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#### COTEMPORARY OPINIONS.

#### From the Christian Advocate and Journal. Nocl on Baptism.

The secession of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Moel from the Established Church of England made a considerable stir throughout the Christian world, every one construing it according to his own sectarian tendencies. When he connected himself with the Baptist Communion, there was, in some quarters, a large abatement of interest in the event. None, however, who are acquainted with that gentleman, presume to call in question his honesty, or his simplicity of purpose. As might have been expected, he has come out with a book in justification of his course, and promises another in due time. The book before us is a small 12mo. of 398 pagesentitled, " Essay on Christian Baptism"-repub

lished by the Harpers.

The present volume is devoted mostly to that division of the question which relates to the subjects of baptism, while the mode is reserved for another volume. For the present, Mr. Noel as sumes that nothing short of a total immersion of the body is valid Christian baptism. The asaption is cometimes made in a way not quite so respectful to the common version of the scrip tures as could be desired. In quoting the Serri tures, he uses the word immersion for baptism, and immerse for biptize. Thus, in quoting the anguage of the Ethiopian cunuch, he reads it " See here is water, what doth hinder me to be immersed?" Again, when he quotes the passa ges which speaks of baptism "with the Hol-We do not dispute Mr. Noel's right to make his own translation of the passages in question. We think, however, it would have been quite as modest, and as respectful to the opinions of the greater portion of the evangelical Churches to give us his critical investigations before he takes t for granted that the present version is wrong. This, however, is a matter of no great moment -it is merely noticed as a specimen of the spinit of dogunatism into which Mr. Noel has so sud-

Mr. Noel does not yet embrace orthodox Baptist views in relation to "John's Baptism." considers this, with the baptisms performed by the disciples previous to the resurrection of Christ, as wanting in the essential elements of Gospel baptism. He contends—and very just-ly—that begunn in these instances was "essentally different from the baptism enjoined by Christ before his ascension, because it was not baptism unto the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost" "I am," says be, "unable, therefore, to believe that Christian baptism was instituted before the resurrection of Jesus Christ. and am compelled to examine his commission, as containing the great law of Christian baptism, and the chief authority for the continued practice of baptism in the Christian Church."-

Our author also admits the fact of Jewish ban-Baptist writers. He says: "As the heathen! required of every proselyte -1b. p. 52.

so far as it has proceeded, but they think he has regenerate in ints should not be haptized, be- ion. about him some of the old leaven of his fermer cause they are utterly excluded so long as they errors, which, in process of time, they trust will remain unregenerate, from all the privileges and has risen from the condition of a new and strage of Australia" prevent two or three great power be thoroughly purged away. His views of de sings of the gospel." P. 181. We know gling kingdom to a position so assured that sine from each cutting out for themselves a monstrom baptism, and proselytical beptism among the not where Mr. N. learned that some infants are confidently measures herself with Austria, cantle from their territory? Let our colonies Jews, are probably among the things about regerence and others are not. It might very which this gentleman is yet to be instructed, and home thy be expected that a gentleman who prowill, in process of time, come round right.

not a little remarkable. He gives it to the such a notion, without some effort to sustain it world "as an independent testimeny—not lay- by the word of God. Perhaps his regenerate ingread a single Baptist book or tract." We infinite are such as belong to the number of the confess this does not, in our estimation, particularly elect," and "the unregenerate infants" are a century ago; who has them now? England, able to their security. Perhaps the colonist larly enhance the value of the book. In the first reprobates; this indeed would seem a just con- She held the West Indies, Dominica, St. Vin- have more from us than we have from them, but place, the question in debate is not to be settled by the "testimony" of uninspired men, be they Hon, and Rev.," or anything else, but by a

results by his own unaided investigations. Perhaps we ought to beg pardon for thinking much more clearly, bad he looked at both sides or tract" While we were yet young in the mintracts published by our Baptist brethren, and with regard to their own experience? Why trouble. Heat and the Kat has were a sind of Britons can do for themselves, and for the hazard of baptizing reprobates, by bap-adversaries, more annoying to colonists than man race, is to maintain themselves, one people. Baptist literature we could have directed Mr. N. out anything like conclusive evidence that they thement, or drive off a few herds; but they will and a common mission.

