



P R E F A C E .

LESS than one year ago the writer was called upon to defend the Truth, relative to the subject of Baptism, from an attack made upon it by the Rev. Isaac Murray, D.D., Presbyterian Minister. By the discussion that had then taken place, many, who were before that time groping their way through the mists of Judaism, were enabled to come to, and rejoice in, the light of "the gospel of Jesus Christ." Others saw but enough of the light to make them uncomfortable, and some of these, instead of going to "search the Scriptures" for themselves, and asking for light and wisdom from Him who opens the understanding of His followers "that they may understand the Scriptures," went to their minister for light, and behold the result! "Baptisma; A Three-fold Testimony: Water Baptism, Spirit Baptism, and the Baptism of Fire. By Rev. John Lathern," dedicated "to the young people of his [my] charge . . . the *substance* of which, from the pulpit, was first addressed to them." The following work is a review of "Baptisma," together with a few strictures upon the authors recommended by it.

Fidelity to the truth compelled the writer to make some exposures in this review, and often to contradict the statements of his neighbour; duties by no means pleasant, and that will likely be displeasing to some of the readers; but he would ask such to examine well the controverted points,