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## VIEWS OF BAPTISM BY GERMAN PÆDOBAPTISTS.

No. II.

DR. HAHN.

[This writer was a Professor in the University of Leipsic till a few years ago, when he removed to another seat of learning. In his religious sentiments he belongs to, what may be called, the evangelical party among the German Theologians, whose views he has also publicly and ably defended in opposition to the Rationalists; but what has most extended his fame and made his name familiar to Biblical students, is his edition of the Hebrew Bible from the press of Tauchnitz, which is decidedly the most beautiful, cheap, and serviceable that has ever been published. His views of baptism are given in his *Manual of the Christian Faith (Lehrbuch des Christlichen Glaubens)*, Leipsic, 1828. The following extract comprises two entire sections (§ 122 and § 123) of the original; and presents not only the author's testimony in favour of Scriptural baptism, but also his apology, if such it may be called, for infant baptism. It is scarcely necessary to remark that his weak and timid excuse for this innovation, can have no weight whatever, so long as we believe in the paramount authority of the New Testament, as it regards the rites of

Christianity as well as its doctrines and morals. With our notions of Christian duty, we can no more allow infant sprinkling than infant communion. Let the reader also remember that the extract is given in full, not because every part of it is approved, but for the sake of giving a faithful exhibition of the author's views as to the act and subjects of baptism.—ED.]

*The Biblical doctrine respecting the conditions, the act, and the effects of baptism.*

The act by which the children of the world are consecrated as citizens of the Kingdom of God, is baptism *in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost*. It ought, according to the appointment of Christ, to be performed on all those who *penitently confess their guilt*, and believe in the gospel concerning Jesus, the Saviour of men, (Matt. 28, 19; Mark 16, 15, 16, comp. 1, 15; Acts 2, 38—41; 8, 12, 35—38; 16, 31—34; 22, 16). In accordance with the evangelical apostolical declarations and examples, it took place through the *immersion of the whole man*, and