

ward the spelling reform, and the introduction of an adequate scientific method of denoting the sounds made in articulate speech. It contains in all departments a great amount of good work of high utility, and an immense amount of condensed encyclopædia. It will hardly be a scholar's dictionary, tho' scholars and students of all grades may use it with advantage. In some respects it has no superior and perhaps no equal.—*N. Y. Independent.*

THE CHRISTIAN CRUSADERS.—I have heard of an organization new to me, the Christian Crusaders, a modified and moderate sort of Salvation Army, with a military sort of government and officers from lieutenant to general, which they say is scriptural because "it is in harmony with the only system of government enjoined in the Old Testament," and is preferable because the organization exists only for war. The Crusaders wear a plain dark blue uniform with the letter C on the collar, and use a drum or banners or flaming posters or any other means to attract the attention of the ungodly and to make people listen to the gospel. The officers are supported and expenses paid by collections at every service. They enter the training home as cadets and are "tested and trained in war from six weeks to three months before receiving a commission." The Crusaders differ from the Salvation Army in working largely through the churches, and their work is heartily endorsed by a Congregational pastor I met who had a band of Crusaders working with him a little less than two weeks. His church members worked with the band. Many men with their wives were converted and whole families came into the kingdom; it was a sweeping revival for a country place, and the converts stand. Fifty of them have since joined his church. They do not hesitate to go into a town and begin operations without being invited, trying to get the co-operation of some church after they begin. The sixty-first hymn in their little hymn book shows their spirit:

"We're a band of happy workers, hallelujah!
You may scoff but that won't hurt us, hallelujah!
We will sing and we will shout, hallelujah!
And we'll drive the devil out, hallelujah!

"Our soldiers are detested, hallelujah!
And many times arrested, hallelujah!
With our motto, Blood and Fire, hallelujah!
We will fight and never tire, hallelujah!" etc.

The headquarters are in Worcester, Mass., where their organ, "The Herald of Salvation," is published.—*N. W. Cong.*

PROTESTANTISM IN GERMANY.—The same spirit prevails very nearly in all the Protestant churches of Germany. The type is decidedly Lutheran, though more or less strong. For more than three centuries the work of these churches has almost exclusively consisted in preaching. The laity took little or no part, they were nothing more than the congregations, to which the sermons were addressed. If this preaching came from men filled with the Holy Ghost, if Christ was truly preached, then of course blessings followed and souls were brought to God. Where this was not the case it was no more than doing mechanically the daily round of church business, and dead congregations were the necessary consequence. Fortunately we have at the present moment a large number of living clergymen who have experienced the grace of God in their hearts and who give the message they have received from God. Certainly all pastors are not so, but where has that ever been the case? We have also infidel preachers and such who are orthodox but spiritually dead, but the true preachers of Christ are not wanting.

The moral and intellectual standard of the clergy is a high one. The students of theology receive their education at the universities, though the latter are purely state institutions, and our churches have no influence whatever in the training of their future ministers; it is after all at these universities that the great religious problems, as far as theory is concerned, are fought out. In theological science our nation has always been ahead of others, and though often our professors teach things which are not a good preparation for the future ministry, nobody would really curtail the liberty of science. The students have to wind themselves through the labyrinth of different theological views, and those who are spiritually alive have generally received their impression in practical life. The old feud between orthodox and liberal theology goes on, and the contest is even very hot at present. It is even often carried into the congregations, for instance, by raising objections against the use of the Apostles' Creed in divine service. The greatest fame at present accompanies the Ritschel theology, which proves very attrac-