

We have one observation more. Baptism, viewed as a seal, marks the promise of God, to grant the righteousness of faith to him who is impressed by it; but, viewed as a sign, it marks the existence of this faith. But if it be not a true sign, it is not an obligatory seal. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. But he who is baptized and believes not shall be damned. It is not the circumcision which availeth, but a new creature. It is not the baptism which availeth, but the answer of a good conscience. God has given a terrible demonstration of the utter worthlessness of a sign that is deceitful, and has let us know that on that event as a seal it is dissolved. He thus stands emancipated from all his promises; and adds to his direct vengeance upon iniquity, a vengeance for the hypocrisy of its lying ceremonial. When a whole circumcised nation lost the spirit, though they retained the letter of the ordinance, he swept it away. The presence of the letter, we have no doubt heightened the provocation; and be aware, ye parents, who regularly hold up your children to the baptism of water, and make their baptism by the Holy Ghost no part of your concern or your prayer, lest you hereby swell the judgments of the land, and bring down the sore displeasure of God upon your families.

This affords, we think, something more than a dubious glimpse into the question that is often put by a distracted mother, when her babe is taken away from her; when all the converse it ever had with the world amounted to the gaze upon it of a few months, or a few opening smiles, which marked the dawn of felt enjoyment; and ere it had reached perhaps the lisp of infancy, it, all unconscious of death, had to wrestle through a period of sickness with its power, and at length to be overcome by it. O it little knew what an interest it had created in that home where it was so passing a visitant; nor, when carried to its grave, what a tide of emotion it would raise among the few acquaintances it had left behind it! On it, too, baptism was impressed as a seal, and as a sign it was never falsified. There was no positive unbelief in its little bosom; no resistance yet put forth to the truth; no love at all for the darkness rather than the light; nor had it yet fallen into the great condemnation which will attach to all who perish because of unbelief, that their deeds are evil. It is interesting to know that God instituted circumcision for the infant children of the Jews, and at least suffered baptism for the infant children of those who profess Christianity. Should the child die in infancy, the use of baptism as a sign has never been thwarted by it; and may we not be permitted to indulge in a hope so pleasing, as that the use of baptism as a seal remains in all its entirety; that He who sanctioned the affixing of it to a babe will fulfil upon it the whole expression of his ordinance? And when we couple with this the known disposition of our great Forerunner; the love that he manifested to children on earth; how he suffered them to approach his person; and, lavishing endearment and kindness upon them in the streets of Jerusalem, told his disciples that the presence and company of such as these in heaven formed one ingredient of the joy that was set before him: tell us if Christianity do not throw a pleasing radiance around an infant's tomb? And should any parent who hears us feel softened by the touching remembrance of a light that twinkled a few short months under his roof, and at the end of its little period expired; we cannot think that we venture too far when we say that he has only to persevere in the faith and in the following of the Gospel, and that very light will again shine upon him in heaven. The blossom which withered here upon its stalk has been transplanted there to a place of endurance; and it will then gladden that eye which now weeps out the agony of an affection that has been sorely wounded; and in the name of Him who if on earth would have wept along with them, do we bid all believers present to sorrow not even as others which have no hope;

but to take comfort in the thought of that country where there is no sorrow and no separation.

"O when a mother meets on high  
The babe she lost in infancy,  
Hath she not then for cares and fears,  
The day of woe, the watchful night,—  
For all her sorrows, all her tears,  
An over-payment of delight?"

We have put forth these remarks, not for the purpose of inspiring a very violent distaste towards the practice of others in respect to baptism, but of reconciling you to your own; and of protecting you from any disturbance of mind on account of their arguments.

#### LITERARY.

##### NOTICE OF BOOKS.

*The Young Scholar's Latin-English Dictionary; with a List of Latin verbs, Tenses, &c., and Tables of Time, Weight, Measure, and Value: being an Abridgment of "The Complete Latin-English Dictionary," by the Rev. J. E. Riddle. A. M. Longman.*

The want of a dictionary for beginners in the Latin language has long been felt. The abridgment of Ainsworth, improved as it certainly has been by its successive editors, is frequently incorrect in the explanations of phrases, the author having been only an indifferent philologist. Entick's Manual has, perhaps, on the whole, still fewer claims to regard. Among foreign lexicographers Scheller in Germany has long been held in great esteem: for he became to the Latin language, what his countryman, the indefatigable Schneider, had previously been to the Greek; and the University of Oxford engaged Mr. Riddle, a gentleman who had acquired first-class honours, and was esteemed an excellent scholar, to translate, and prepare for their press, the large work of Scheller. The present volume is an abridgment of that dictionary, and combines neatness in its philology, with precision and accuracy in the translation of phrases. It is the only Latin lexicon for youth in the English language which has been constructed upon philosophical principles. It has been already adopted in many of the first-rate Grammar-Schools; and will, in all probability, entirely supersede the incomplete and unscholar-like compilations which have hitherto been used in classical education; which have taught so much that was hereafter to be unlearned, and have lowered our character for sound learning in the estimation of the rest of the world. To meet the "wordish" wants of every grade of scholars, an intermediate abridgment of Scheller's Latin dictionary, in a thick octavo volume, has also been executed under Mr. Riddle's superintendence, for the use of the highest classes in schools. This will supplant Littleton, Adams, Salmon's *Stemmata Latinitatis* and other dictionaries of this description in the octavo form; while the large work itself will occupy the first place in every learned man's library, though it may have been already well furnished with the massy folios of Stephens, Gesner, Faber, Martinus, and Holyoke, or, yet more recently, with the two elegant and useful quartos of Facciolati, the careful execution of which reflects the highest credit on the typography of our native land.

**FEMALE EDUCATION IN INDIA.**—Considerable interest has been excited amongst the ladies in this town for this week, by a visit from a lady, who intends to devote herself to the work of female education in India. A society to further that work has been formed in this town, and we have little doubt that the fair collectors will be eminently successful in pleading the cause of their degraded sex in that part of the world.—*Paisley Advertiser.*