

BAPTIST SENTIMENTS,

CONFIRMED BY THE

TESTIMONY OF THE MOST LEARNED PEDOBAPTISTS.

On controverted subjects it is generally preferable to act upon the defensive rather than upon the aggressive principle. We might prove that other people are wrong without establishing that we ourselves are right. A Mohammedan might show that the Jewish rites are now wrong without proving that his own are correct. In the following pages, therefore, I propose to give a small part of the Pedobaptist testimony in favor of the correctness of Baptist views. And the quotations shall be from men of the very first rank in their own denominations, as historians, critics, and commentators. All intelligent people know that the German scholars have no rivals in the realm of historical criticism and antiquarian research. And though their theological views are often very unsound, yet this in no sense affects their profound acquaintance with history, nor their testimony to facts.

My appeal in the following pages will be to the New Testament—not because I undervalue the Old Testament—but merely because that does not pretend to teach us the constitution and institutions of a *Christian* Church. The Apostle Paul clearly set us an example, and gave his reason for not looking to the Old Testament for direction respecting the rites of the Christian Church. When the Jews appealed to the Old Testament Scriptures, which