

human nature" about it, as there is about most things. And when the previous character of the human nature is taken into account, it is not surprising that it should have features and developments jarring to the susceptibilities of those whose antecedents, moral and religious, have been entirely different. Many of the expressions that have justly shocked a true Christian taste, and been with justice set down as "irreverent" in their character, are simply what might have been expected, in the circumstances, from a stratum of society which the refining and elevating influence of Christianity seems hardly to have touched. But it would, nevertheless, be deplorable indeed, were the character and phraseology of this stratum to leaven in any degree the religious expression of our time; and this is a danger which, owing to the very aggressive power of the "Army," it is by no means superfluous to consider. When we read in the *War Cry*, published in Brooklyn,—a somewhat degenerate edition of the English *War Cry*,—such telegraphic reports from the field as: "Sunday, glorious smash; thirteen in fountain, died hard;—hallelujah!" we feel that in accustoming men's ears to such rough and ready dealings with the most sacred of subjects, the Army's leaders are sacrificing too much to their desire for sensation! We must feel the same when we read the description of their "Big Goes," and other demonstrations, and of the "War Dances," as they describe the fantastic movements of some of the more hysterical subjects, which, by some of the leaders, are too much encouraged. Indeed, it has been said by members of the Army themselves, that it is only the earnest consecration of the subordinate officers which