

## THE SALVATION ARMY.

### A NEW CITADEL AT NORWOOD.

In the expressive phraseology of the Salvation Army there were "high jinks" among the "blood and fire" soldiers at Norwood on Monday afternoon, when the ceremony of setting the memorial blocks of the new "citadel," which is in course of construction in George-street, was performed amid much demonstration. Rain fell during the proceedings, but it was not allowed to interfere with the success of the occasion. A shower might wet the uniforms of the soldiers and lasses but something more was required to damp their enthusiasm. Flags of all the colors of the rainbow which arched its beauty in the eastern sky fluttered in the cold wind; the band played vigorously to keep themselves warm, and the shivering soldiers sung with more than ordinary gusto. The crowd which assembled to see the stones—of which there were four—well and truly laid numbered many hundreds. A "volley" having been fired in her honor, Mrs. Alexander Hay was asked to set the first block. In doing so she said she could quite realise that to many the fervid and demonstrative service of the Salvation Army must be most acceptable. When told that it was the general wish of the Norwood corps that she should take part in the block-laying ceremony she had gladly availed herself of the opportunity of showing how complete was her impartiality with regard to different "Christian sects." To all who strove to follow the example of our common Lord, and went about doing good, she was thankful to say she could hold out the right hand of fellowship. She fully appreciated the great service the Army was performing, especially in connection with its rescue and other social work. The church generally owed a deep debt of gratitude to an organisation so earnest in its efforts for reform, and when the history of the religious and philanthropic work of the last half of the nineteenth century was written the work of the Salvation Army must loom largely in its pages. Mrs. Hay said the new building promised to be quite an ornament to Norwood, and she wished the corps every success. The next stone was laid by Mr. J. Darling, M.P., who was also greeted with a volley of welcome. He stated that although he had not observed the Army under fire that afternoon he had seen its soldiers under water. Convinced as he is of their sincerity in their work, which he believes is to a great extent a labor of love, the junior member for East Torrens said he was entirely in sympathy with the Salvationists. He expressed pleasure at the fact that the feelings of antagonism which the establishment of the Salvation Army engendered in some quarters had completely died away, and that the sympathies of the best thinking portion of the community were now with the organisation. He was pleased to take part in that day's proceedings, and hoped the erection of the hall would result in the material advancement of their cause. Needless to say both speeches were well

punctuated with salvation signs of endorsement, and so were the deliverances of Sergeant-Major McCallum, of the Norwood corps, and Colonel Peart, who set the other two blocks in position. The latter gentleman, who came from Melbourne to represent the commandant at the ceremony, said that no corps in Australia deserved a building more than that in Norwood, which had shown great perseverance and pluck in its work. Strangely enough the architect of the new building was the soldier who had fired the first salvation shot in Norwood. There was much joy in the ranks at the result of the "pass up your cheques" proceedings. No less than £172 was contributed or promised. This makes a total of about £450 which the local corps has raised out of the £565 13s. 4d. required. The balance—for the cost of the land and the erection of the building—is set down at a total of £1,700—will be lent from the Salvation Army property fund. The main hall will be 60 ft. by 36 ft., with seating accommodation for 500 persons. There will be convenient rooms at the back for offices, and also a hall 44 ft. x 24 ft. with seating accommodation of 200 for the use of the juniors. During the afternoon hymns were sung and prayer offered, and at the end of the proceedings volleys of thanks were accorded Mrs. Hay, Mr. Darling, and the Sergeant-Major, who each received a mallet bearing an inscription as a memento of the occasion. The mallets were presented by Colonel Peart. Besides the officers already mentioned there were present Brigadier Glover, who is in charge of the Army in South Australia; Major Edwards, secretary for the colony; Staff-Captain Spargo, the officer in charge of the district; and Captain McLeod, who commands the corps. The opening ceremony was followed by a tea, a torchlight procession, and a meeting in the Baptist Church.