

P R E F A C E .

THIS Catechism is written because such a work is believed to be needed. Many, who have not access to larger and better books on this theme, will be glad to accept a compact, concise, and clear statement of this subject, as it is taught in the volume of inspiration. Of course, in a work of so small compass, the writer could only present an outline of some of the points that invite discussion. Those into whose hands this pamphlet will fall, and who have thought and read largely upon this topic, will recognize, in the arguments advanced, many old acquaintances, and in very much the same garb in which they have been met before. The writer has aimed, in the preparation of these pages, to be useful rather than original. He has borrowed freely, when it suited his purpose to do so. He is, moreover, specially indebted to the admirable works on baptism, by Rev. F. G. Hibbard, D.D., and Rev. D. D. Wheden, D.D. It is believed this work will do good; and, invoking the blessing of God upon it, it is sent forth to accomplish its destiny.

D. D. C.

SUSSEX VALE, N. B., May, 1864.