

they stand at the opposite poles of the orbit of christian activity. Each distinctively typical of a peculiar habit of thought and practice.

On the one hand we find the assertion of a christian life based almost exclusively upon the reading and study of God's word—an extremely simple and undemonstrative manner of service; a noticeable absence of missionary zeal; an intense emphasis laid on the conception of a select few of God's peculiar people, a conception which is consistently embodied in an eagerness to be known as the possessors of a special illumination of the Holy Spirit and in a continual effort after an ideal completeness of knowledge of the Word, and separateness in life and doctrine.

On the other hand stands that phenomenal manifestation of Christian zeal and philanthropy—the Salvation Army. Of this marvellous organization it might be said that it emphasises the features of Christian life which are almost ignored by the "Brethren;" and, indeed, that its distinctive characteristics are very largely to be found in the intense and vehement assertion of these features, so that it becomes the vigorous and dominant antithesis of the latter as a religious agency.

In place of the unattractive cult of the "Brethren," the army presents the varied gathering, the aggressive march and the clangour of the iterated appeal.

For the excessive meditation and analytic discrimination of the former the latter furnishes the burning zeal of a world-embracing evangel. And for the isolation of the few highly favoured ones contemplating their own fitness for the Lord's coming and the increasing corruption of a world being fitted for destruction, the army are going forth with a rugged and self-denying energy which is astounding, to the rescue of the perishing, in obedience to the example and in fulfilment of the command of the captain of their salvation.

My intention in naming these two bodies is not, however, to contrast them with one another, nor to criticise their respective principles or methods of work. I have selected them from among the numerous available examples as strikingly typical, and in their contrasted peculiarities as affording a good general illustration of the matter in hand.

They supply two examples, striking examples it is true, but