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GOOD FRIDAY.

THE MIND OF CHRIST.

BACK to the depths beyond the birth of days,
 Ere the world was, and earth's created things,
 Faith flies on reverent Fancy's eager wings;
 And marks heaven's glassy sea with mirrored rays
 (Where the great throne of God in glory stays),
 Stirred as by warning breeze or bursting springs,
 When turned to man, with sympathy's far gaze,
 The loving mind of the blest King of kings.
 From that eternal moment, ever near
 And nearer drew that strange entrancing fear;
 The lowly birth, life's emptying, glory's loss,
 Gethsemane, the Passion, and the Cross!
 To-day He reached, touched, passed the solemn goal.
 And He shall see the travail of His soul!

A. E. M.



The Month.

THE question of marriage with a deceased wife's sister has again been forced upon the attention of Church people. The passage of the Bill through Parliament, if facilities could be obtained for it, is perhaps certain; but that should not keep Churchmen from using all fair methods of opposition as in times past. Recent circumstances have very gravely increased the danger of it being carried into law. The fact that such unions are permitted in some of the Colonies will be increasingly employed as an argument for legalizing them here at home. It is the kind of argument likely just now to weigh heavily with many persons who have no very deep convictions upon the subject. Yet it scarcely seems possible that a change so grave as that of altering our law of marriage should be made in the partial and fragmentary manner contemplated by the present Bill. If Parliament is to attack the question, it should do so at the bidding of responsible ministers, fully, comprehensively, and without regard to personal aspirations or individual anxiety. It is too grave a matter to rest with a private Member, or merely to be tinkered at. Nothing is so likely to inform the people of the country of the true aspects of this controversy as an attempt wholly to reconstruct the marriage laws. The consideration of the subject in the York Convocation Upper House was marked by a discussion which showed that the Bishops are not quite at one in their way of looking at the question.