

April 15th, 1882.

No. 14.

# Pulpit Criticism.

A WEEKLY SHEET.

BY DAVID EDWARDS.

Published on Saturday, and sold at 20 Queen Street East, Toronto.

PRICE \$1.00 PER ANNUM.

Copies of any single number can be had, in quantities, at 15 cents per dozen.

---

---

## THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

CARLTON STREET.

The pulpit of this church was occupied by the Rev. J. C. Antliff on the morning of the 9th inst. Prior to attempting to describe the mode in which the service was conducted by this gentleman, it may be well to observe that the distinction between this great-grandchild of Rome and its Methodist parent consists in the greater power of voting maintained by the laity in the "conferences" of the body: the lay element in the assemblies of the Primitive Methodists being represented in the voting, in the proportion of two laymen to one minister: certain ministers, apart from this proportionate consideration, are nevertheless *allowed to speak, but not to vote* on these occasions. It may be permitted to a bystander to observe that this arrangement appears to savor of the grace of the exercise of which we read in the sixth chapter of the Acts, v. 1, when "there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews": the Hebrews, as we gather from the Greek names of the deacons, said in effect, "look ye to that," so in the present instance, the ministers appear to have acted in the spirit of those twelve who said "we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the

ministry of the word." With regard to the officiating minister in Carlton street, it must be obvious to all who have listened to him that had he thought fit to choose "the chief seats in the synagogues," he would have received slippers, watch-pockets, smoking-caps, braces, and brush-bags enough to have furnished a King street depot with ladies work, but he has had the heroism to forego the slippers, and to leave the brush-bags to less worthy recipients, hence he preaches masterly sermons to semi-empty benches, and learns without doubt the force of the injunction, "*Buy the truth and sell it not,*"—Prov. xxiii, 23; if the writer estimate him aright, he will buy, (according to his convictions,) at any price, and sell at none. The portion of Scripture, on which he sought to concentrate our attention, in the first place, by reading it, and subsequently by discoursing on it, was the twenty-fourth chapter of Luke, a portion to which the material heavens may be said to point, at the Easter festival, inasmuch as that day is the first Lord's day after the full moon which follows the vernal equinox: this fact involves the further consideration that the *Paschal moon was about full* when