Here he is right, and his arguments are perfectof a few days, or a few weeks. We should fixed in different colonies; and the least conity conclusive. The need of this argument is judge from Mr. Noel's theory that no person
much greater in England than in this country, should be baptized until a sufficient time has.

The great mistake of our author is in conclused above to develop the truth and reality of his eulpablity—doubtless its officials (like all is ere without occupying too much space.

In the process of his argument against the are. awfulness of infant baptism, our author must In doing this he has pushed the Baptist theory with Baptists as with Pasto-Baptists.

Use the sali at once set down at Table Bar, or to several absurd consequences not generally with Baptists as with Pasto-Baptists.

Use must here leave the subject for the present the banks of the St. Lawrence, and the banks of the banks of the st. Lawrence, and the banks of the b sequently "defective." " All its blessings might t might, upon its conditions being broken, be

wholly set aside." On the other hand, "the new covenant" promises "spiritual blessings:"is "absolute, unconditional, and effectual"sure and eternal," and " is made with the elect, and with no others." In proof of all these dogmas our distinguished author quotes a multitude of passages, no one of which, to our mind, has the least bearing upon the points assumed They are flung in without argument, apparently, upon the presumption that their sense is setled beyond all question, and that they afford conclusive proof in favour of his positions. We cannot attempt to examine the author's theory of the covenants, nor to notice his proof-texts, whole ground of controversy, not only Baptists and Psedo-Baptists, but also between Calvinists and Arminians. And, if we are not mistaken, few in these days, excepting the most ultra Calvinists-and their number we hope is not large-will swallow Mr. Noel's theory without material amendments. We dispute the position that the Christian covenant is made with persons unconditionally elected to eternal life, and that its benefits cannot be forfeited by a violation of its conditions. We know that Mr. Noel was a Calvinist, but we thought him one of

no idea he was so near a rank Antinomian. In carrying out his system, our author suppote secto deduce his doctrons from the Bible. Mr. Noel's pretensions in this publication are would not attempt to public ions. And a third power, while having no send us no revenue, though they cost us much

clusion from his strain of argumentation. ted to receive the token of the first covenant, land has all the rest. She held, in the East, the cate a severance. critical analysis of the Scriptures. It wisht as whether child, slave, or stranger, who was not Isle of France, with the chief control of Southern well be attempted to settle any other oogma first within the cevenant; and by analogy, no India; who has those now? England. Nor has dissolved without giving a serious blow to which is mosted in the churches, as that of pre one ought to receive the token of the second co- England acquired from France alone—the Cape secure and peaceful progress of civilization and dobaptism, by the "independent testimony" of venant who is not first within it; and as infants and Demarara, taken from the Dutch; the christianity over the world; without throwing some neophite who professes to have reached his cannot be shown to be within the second cover whole of India from its Mohammedan tyrants, communities of our countrymen to the mercy of that Mr. Noel would have written a much bet- ought not to receive its token." If then, by ion of than conquered, have all added to her bles their patriotism and stirs their enterprise ten book if he had previously read all the better any means, it could be ascertained what infants responsibility. Then her enemies see that she or without depriving England of that superior sort of Baptist books and tracts. Would he not belonged to the elect, or are within the coverage books and tracts. have seen the land-marks of the controversy mant," they might be baptized. This seems a Mediterranean in Gibraltar; of the Levant, in holds with man fest advantage to markind. necessary inforence from the position laid down. Malta; of the Adriatic, in the Ionian Isles; of therefore, would plead with all our energy of the question? Then we are somewhat asto- It is not simple infancy which is a bar to bap- the Red Sea, in Aden; of the Indian Ocean, in against the decomposition of the Impireof the question? Then we are somewhat established that a man of Mr. Noel's general infortism, but the want of the exidence of regeneration of the Cape; of the Chinese Sea, in Singapore, Latal the faults of the existing Colonial system to mation should have been so long a Psedo-Baptist dien and election. If then the absence of the without ever having read "a single Baptist book evidence of election in infants is a valid have to That such an Empire should long be sustainstry we should have considered it shameful case with adults? Are prefessions rever false? mort do on the expect. Accordingly, we find resserve better all be done under the convernot to have read any of the many books and and are not honest persons sometimes deceived that this day of commotions are brought as some than that, at least for many years, the wiscest thing yet to have continued to oppose their pecuniar run the dazendes on the dangerous to an empire. They may burn a set having a common centre, a common interest to an empire. They may burn a set having a common centre, a common interest

to several books and tracts which would have are really regenerated? To this it may be an never seriously affect our history. Men like greatly aided him in his defence of his ground, sweren, that we know not men's hearts -we can l'Apineat and Dr. LANG occupy a different greatly aided him in his defence of his ground, swered, that we know not men's norms—we can and enabled him to write a much more sensible only judge of the genuineness of their profession. They may exercise a storg influence cook.

