

ographer in a foot note; and we give them, both as expressive of Dr. Heugh's own sentiments, and as those held by his church: and we do this the more readily, as they are the very views presented by the eminent Dr. Charles Hodge of Princeton College in the United States, to which leading men in the Free Church, which has been sufficiently efficacious in accusing us of heterodoxy, have affixed their approbation, and from which we conclude that the doctrinal views of that Church, notwithstanding all their slanderous insinuations against us, are the same as our own.

"The Son of God as Mediator sustained a special relation to His own people, which he does not sustain to the rest of the world. He is their Head; they, and they alone, are the members of His body. He is their shepherd; they alone are His flock. To them specially He is a Prophet, a Priest, and a King; they alone are the objects of His special grace in all these offices. They exclusively are His purchased Church. They are the seed accounted to Him for a generation. They are the many who are given Him, and in whose salvation, as the result of His death, He is satisfied and glorified.

"In making the atonement by His death, He bore a special relation to His chosen people. He then acted as their High Priest, offering His sacrifice to God for the expiation and removal of their guilt, as really as He now acts as their High Priest, in making intercession for them before the throne in the heavens. He laid down His life for the sheep. As the Head of His body the church, He loved that church, and gave Himself for it. He purchased the church with His own blood.

"This relation of Christ to His people, and of His death to their salvation, was fixed in God's eternal purpose, and in the covenant of grace betwixt the Father and the Son. What God executed He purposed, and what was done by Christ, and fulfilled to Him, was fixed in the everlasting covenant, and was the following out of its great arrangements. In that purpose and covenant, the atonement was not determined irrespective of its results, but in order to these results, and in connection with them, as the means to the end.

"The death of Christ infallibly secured all saving blessings to His people; not only removing all legal obstructions in the way of their salvation, not only rendering their salvation possible, but certainly securing all present and future saving blessings to all the elect; not only opening a channel for conveying spiritual blessings, but securing the conveyance of them through that channel.

"While these special relations of the atonement to the elect, as fixed in God's everlasting counsels, and revealed to faith in the gospel, must be held as an important part of the truth of God, it must also be held, and it has uniformly been the doctrine of the Secession Church, that the atonement of Christ has general relations to the world. As will be stated more fully in the next section, the atonement and the blessings of salvation connected with it, are presented in the gospel as God's freely offered gifts to all men. This exhibition assumes that these provisions of the love of God are needed by all men, and are suited to the necessities of all men, as guilty and miserable sinners. It also assumes that there is an intrinsic sufficiency in the atonement of Christ for the salvation of all men; and that it so removes all legal obstructions to their salvation, as that the door of mercy is open to them, and that in consistency with His holy character, law, and government, God presents, to them all, salvation as a gift to be accepted by faith. Of the sufficiency and perfection of the atonement we cannot form too exalted conceptions. It is the sacrifice of the Son of God, and must possess an infinite sufficiency and value; so that while, if the number of those eventually to be saved by it had been indefinitely smaller than it is, this provision for the honor of God in saving them would have been necessary; it would, as far as man can judge, have sufficed, had their number been indefinitely greater."

In some quarters objections were made to the views presented in this state-