

Church Work.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

Vol. V.

MARCH, 1880.

No. 1.

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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.

LENT AND EASTER.

VERY humbly, very thankfully should we accept the Church's guidance, as year by year, she bids us pause to note the days and seasons which commemorate the HOLY LIFE lived for our sakes upon this sinful earth.

But for that faithful and unfaltering voice, but for that loving hand, stretched out to stay us, would we not, too often, go on our careless way without a thought of the great things done for us? But, thank God! Christ's Witness is in our midst and we *cannot*, if we would, shut our ears and our hearts to her pleadings. For forty solemn days she tells us of the Man of Sorrows, who for our sakes fasted forty days and forty nights; who endured temptation, that we, when tempted, might gather strength from that sinless One.

She leads us on to that day of awful gloom, and yet the source of all our hope, when, forsaken of all, dying a shameful death, bearing alone the sins of the world, our Saviour, with arms outstretched

upon the Cross, would draw all men unto Him. She bids us watch by the sealed sepulchre in faith and hope, while that Blessed Form, which went about doing good, lies locked in the sleep of death; and then —

O day of exceeding gladness! she shows us the stone rolled away from the rocky portal; she shows us the empty tomb, the vision of Angels and lo! ONE stands in the Garden, the Risen Lord! ONE over whom Death hath no more dominion, and beneath whose feet are crushed the powers of evil. Yes, with loving gratitude, we will listen to the Church's voice that will not let us be unmindful of our Lord and King, but tells us again and again WHOSE we are and WHOM we should serve, and puts upon our lips fit words of penitence, and prayer, and praise. Through Lent and on the great day of Atonement we will humble ourselves and bewail the sins that brought Him to the Cross.

At Easter we will rejoice with Angels and Archangels that He has overcome Death and opened unto us the Gates of Everlasting Life.