

## THE SWORD OF SONG.

So, as a surgeon to a man, sir,  
 Let me excise your Christian cancer  
 Impersonally, without vanity,  
 Just in pure love of poor humanity!

185

Ascension Day.  
 Moral aspect of  
 Christianity to be  
 discussed to pre-  
 judice of the me-  
 taphysical.

Here's just the chance you'd have! Behold  
 The warm sun tint with early gold  
 Yon spire : to-day's event provide  
 My text of wrath — Ascension-tide!  
 Oh! 'tis a worthy day to wrest  
 Hate's diadem from Jesus' Crest!  
 Ascends he? 'Tis the very test  
 By which we men may fairly judge,  
 From the rough roads we mortals trudge  
 Or God's paths paved with heliotrope,  
 The morals of the crucified.  
 (Both standpoints join in one, I hope,  
 In metaphysic's stereoscope!)  
 But for the moment be denied  
 A metaphysical inspection —  
 Bring out the antiseptic soap! —  
 We'll judge the Christ by simple section,  
 And strictly on the moral side.

190

195

200

205

Orthodoxy to be our  
 doxy. Gipsies  
 barred. Henrik  
 Ibsen and H. G.  
 Wells.

But first; I must insist on taking  
 The ordinary substantial creed  
 Your clergy preach from desk and pulpit  
 Each Sunday; all the Bible, shaking

210