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SACRAMENTAL WINE.

II.

DURNING now to those who base their objection to the use of wine, properly so called, in the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Scriptural grounds, stress is mainly laid on the assertions that the terms of institution and the Law of Moses as regards the Passover preclude it.

1. Much is made of the fact that the terms employed by our Lord at the institution of the ordinance are "this cup" and "this fruit of the vine" and that wine is not explicitly named by Him.

The use of wine at the Passover is not enjoined by the Law and probably was not partaken of at the outset. We have no means of ascertaining when it was introduced. There is no reference to wine in the Passover ceremonial anywhere in the Old Testament. In our Lord's time, however, the partaking of a number of cups during the progress of the feast was an established usage that received the sanction of His countenance.

The language employed in the institution of the Supper was naturally derived from the ritual of the Feast which He was celebrating. The explanation of its peculiarities of phraseology are to be found in that fact and are satisfactorily accounted for by it. In speaking of it as "the fruit of the vine" He simply used the