

Vol. V.]

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Life's Furrows; or, The Fallow Field.

THE sun comes up and the sun goer down;

The night mist shroudeth the sleeping town

But if it he dark or if it be day, If the tempests beat or the breezes play,

Still here on this upland slope I lie,

Looking up to the changeful sky.

Naught am I but a fallow field:

Never a crop my acres yield. Over the wall at my right hand Stately and green the cornblades stand,

And I hear at my left the flying feet

Of the winds that rustle the bending wheat,

Often while yet the morn is red I list for our master's eager tread.

He smiles at the young corn's towering height

He knows the wheat is a goodly sight,

But he glances not at the fallow field

Whose idle acres no wealth may yield.

Sometimes the shout of the harvesters

The alceping pulse of my being stirs,

And as one in a dream I seem to feel

The sweep and the rush of the swinging steel,

Or I catch the sound of the gay

As they heap their wains with the golden grain.

Yet, O my neighbours, be not too proud,

Though on every tongue your praise is loud,

Our mother Nature is kind to me,

And I am beloved by bird and bec,

And never a child that passes by But turns upon me a grateful

cyc.

Over my head the skies are blue;

I have my share of the rain and dew:

I bask like you in a summer



LIFE'S FURROWS.

When the long bright days

pass one by one.

And calm as yours is my sweet repose

Wrapped in the warmth of the winter snows.

For little our loving mother

Which the corn or the daisy bears.

Which is rich with the ripening wheat,

Which with the violet's breath is sweet,

Which is red with the clover bloom,

Or which for the wild sweetfern makes room!

Useless under the summer sky Year after year men say I inc. Little they know what strength of mine

I give to the trailing blackberry vine;

Little they know how the wild grape grows,

Or how my life-blood flushes the rose.

Little they think of the cups
I fill

For the mosses creeping under the hill:

Little they think of the feast
I sprewl

For the wild wee creatures that must be fed—

Squirrel and butterfly, bird and beo,

And the creeping things that no eye may see Lord of the harvest, thou dost

know
How the summers and winters

go. Never a ship sails east or west

Laden with treasures at my behest;
Yet my being thrills to the

voice of God
When I give my gold to the

golden-rod.
—Julia C. R. Dorr.

Now that you are a follower of Christ and a member of his Church, there is work for you to do—some special work that will remain undone if you do it not. This work will come right to your hands if they are willing hands, and in the doing of it you will be strong and grow.