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Pulpit Criticism.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

This is a service which, for the past thirty years, has been held annually, in connexion with the harvest; "the altar," (as the communion table is styled at Holy Trinity) was slightly decorated; the most appropriate portion of the decoration of the table, consisted of a bunch of grapes, in conjunction with ears of corn, which occupied a conspicuous position above it; it may be presumed that most persons who are in any way interested in revelation, are aware that the "corns of wheat" symbolize the truth enunciated by the Lord, in John xii, 24, but they may not have observed that the career of the grain from the time it is garnered, has several parallels in the life of the Lord; the flail is the first instrument, to the action of which it is submitted,—Christ "gave his back to the smiters," Is 1, 6: the wheat is then *separated* from the chaff—one of the characteristics of the Redeemer was, that he was "*separate* from sinners," Heb. vii, 26; The wheat is crushed in the mill—The Messiah "was bruised for our iniquities," Is. liii, 5. Water, the symbol of the Holy Spirit, (Is. xlv, 3; Ez. xxxvi, 25, 27.) is mingled with the flour; Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit," Luke iv, 1. The dough is placed in the oven—The Lord passed through such a *furnace* of affliction as man had never previously undergone. The loaf is the final

result of the processes above described, and of *that* the Apostle says, "For we being many are one loaf, one body; for we are all partakers of that one loaf," 1 Cor. x, 17. We have already adverted to the fundamental truth of Christianity, as symbolized by the ears of corn; it only remains therefore to add that in contrast with the slaughter of *animals* from year to year, which only foreshadowed the *death* of the true "Passover," the Lord, in instituting the festival of his supper, selected his symbols from the *vegetable kingdom*, and in the case of the "fruit of the vine" no less than in the ears of corn, we have the great truth of resurrection set forth, as well as that of death; resurrection with the additional thought of joy, for wine is said to "make glad the heart of man." But to return to the subject of the decorations at this festival; heaps of ripe fruits served as bases at the corners of the table, the communion rails were prettily adorned with blended flowers, fruit, and grain; sheaves of corn lay on either side the entrance-gate to the chancel; the finials of that part of the church were "dressed" with corn-ears and colored leaves, and crosses of the same were attached to the various cloths which form part of the furniture of that portion of the Church; the canopy of the adjoining font was also thickly studded