The wheel has made another revolution, and yet made no real progress ; it is rather a progress backwards.

To all, then, who have entered on the new year it is pertinent to ask,