

or emotional. No Protestant denomination, however, has attempted to systematize this phase of Church work. Individual congregations carry it on actively or supinely, giving prominence to special features. Some even invite to their gymnasias and clubs all men, irrespective of creed, Jews, Mohammedans, or Infidels. Though congregations support dispensaries and employ deaconesses and nurses, no denomination, as an organic body, ordains any body of men or women to special service of teaching or nursing; and none, I think, has as yet legislated or laid down rules for the regulation of its clergy or officers in carrying on such extra-clerical work.

In this practical age and in the Protestant Churches mysticism finds little favour. In a certain sense mysticism is the abnegation of reason, whereas dogmatism attempts to work out a reasonable system on certain premises, which may not be capable of being proved, but which the dogmatist insists on as being certain though undemonstrable. The mystic accepts the impressions of his imagination as valid, and regards as divine suggestions what some might describe as morbid impulses.

Still, while the dogmatist must reject, as of no value, some of the lucubrations of the so-called "passive state," he cannot deny that brilliant thoughts have flashed across the minds of those emotional persons who are the subjects of these abnormal influences, to such an extent that one wonders whether truths are not revealed through other media than the mechanism of logic, and whether thoughts are not capable of creating impressions, though not uttered by word or deed. A great wave of emotion, when of national magnitude, must be a force of incalculable power, though not measurable by any standard or process which we know of. We can hardly otherwise explain the spread of some of the great movements which have swept over the earth and carried before them whole peoples; or attribute to the preaching alone of a single man like Peter the Hermit, or Whitfield and the Wesleys, the effects produced. Such individuals