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October 28th, 1882.

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# Pulpit Criticism.

WITH

◀ ANSWERS TO OBJECTIONS TO THE BIBLE ▶

A WEEKLY SHEET.

BY DAVID EDWARDS.

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## BAPTIST CHURCH.

PARLIAMENT ST.

The service of this church was conducted by the Rev. Wm. Tapscott on the morning of the 22nd inst. The Reverend gentleman is understood to have received "a call" from this church, "to an enlarged sphere of usefulness." As the writer is not aware if the so-styled "call" will be accepted, he will not be regarded as personal in making the following observations on the subject of such calls. Inasmuch as the professing church has so far departed from the fundamental principle enunciated by the Lord, and enforced by precept and example, by the Apostle Paul, in Acts xx. 34, 35,—has so far departed from the blessedness of giving, as to have adopted the ordinary principles of merchandize, we feel inclined to suggest that the churches should go a little further, and adopt the language of commerce as well as the principles; a warehouseman instead of saying he had had "a call" for a bale of "dry

goods," would speak of having had an "order" for such articles, and in our judgment, gentlemen who have not learned better than to "hire" themselves and their essays to the highest bidder, should speak of *fulfilling* an order for that article of commerce styled "a minister." If it would afford them satisfaction to designate such communications "holy orders," there would not probably be many to trouble themselves about such a designation. We need not hesitate to affirm that if the genuine section of the ministerial body were aware of the evil effect which the acceptance of these "calls to enlarged spheres of usefulness" produces, they would be slow to accept them; if their immediate friends (and themselves) would lay the farewell address of the Apostle Paul to the Ephesians to heart, it could not be difficult to increase a minister's means, when requisite, by putting educational or other secular work in his way,