The Parish Guide.

VOL. I.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, AUG., 1894.

No. 8

The Calendar.

AUGUST.

5. Eleventh Sunday after Trinity. 12. Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

19. Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

24. S. Bartholomew A. and M.

26. Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Two Gates.

A pilgrim once (so runs an ancient tale),

Old, worn and spent, crept down a shadowed vale;

On either hand rose mountains bleak and high;

Chill was the gusty air, and dark

the sky;
The path was rugged and his feet were bare,

His faded cheek was seamed by pain and care;

His heavy eyes upon the ground were cast,

And every step seemed feebler than the last.

The valley ended where a naked rock Rose sheer from earth to heaven as if to mock

The pilgrim who had crept that toilsome way;

But while his dim and weary eyes essay

To find an outlet in the mountain side.

A ponderous sculptured brazen door he spied,

And tottering toward it with fastfailing breath,

Above the portal read, "The Gate of Death."

He could not stay his feet that led thereto;

It yielded to his touch, and passing through,

He came into a world all bright and fair;

Blue were the heavens, and balmy was the air;

And lo! the blood of youth was in his veins,

And he was clad in robes that held no stains

Of his long pilgrimage. Amazed, he turned;

Behold! a golden door behind him burned

In that fair sunlight, and his wondering eyes,

Now lustreful and clear as those new skies,

Free from the mists of age, of care and strife,

Above the portals read, "The Gate of Life."

-Harper's Magazine.

A Bible Critic.

At one of his recent meetings in New York Mr. Moody quoted this sentiment in beginning his address: "The Bible is a lamp to direct us; a guide to conduct us; a bit to restrain us; a sword to defend us: water to wash us; fire to inflame us; salt to season us; milk to nourish us; rain to refresh us; treasures to enrich us; and a key to unlock for us heaven's gate." All this it is, he added, and much more. The man who came to a meeting to get an anointing to last a lifetime was compared to the man who ate a breakfast to last a lifetime. Daily,