

MODERN METHODS IN CHURCH WORK.

the new movement in church and Christian life is found. Saul, the persecutor of the Church, only needed to be brought face to face with Jesus Christ to receive that impulse and inspiration which made him a tireless apostle. Those active in the new movement have been stirred by a vision no less real than Paul's. They have seen the gracious, compassionate Christ who wept over Jerusalem, weeping over the cities of our own land. They have heard the same Jesus who went about healing the sick, ministering to the poor, caring for the impotent, ignorant, and sinful, saying, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you,"¹ and they have heard the Christ who gave himself a sacrifice for others, say, "Love one another, as I have loved you."² The vision is of the Christ whom we cannot disassociate from the miseries and needs of men; and the Church to-day, which seeks to alleviate human suffering and endeavors to meet men's miseries and needs, has gone to the bottom of the whole question of reaching the masses. The new movement is trying to represent, or re-present Jesus Christ, both in his putting away disease and demons, sufferings and limitations, and in his positive work of putting a new life within; in humanitarian, beneficent, and philanthropic as well as spiritual work, therefore, the supporters of the new movement find inspiration in doing the will of Him that sent them.

The new movement finds another inspiration in the greatness of the work that yet awaits the Church. The world is white unto the harvest. Out of the fifteen hundred million of the earth's population, but five hundred million are even nominal Christians; in our own country but twenty-one million of our popu-

¹ John xx. 21.

² John xv. 12.