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# Pulpit Criticism.

WITH

ANSWERS TO OBJECTIONS TO THE BIBLE

A WEEKLY SHEET,

BY DAVID EDWARDS.

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THE ERSKINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SIMCOE STREET.

We chanced to visit the above-named Church on that quarter-day when the members celebrate the rite of which they sing—"and oft the sacred rite renew;" we may presume that they deem they improve on the Apostolic practice of "coming together to break bread, on the first of the week" (Acts xx. 7), or, what is more probable, that they find themselves tied and bound by the chains of the Kirk, and do not dream of disenthralment. The service commenced with the singing of the metrical version of the grand old hundredth psalm; John xix. was then read, and its inseparable connection with the eighteenth chapter, was overlooked, as such connection is apt to be, when persons do not stop to reflect that the division of the Bible into chapters was effected by an unintelligent Cardinal.

The verses from the sixteenth to the eighteenth of the chapter served as the basis of a brief address. To our thinking, the connection of prophecy with its fulfilment is of too great moment to be overlooked; and as the crucifixion formed the subject of these verses, we think their exposition would have been improved by a reference to some such portions as Psalms xxii. 16, and lxix. 21, "The assembly of the wicked have inclosed me, piercing my hands and my feet." "They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink." What we took to be the manifest genuineness of the ministrations at this Church, were in our judgment, their chief recommendation; this being the case, we would gladly be to the rev. gentleman's "faults a little blind," but this blindness will hardly prevent our commenting on certain shortcomings, etc., which were too patent to be overlooked; such as the omission when citing such a passage as that of Ps. cxvi. 13,— "I will take the cup of deliverance, and call on the name of Jehovah"—the omission to notice that the Lord's personal use of the word "cup" (Matt. xxvi. 39, 42) corresponds with his *prophetic*