

Of all these virtues, it must be admitted, the average product of modern education is liable to be quite incapable; unless he is something more than merely "wise and prudent"—and often he is less—he may thus be, in some respects, lower than the savage.

SEVERITY

Among the list of epithets applied to the Teachings, as quoted on page ix, occurs one which sounds a harsh note—the word "resentful." But the author claims that Christ was far from being weak, effeminate, tolerant of hypocrisy and imposture, or even universally forgiving. His personal injurers he could and did forgive; but the obstruction of his kingdom, not through ignorance and weakness but in the strength of warped authority and self-satisfied bigotry, he strongly and to the end resented.

"Christianity is not quite the mild and gentle system it is sometimes represented to be. Christ was meek and lowly, but he was something beside. What was he when he faced the leading men among his countrymen and denounced them as a brood of vipers on their way to the infernal fires?" So says the author, and he continues:

"The Enthusiasm of Humanity creates an intolerant anger against all who do wrong to human beings, an impatience of selfish enjoyment, a vindictive enmity to tyrants and oppressors, a bitterness against sophistry, superstition, self-complacent heartless speculation, an irreconcilable hostility to every form of imposture, such as the uninspired inhumane soul could never entertain."

PRACTICAL EFFORT

The gospel is not all peace, it has a sword too. The Church as founded by Christ was not an insipid prelude to another world; it is an active and militant agent in this.

"As Christ habitually compared his Church to a state or kingdom, so there are traces that its analogy to an army was also present to his mind."