

Ye learned Critics,  
 Don't my lines abhor,  
 For I'm not one  
 Who gabbles *extempor.*



Yet since I'm up,  
 I'll strive to do my best,  
 And leave my brethren, here,  
 To do the rest.

## ORGANIC AFFECTIONS.

OR

An Account of

A MEETING HELD IN THE RELIEF CHURCH, ST JAMES' PLACE,

TO

Consider the use of an ORGAN in Public Worship.

A Congregational Meeting was lately held in the Relief Church, St James' Place, in pursuance of an advertisement (after the celebration of the Sacrament of the previous Sabbath,) for the purpose of expressing its opinion with respect to the use of an Organ in public worship at the Roxburgh Place Chapel. The meeting house was crowded by a miscellaneous assemblage of ladies and gentlemen.

A Dyer from the Horse Wynd took the Chair, and opened the business with:—"Gentlemen and Ladies, Ye ar' a' awar' what we ha' met about, and the clerk will write the resolutions."

The clerk read resolutions (same as previously published by College Street Chapel.)

A Glazier then said, that he had great pleasure in seconding resolutions which he meant to have done *extempor*: and though he detested all reading within the walls of that house, yet having been rather unwell a' day, he had committed his thoughts to paper, which he would now read.—The learned gentleman then threw a strong light upon the history of Organs—beginning with the age of Constantine—the era of the union of Church and State (which is a favourite standing topic in all *Relief* speeches)—and 300 years before organs were known. He narrated that Organs were brought to this country along with the graven images from Rome, and laid it down as *sound* doctrine, that both Organs and images were denounced by the Second Commandment. He held that the organ was shadowed forth by the beast with the seven heads and ten horns in the Revelations. He informed the audience that the four last Stewarts had attempted to plant the Organ on the mountains of Scotland, but that the plant would not thrive, and was uprooted entirely by King William of blessed memory; and since that time there had been only one attempt to revive the said plant, which had been cut down and eradicated; and he hoped the Roxburgh Place plant would be dealt with in the same way, and that the axe would be laid to the root of this foreign tree. He therefore cordially seconded the resolutions—(Great applause.)

Here it seemed to be expected that the resolutions would pass *harmoniously*; but in a meeting of perhaps a thousand persons this was rather unreasonable.

A Plasterer, after being scrutinised in a tumultuary style whether he was a *member*, proposed an amendment, the purport of which was, that the matter should be left entirely to the proper authorities of the Relief Church, without any in-

terference by the meeting. This amendment was seconded, and great applause given to it as well as to the resolutions. After this a scene of uproar ensued, which it is impossible to describe.—The chairman, who did not seem inclined to hear any argument in favour of the Organ, called out, "Clap a plaister on *Wull Stark's* mouth there," and various other similar interruptions were given.

A person present rose, and having been duly *tested* as to his membership, said, that he found organs mentioned in several of the Psalms as an instrument in the service of God. Another person rejoined, that in the Psalms it was also said that we were enjoined to bind to the horns of the altar "with cords the sacrifice;" and that an ox or a bullock, or any beast that hath both horn or hoof would just be as profitable to edification as the Organ; and as for himself he would much rather see the bullock than the organ in the church—(Great *roarings*). A person near us observed, that the Preses at this stage of the proceedings was a little *ramfuzled*, not knowing what would be the fate of the resolutions; and having shown a disposition to press the resolutions for adoption, the Preses was reminded that it was his business in the chair not to give his own opinions, but to collect the opinions of others—and he was informed that he had already sufficiently stultified himself for the night—(Applause—murmurs—hisses, &c.)

One person proposed that the Dyer should be removed from the chair—another, that the clerk should be put into the chair—and a third, that the chair should be put into the clerk. "Let the Elders that rule well, be counted worthy of double honour." 1 Tim. v. 17.

A *member* exhorted the meeting that they should abstain from hissing, as it typified the serpent spoken of in the Old Testament. Another *member* said talking of the Old Testament, that Organs were played in those times, and why should they not now be played upon. The gentleman who seconded the resolutions very pointedly replied, that if all these Auld Testament matters were to be brought back, we might at once have circumcision—(Hisses, groans, and strong marks of disapprobation by the ladies.)

There was then a stormy, and not very intelligible dispute about putting the resolutions and amendment; and after shewing hands right and left, the resolutionists concluded they had carried their resolutions by a great majority. The diet was opened and closed with prayer!—Such a scene beggars description, and needs no comment.

Is it not absurd for such illiterate and vulgar speaking men to be rulers of a church? *Wha's that talkin' there?* WILLIE SMITH! *gi'e him a daud i' the lug the daft brute, what right has he to set up his chat!* Stand yont or I shave him!!! *han' me yir Stick Tam.*

