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resulted from it. I cannot end without speaking of the intellectual tyranny which the present Pontiff is establishing, and which is only a further logical application of Roman absolutist theories, but which in the end will be more disastrous to the Papacy than any other of its previous mistakes. This matter is treated fully and clearly in the *Contemporary Review* for September, and I wish to draw attention most particularly to its valuable and illuminating article on Roman Imperialism.



Ruskin's Grave.

By E. H. BLAKENEY, M.A.

C LOSER than, in life, I stood,
Here beside thee, dead, I stand ;
At my feet the sunlit lake,
Slumbering hills on either hand.

Past thy grave the multitudes—
Idle gazers—come and go,
Marvelling at the cross that stands
Guardian of the bones below.

Spirit, if in realms unknown
Thou art mindful of this place
Where of old thy footsteps ranged,
Where of old thou lovedst to trace

Secrets of the lowly field,
Splendours of the inviolate cloud,
Witchery of the woods when Eve
Casts her raiment like a shroud

O'er the world—ah ! can it be
That, within thine orb of calm,
Some far thrill of earthly things
Dares intrude ? some sweet alarm ?

Passion's dream of haunted hours
Fed with purest morning dew?
Visions of the Just, the Fair,
Dipt in Fancy's rainbow hue?

Vain the quest! Yet this I know:
I have loved thee, Master, Guide.
See the tokens on thy cross—
Wild-flowers from the mountain-side!

CONISTON,

August 9, 1909.



Some Thoughts on Church Reform.

BY THE REV. F. L. H. MILLARD, M.A.

THERE seems to be little doubt that the Church of England needs reform. This is admitted on all hands, but there is no general agreement as to where or how that reform should begin. Indeed, the moment you begin to touch the subject of reform, it puts forth so many dangerous bristles—a very hedgehog of discussion—that you feel little disposed to proceed; there is, in fact, no direction in which you may turn where the way is not barred by these walls of bristles.

Yet the urgency of reform becomes more and more evident the more Church matters are dealt with. There is hardly any part of Church organization which does not call out for almost immediate reform. Church finance is in a state of chaos; patronage as administered is a scandal and shame; clerical incomes are, in their irregularity, a subject to make angels weep; organization is mainly conspicuous by its absence, and is often rendered impossible by the cumbrous size of the diocese over which one man has to preside. Whether it is towards clergy pensions, the status of the unbeneficed, the position of the laity, the work of foreign missions, the use of the Prayer-Book, the ornaments of the church and the minister, the