

## PREFATORY NOTE.

IT becomes our pleasing duty once more to thank our supporters—subscribers, contributors, and readers—for their continued help and valuable co-operation during the past year. To the clergy especially we owe our obligations, and here respectfully acknowledge them. The marked improvement in the number and character of our Engravings, which, as a recent review of the PENNY POST maintained, “would do credit to magazines of twelve times the cost” of ours; together with the increasing interest which is taken in the varied and valuable information given through the Editor’s Box; followed by a corresponding increase in our circulation, proves that the cause we advocate, viz., the greater efficiency of the old National Church, is everywhere being secured. We cordially wish every reader the compliments and graces of the coming Holy Season.

The vignette in the title-page is an engraving of the West Doorway of the Parish Church of Cuddesdon. It will recall to mind the village where the Palace of the Bishop of Oxford is situated,—associated so many years with the name of SAMUEL WILBERFORCE, whom the present year has taken from us.

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