

they fought under his banner. There was no Regiment. When that system gave way before the encroachments of the principles of personal liberty, &c., out of which modern society has grown, certain great Lords, and others, under the authority, and by warrant of the King, raised, each in his own district of country, a body of men for military service, which that great Lord and his subordinates officered, and led into the field, under the King's commission, given and certified by his sign manual. Such was the beginning of Regiments, and in that beginning each Regiment is seen to be a distinct unit. Hence an Army, whether it be the Standing Army of Great Britain, or the "Army of the Crimea" in the Russian War, is but a name for a number of these units—these Regiments put together on paper or on the field. The Army may, and will, melt away into nothing when in time of peace the Regiments are separated and dispersed, but each Regiment remains a true unit still in its own appointed quarters.

How wholly opposite and contradictory is the original and inner relation of the Church of Christ. In this, the Church—the Army—is the true unit. The great King did not give his warrant and commission to Peter to go and raise a Petrine Regiment, to Andrew to raise an Andrewine Regiment, to John to raise a Johannian Regiment, and so on! but he said, in relation to the work which these, and others also, were to do by His authority and under His commission—"Upon this rock I will build *my Church*." The Church is the true unit; and as a unit it was as perfect and complete on the day of Pentecost, when, under the first active operation of the Spirit of God, its organization was accomplished, and the City of Jerusalem held all its members—it was, we say, as a unit, as perfect and complete then as it is now, when its fractions are spread out in every land.

Now let us turn the picture—let us look at this simile from the other side, the origin and beginnings of modern Religious Denominations, and how will these compare with the original creation of any Regiment in an Army.

Most modern Religious Denominations in this country are derived from bodies of the same name in England, and originated somewhat thus:—there being already a Church—a division of the Christian Army—in England, certain persons, belonging to it, charged it with more or less of unfaithfulness or disobedience to the Great Master, in respect to some matter of doctrine or of duty, of regimen or of practice; on such ground they came out and separated themselves, some at one time, some at another; some on this side some on that; they set up each a new camp; and occupied themselves with going round among the tents