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# 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.

## FAITH.

I thank Thee, Lord, that Thou hast kept  
The best in store ;  
We have enough, yet not too much  
To long for more ;  
A yearning for a deeper peace  
Not known before.

I thank Thee, Lord, that here our souls,  
Though amply blest,  
Can never find, although they seek  
A perfect rest—  
Nor ever shall, until they lean  
On Jesus' breast.

—Selected.

## FAITH AND OPINION.

BY THE REV. A. W. SNYDER.

CHURCHMEN ought to distinguish very clearly between that which is of Faith, and that which is merely matter of opinion. The fact of the being of God is of the Faith ; so, too, are all the Articles of the Creed. That God is "the Maker of all things, visible and invisible," is of the Faith ; but it has nothing to say as to the method

of creation. A Christian may, if he will, think the world created in six days, or six years, or sixty million years. All that he is required to believe is that God created the heavens and the earth. Again, it is of the Faith, that Jesus Christ our Lord, "for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven;" that "He suffered, and was buried, and the third day rose again." That He died for our sins, and rose again for our justification, is of the Faith ; but this or that attempted explanation or philosophy of His atoning death and sacrifice, is very much a matter of opinion. John Calvin, John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards, and many others, have set forth a philosophy of the Atonement, that is—their opinion as to the necessities and nature of it. But it is a matter of little importance what these men have thought or said or written about it. We accept the *fact* set forth in the Faith. We are not pledged to any human philosophy of the fact.

Opinion has to do with manifold questions which may indeed be both interesting and edifying, yet