

THE

CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
 "This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

VOL. XI. COBOURG AND BRIGHTON, NOVEMBER, 1857. NO. 11.

SPURGEON.

Like every man, good or evil, who obtains renown, Mr. Spurgeon, the distinguished young Baptist preacher in London, has both friends and opposers. There are not wanting men who, after hearing him, most unqualifiedly denounce him; others know not what to think of him; and there are others who see and hear him as though he was an inspired messenger.

There are two ministers who have recently heard him who testify so oppositely, and, yet, we believe, so sincerely, that we incline to present their evidence as the best available means by which our readers may form an estimate of the far-famed 'modern Whitfield.' As both of these witnesses tell what they see and hear, let the impartial reader take the facts they bring forward, and make due allowance for the impressions and commentaries of each. The first gentleman speaks thus:

It is easy to see why Mr. Spurgeon, for a time, should be popular. First, he is, what I heard a woman call him, a "powerful preacher"—that is, as she went on to explain it, he can "make himself heard;" he possesses the valuable physical power of a great voice and clear intonation, together with a free use of plain English in the vulgar tongue. Then he was wit, often very poor, almost always very coarse, sometimes smart and taking. Add to this the ready effrontery with which he brow-beats and bullies his hearers. "I don't care a snap of the fingers for the whole lot of ye," "I like to make people savage," and the like—amusing them by its very impudence. Real eloquence he has none. Power of captivating the attention and mastering the feelings of the