

stated, that "Baptism is a Sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible church, but also to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, of his engrafting into Christ, of regeneration, of remission of sins."* It must then follow, that, as this "seal" is given to all that are professedly baptized in infancy, they are not only admitted into the visible church, but are also recognized as being in the covenant of grace, engrafted into Christ, regenerated, and pardoned; for, as *Rev. Thomas Boston* justly observes, "None have a right to the seal, but such as have an interest in the thing sealed."†

In the *Baptismal Service* of the Church of England, after the professed baptism of a child, it is enjoined, "*Then shall the Priest say, We yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate this infant with thy Holy Spirit, to receive him for thine own child by adoption, and to incorporate him into thy holy Church.*" In answer to the question, "Who gave you this name?" the child is taught to say, "My Godfathers and my Godmothers in my baptism, wherein I was made a member of Christ the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven."‡

When persons, after having been sprinkled in infancy, and thus instructed in childhood, receive "Confirmation," without giving the least evidence of vital piety, and while manifestly

* Confession of Faith, Ch. xxviii. 1. † Discourse on Baptism, p. 4.

‡ *Rev. J. Robertson*, after citing 1 Cor. xii. 13; Gal. iii. 27; 2 Cor. v. 17; Acts ii. 38, and Titus iii. 5, observes, "Now since infants are baptized into Christ's body, and have put on Christ, they are new creatures; that is, they are born again, or regenerate. And since they are baptized for the remission of sins, and since baptism is called the *washing of regeneration*; therefore they, having submitted to this washing, are consequently regenerate." After quoting Gal. iv. 4, 5, he remarks, "Since, then, the baptized child is in Christ, he is redeemed: and since he is redeemed, he has consequently received the adoption of a son. Therefore he is a child of God." *Treatise*, p. 245, 248.