

in hand, and but three weeks' time for payment, the bargain was made ; and so great was the satisfaction of the Christian public at the news of the capture, that subscriptions rapidly poured in, until, before the expiration of the three weeks, £9,000 was in hand, of which £3,000 came from the ranks of the Army,—chiefly poor men and women, who had just before been contributing towards the purchase of another property at Clapton,—and the remainder of the money was borrowed ; for, debt or no debt, the Army must have the “ Eagle.” And so, one morning at daybreak, a great procession of Red Cross Knights, male and female, to the number of about one thousand, marched to take triumphant possession, overcoming, by sheer endurance and force of numbers, the crowd of “roughs” that had assembled to oppose their entrance. Once inside, they knelt in prayer, to consecrate the building to the service of God ; and, after a brief “ testimony” meeting, returned to their homes and their daily work, but not without tasting the brutality of a London mob outside, both men and women being bruised and beaten by the “roughs,” as they stood on the railway platform waiting for the train to carry them home. But the “ Eagle” was secured, and was fitted up as a hotel and temperance coffee house—the “ Grecian theatre,” which formed part of the premises, being transformed into a comfortable hall in which two thousand could assemble for worship ; while the great centre square, fitted up with gas, fountains, and coloured lights, which had been used for open-air dancing, made, of course, an equally available place for open-air preaching to thousands of hearers. The opening day, though the hour was early afternoon,