

It is vain and futile, it is weak and foolish, nay, it is absurd in any Presbyterian minister to try to conceal the fact that absolute predestination is the foundation of Calvinism,—and that unconditional election is one of the stones in that foundation, and unconditional reprobation another. Calvin himself says that these two stand or fall together; and we are of the same opinion; and fall they must, and fall they shall, before the force of truth, and light, and love.

But there is an expression in the paragraph of our critic from which we have just quoted, to which we wish to call special attention. Having told us that Calvin *seemed* to teach this, *appeared* to teach this,—having told us that he *seems* to guard against the idea of God's absolute sovereignty, he proceeds to say “and in one of the chapters of the third Book of the Institutes the title runs thus: ‘The predestinated destruction of the wicked procured by themselves.’” Is there a title which runs thus in any of the chapters of the third book? we asked ourselves when we read the above. We were sure that we had never noticed it in our own edition of Calvin's Institutes, but that would be no reason why we should doubt our Presbyterian brother's word for it, were it not that it *seems* and *appears* at least to contradict what we know Calvin so frequently teaches in his works. Well, thinking that the words, “The predestinated destruction of the wicked procured by themselves,” might be the heading of some chapter in the book we commenced at the beginning and we looked, and looked, until we came to the 21st Chapter; we said to ourselves surely we shall find it now, but no. We found however the following words as its title, “*Of the eternal election, whereby God hath predestinated some to salvation, and others to destruction.*”

This you perceive is the very reverse of what our critic says. Then we turned to the 22nd Chapter and found the following: “A confirmation of this doctrine by testimonies of the scriptures.” And it is a remarkable fact which we wish our critic particularly to notice, that the very last section of this very chapter runs as follows: “*The ground of reprobation the will of God to reject, and not men's deserving to be rejected.*” The reader will notice that our critic represents Calvin as saying the very reverse of this. But where we asked again did he find his quotation? We turned to the 23rd Chapter, which all who are acquainted with Calvinistic literature know to be more Calvinistic if possible than any other chapter in the whole book. It runs as follows: “A confutation of the slanders wherewith this doctrine hath always been wrongfully burdened.” Well we asked can it be in the 24th Chapter? We turned to it and read as follows: “*That election is established by*