

of me? According to the tenor of your own exegesis, you do not obey it; you cannot, while you do not literally imitate all these particulars."

The philological accuracy, however, of this exegesis, and its consonance with the word of truth, must be subjected to examination: and if it stand not the ordeal of these tests, then is the exclusive immersion scheme built upon a foundation of precisely the same material as compose that of the fabric of a vision—*imagination*!

In perfect coincidence with the preceding observations, a remark, of rather an opposite kind, might here be introduced, in regard to the Greek word ΔΕΙΠΝΩ—a *supper* i. e. a *full meal*, used in the New Testament to denominate the great commemorative ordinance; but having said quite enough, it is conceived, for our immediate purpose, I shall place the observation to which I have reference on my list of reserve, and avail myself of it in a future stage of the discussion.

The reader, I trust, will not be dispirited when apprised that all that has been advanced hitherto, is merely preparatory to the deciding process of investigation, which it becomes necessary to institute. The meaning of those words, employed in the original language of the New Testament concerning the initiatory ceremony, is a matter intimately relevant to the question at issue between us and our Baptist brethren; what their meaning is therefore, according to the usage of the Greek language, and in passages of the New Testament respecting the import of which there can arise no question, must be accurately examined. Details of this kind, I am not unaware, even in relation to *water*, must be extremely *dry* to those who have not at least an elementary acquaintance with the Greek: should any of our readers therefore regard the investigation now before us as a "hill of difficulty,"—I must here take my leave of them with a request that they will wind round its base: meanwhile I shall endeavour, with all possible agility, to climb its summit,—and descending on the other side, I shall present them with a true and faithful account of its statistics, in a popular form.