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# Pulpit Criticism:

WITH

ANSWERS TO OBJECTIONS TO THE BIBLE.

A WEEKLY SHEET.

BY DAVID EDWARDS.

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## THE METHODIST CHURCH.

RICHMOND STREET.

The service at this church was conducted by the Rev. W. J. Hewitt, of Portage La Prairie, on the 11th inst. An incident occurred shortly after the writer left the church, which contrasted strikingly with what he had seen and heard within; in one of the "lanes of the city," in which a stable is situated, he overheard a man, white with age, earnestly commending the claims of the Saviour to a young man, while the latter was occupying himself with the harness; the circumstance, while it was calculated to remind the writer of that bright feature of Methodism which connects itself with local preachers, impressed him also with the consideration that He who deigned to be "laid in a manger," would look far more complacently on the stable-sermon, than on that which had been ushered in with "How beautiful upon the mountains," etc. Regarded from a Biblical standpoint, the sermons which are habitually preached in the midst of a weekly flower (and feather) show are greatly of the nature of a travesty. Two portions of Scripture were read, on this occasion, as "first and second lesson," but the preacher's efforts were, as his ecclesiastical system demands they should be, concentrated on his essay; this production was hung on Ps. lxxxiv. 11; it was calculated to impress the hearers that the reverend gentleman believed and felt the force of such truths as he enunciated; the best illustration he gave us, related to the mode in which the Almighty is wont to minister to the needs of his children; no earthly parent, said the preacher, would throw a loaf to a child who asked for bread, but, on the contrary, would cut him a slice; in like manner does the "Parent of good" minister "daily" spiritual "bread" to those who seek it; Mr. Hewitt described the sad bereavements through which he had passed, and emphasized, in view of them, his conviction of the trustworthiness of the statements of his text—"Jehovah God is a sun and shield; Jehovah will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from those who walk uprightly." He was probably