

AROUND A BANNER.

The following beautiful lines are by MARIANNE FARMINGHAM, the sweet singer of the London *Christian World* :

O FAR from the ease and quiet
That the world has tried to make,
Is the rush of the eager battle
That is fought for the Saviour's sake.
There are fields where the great hosts gather,
Marching against our King,
So we buckle the armour on us,
And gladly his war-song sing.

Our fight is against the evil
That comes with its arms of might,
And we are not afraid of numbers,
For ours is the side of right ;
And the God who is fighting for us
Shall help us against our foes,
And give, when the war is over,
A season of glad repose.

There are times when our spirits fail us,
But not when we see the face
Of the Captain who leads us onward
Till we stand in the highest place ;
And not when the King's own banner
Is floating our heads above,
And not when we read the watchword
That tells us of all his love.

We joy in the Lord's salvation,
And valiant we are, and strong :
'In his name do we raise our banners,
And know we shall win ere long ;
Forever to perfect conquest
He leadeth the soldiers on,
And we follow with shouts of triumph
To the heights where the King has gone.

Far better to win him glory
Than idly to rest and wait,
For he crowneth the happy victors
Who are pressing about his gate.
And ah ! if his foes but knew him,
How tender he is and true,
And how certain he is to conquer,
They would fight 'neath his banner too.