

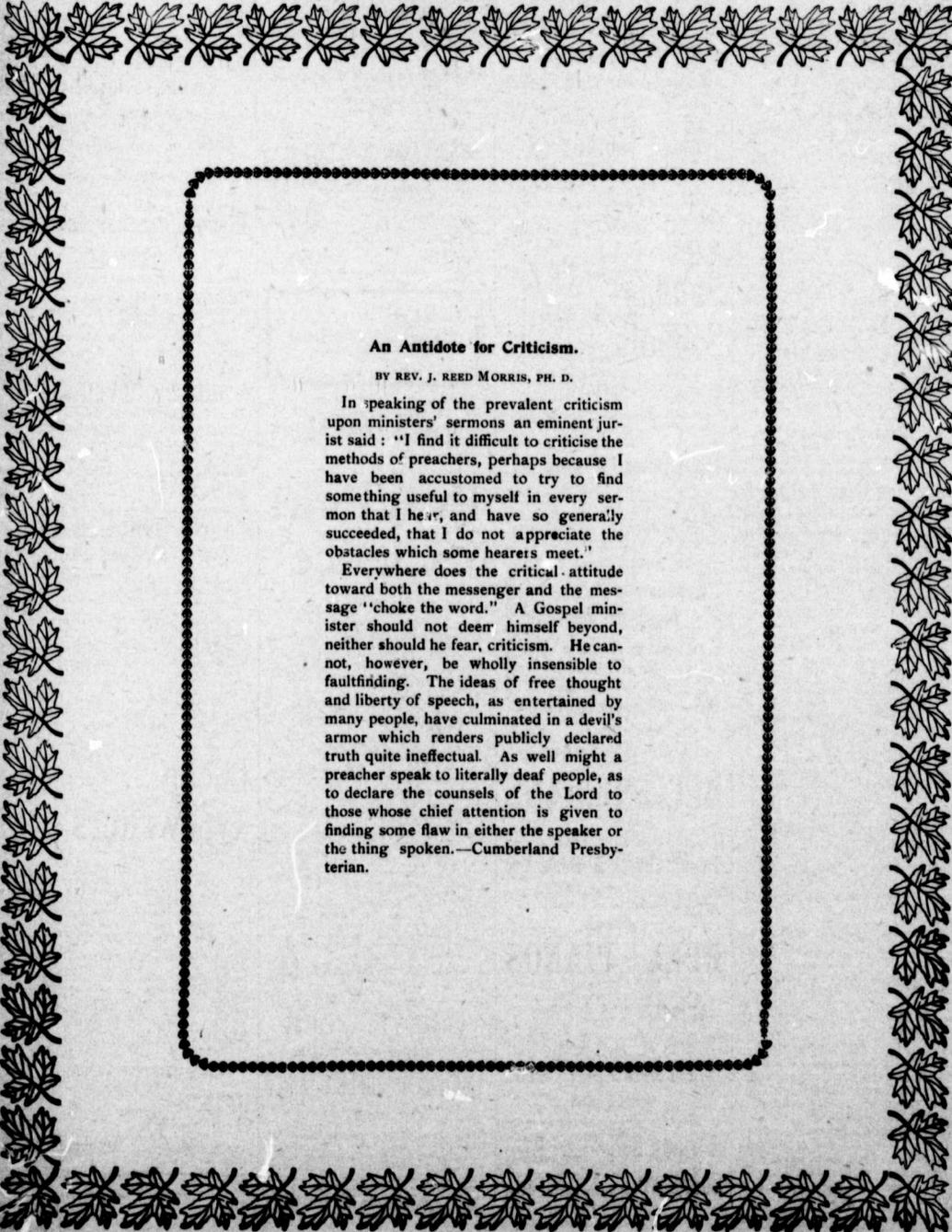
Dominion Presbyterian

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An Antidote for Criticism.

BY REV. J. REED MORRIS, PH. D.

In speaking of the prevalent criticism upon ministers' sermons an eminent jurist said: "I find it difficult to criticise the methods of preachers, perhaps because I have been accustomed to try to find something useful to myself in every sermon that I hear, and have so generally succeeded, that I do not appreciate the obstacles which some hearers meet."

Everywhere does the critical attitude toward both the messenger and the message "choke the word." A Gospel minister should not deem himself beyond, neither should he fear, criticism. He cannot, however, be wholly insensible to faultfinding. The ideas of free thought and liberty of speech, as entertained by many people, have culminated in a devil's armor which renders publicly declared truth quite ineffectual. As well might a preacher speak to literally deaf people, as to declare the counsels of the Lord to those whose chief attention is given to finding some flaw in either the speaker or the thing spoken.—Cumberland Presbyterian.