

these rays be collected by a powerful lens, and heat sufficient may be obtained to melt down the most refractory elements. So evangelistic services act as the Church's burning-glass. They do not generate the heat. That resides in and comes from the Sun of Righteousness. But they bring this heat to a focus. They help to concentrate it on human hearts. And often beneath its concentrated and continuous power the hardest hearts yield, and are melted into tenderness and contrition.

(2) *Agencies and Methods employed in conducting Evangelistic Services.*—Under this heading we find scope enough to include the persons who lead and control the services, and the modes, general and detailed, by which the largest results are sought. Nor is it easy to overrate the importance of the inquiry here. If law is a unit and truth universal, then it is certain that appropriate tillage is just as essential in the spiritual husbandry as in the physical. The garnered results have an invariable relation to the culture of the soil and the character of the seed. As in nature, so in industry and art, will it be found that God exerts His Agency and gives His blessing in connection with the use of means. And why should it not be that, in the spiritual sphere, the wise and diligent use of means is essential to the ingathering of souls, and kindling into a livelier glow the graces of believers.

The facts of experience too are instructive on this point. The early apostles were, in a high degree, instrumental in adding souls to the Church. But in the means employed it is easy to see the principle of moral adaptation. They were, of course, filled with the spirit. This is the Supreme Agency. Even when we speak chiefly of human agency, the Power of God's Spirit, resting on all and blessing all, is assumed as indispensable and fundamental. But with unparalleled devotion, and intense moral earnestness, these early disciples preached to save souls. They lived and spoke as if under the shadow of the Cross. So the Wesleys, the Whitfields, and all the successful revivalists of modern times. They have dealt with the conscience and the heart, and have aimed at the direct and immediate salvation of men.

To what is the wonderful success of Moody and Sankey, on both sides of the Atlantic, largely due? They, doubtless, seek to be filled with the Spirit. They gladly yield themselves as channels through