

# Church Work.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

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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.*

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## ASCENSION TIDE.

THE glorious Feast of the Ascension should be celebrated with a fervent and thankful heart by every Christian. The crowning wonder of that wondrous Life, the consummation of the work of Love! He has ascended up on High, and there "He ever liveth to make intercession for us." Christ lived for us on earth a life of labor and sorrow. He died for us a death of ignominy and mysterious anguish. He rose again for us, that we with Him might rise to newness of Life and possess the assurance of Life Eternal; and He ascended into Heaven, to the glory which for us He had laid aside, to present Himself continually before His Father in the Holy of Holies, OUR SACRIFICE.

What day then more blessed, more full of deep and exultant joy and thankfulness than Ascension Day? What day which should raise our hearts more completely above the perishable things of earth, and kindle in us more strongly the flame of pure desire after holiness and the things of Heaven? Is it not well that the Church has re-

ently set apart a day to commemorate so glorious an event as the return of our Blessed Redeemer to His Eternal Father? Is it not well that we should have this trumpet-call sounded in our ears: "Awake thou that sleepest"—wrapt in the dreams of this life—thy Master has on this day ascended into Heaven! Heaven is a Reality. Christ is there that He may prepare a place for us. That sacred and glorified Body which suffered for our sake, dwells in that "Light which no man can approach unto," but yet is bound to us by the cords of human brotherhood, "very God and very man;" we know that "because He lives, we shall live also." Can any, calling themselves Christians, think lightly or carelessly of the Ascension? There is a beautiful custom on the Continent of Europe in connection with Ascension Day, which, although doubtless, with many, merely a custom, yet symbolizes a devout Faith. You will see the people far and near ascending some mountain or hill, within reach of their town or village, and resting on its summit. There, lifted above the earth, and brought, as it were, nearer to