

REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD.

WEARY of earth, and laden with my sin,
I look at heaven and long to enter in ;
But there no evil thing may find a home :
And yet I hear a voice that bids me
“ come ”

So vile I am, how dare I hope to stand
In the pure Glory of that holy land ?
Before the whiteness of that Throne ap-
pear ?

Yet there are Hands stretched out to draw
me near.

The while I fain would tread the heaven-
ly way.

Evil is ever with me day by day ;
Yet on mine ears the gracious tidings fall,
“ Repent, confess, thou shalt be loosed
from all.”

It is the voice of Jesus that I hear,
His are the Hands stretched out to draw
me near,
And His the Blood that can for all atone,
And set me faultless there before the
Throne.

—Selected.

PASSION WEEK.

THE last week of the Lenten Fast has been called, from the closer contemplation of the Redeemer's sufferings to which it is devoted *Passion Week* ; and, from the solemnity with which it was wont to be observed, the *Holy Week*. It was also called the *Great Week*, from the great work of redemption completed during its progress. Commencing with Palm Sunday, so called from palm-branches strewn in the way before Jesus on his triumphant approach to Jerusalem, it closes with the impressive Services of Maunday—Thursday, Good Friday and Easter-Eve.

On the first of these days it was a

very ancient custom for bishops, nobles and even Kings to perform the ceremony called *Lavipedium*, in imitation of the Saviour's act of humility in washing the feet of his Discip'les. Since the time of James II. in England this rite has been superseded by the distribution of the *Royal Maundy*, as it is called in Whitehall Chapel by the Lord Almoner.

GOOD FRIDAY is so-called in the Church of England with reference to the good things purchased for us by the Atonement on the Cross ; and, as all the Fridays in the year are appointed fasting days, in honor of our Lord's Crucifixion on that day of the week, so more especially has the anniversary of that event been observed from the first ages of the Church with fasting, humiliation and prayer.

In memory of Christ “ dead and buried,” Easter Eve has always been celebrated as a strict fast with solemn services.—Selected.

NOTES ON THE OCCASIONAL SERVICES.

No. II.—CONFIRMATION.

THERE are so many manuals and tracts of varying degrees of excellence on this subject, that our notes will be brief :

1. Definition. An ordinance instituted by the inspired Apostles, having an outward sign and an inward gift, in which, upon our taking upon us the three vows of Repentance, Faith and Obedience which our sureties made for us, or we ourselves made in Baptism. God bestows on us such gifts of the Holy Ghost as are necessary to strengthen us in the Christian life.