

fect of faith, just as motion is an effect of quickening; and baptism brings the regenerated into the kingdom or church, just as the birth brings the generated into the world; so that baptism is to the regenerated what the birth is to the generated. But sometimes the whole process is included in the expression of a part, as, Abraham begat Isaac, and Isaac begat Jacob, &c. In these examples the begetting is put for the whole process of generation, including the birth; at other times it is said, "a son is born unto him." In this example the birth is put for the whole process of generation, and in like manner the regenerated may be put for the whole process, including the birth of water—and the birth may be put for the whole process of regeneration, including the begetting by the spirit through the word.

From the foregoing you will see, that according to my definition of regeneration, *it is the understanding of the word of God, dictated by the Holy Spirit*, and must necessarily precede faith, repentance, and baptism, so that none but the regenerated are fit subjects of baptism. In this sense I am a Baptist, just as Paul was a Pharisee by believing as Pharisees did in the existence of Spirits, and in the resurrection of the dead.

I hope when you and Brother Robinson understand each other, you will have nothing to contend about.

Affectionately your's,

M. WINANS.

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#### REMARKS ON THE ABOVE.

Brother Winans is one of the most original and acute reasoners who stand forward in defence of the Apostolic Gospel. His articles are always acceptable, as they are all prepared for the times, and well calculated to elucidate, defend or oppose subjects under consideration before the community. This remark, we hope, will not be construed by any as an attempt to flatter him; but rather an incentive to activity on his part to furnish, as he has in times past, articles suited to the present state of society. All the publications coming under our inspection, which plead for the ancient faith and practice, are benefitted by the plain independent labors of Brother Winans.

In the above article he has unquestionably used the word regeneration in its literal acceptation. In our letters to Mr. Robinson we used the word as synonymous with birth. This is the meaning attached to it by the most of writers. We think that we shall be benefitted by his very sensible remarks, and also hope that they will not be lost on our esteemed friend Robinson.—ED.

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From the Christian Messenger.

To the Rev. W. W. Eaton, Editor of the CHRISTIAN, Saint John, N. B.

LETTER 3.

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Dear Sir,—The design of my two last letters was to show that the faith which the Scriptures require to qualify for the ordinances of Christ is inseparably connected with the holy feelings, the place and