Mr. Noel occupies a large amount of space in energh; but a profession of faith is not certain thereby endanger the alienation of that colony. proving the unlawfulness of administering hap evidence of vereneration. Nor can we always from the marker country. From various causes proving the unlawfulness of administering daps evidence of vegeneration. Acr can we always that the many amous causes as in the indicate or unvelocers,—come to a very satisfactory result by the finds a sort of smoothness has been many across the first of the smoothness of unvelocers. ding, or assuming without proof, that the same professions. If the "elect" only are "within cials have their faults. Doubtless, abo the argument is equally conclusive against infant; the coverants," and such only are entitled "to faults (like the faults of all officials) have been baptism. We cannot follow and correct him receive the token," certainly due care ought to exaggerated. Our Colonial system may be rebe taken to find but who these favoured ones somably found fault with. We have always the

It might have been well for friend Noe! to inof course consider the stbrahamic covenant .- quire whether it be not probable that there are but some homebred gentleman of the party is That covenant embraced infant children, and as great a proportion of elect infants among those power. This is a point on which all parties and required that its scal should be put upon them. who are presented for laptism, as there are elect To do away the inference in favour of infant adults among those who make profession of faith. baptism which is drawn from this fact, he at- If so, upon his own ground, the danger of affixempts to show many points of contrast between ing "the token" to those who are not "within he Abrahamic and the Christian covenants - the covenants," after all, may be about as great ble, or from some plea ant English seat, a gen

sentured upon by Baptist writers. The Abra- sent. Our object is merely to give our read- govern people of whom he knows no more namic covenant, according to him, was merely ers an idea of the book in question, and the syst than any intelligent man has the opportunity of "national," and its "promines" were merely "of tem which its distinguished author has embra- knowing. With such Ministers and such Given an external character." Then "the Abrahamic ced. Our intercourse with Mr. Noel gave us a more we have done better than we had any right national covenant" was "conditional," and con- truly elevated idea of his heart. He seemed a to expect. Our Colordal Empire has been up fine specimen of a Christian gentleman. For shell with greater success, and less difficulty the e lost by an individual, or by a nation; and far-reaching thought, or a profound knowledge ever has been any similar Empire, even though of men and things, he evidently is not remarka-ble. His literary efforts, so far, have added no-thing to his fame, and will leave no permanent agitations, the wender should chiefly be, how a impression upon the age.

#### From the Landon Watchman, January &. Shall our Colonial Empire be Bissolved !

The British Empire is a term than which it system from the time of the Phornicians. would be hard to find in all the vocabulary of However, the present excitement has become polities, one more comprehensive. It means too deep to pass away without leaving permepart of Europe, of Africa, of Asia, of America, nent results. We apprehend that it must tend of Polynesia; it means, in a Briton's acceptation insterially either to the decomposition, or the of it, all the seas on the surface of the globe; a consolidation, of the vast system we call our as such a course would require a survey of the means an assemblage of human beings in which empire. Shail we conclude that because blend all the varieties of complexion that chinate we gain no revenue from colonies, because can operate, and nearly ad the varience of we cannot govern them exactly either to tongue that Babel has originated. A century their saffaction or to our own, and breams ago, the world never heard, or scarcely ever, of they cost us large sums annually, therefore col-"the British Empire," though of "Great Bri- nies are of little use, and the sooner we get rid tain" it heard often. But Great Bruam then of them the better? Should this feeling prewas a country, as Prussia or Spain is to-day, vail in the public mind, it will affect all as with its home population, and intrinsic power, grants who go from among us; it will affect our but with little imposing beyond. The relative legislation; and will deeply affect the cold progress of the great European Powers during tending in all these directions to speed the day the last hundred years is very surprising. We when the British Empire shall be dissolved, and see them differenced as waxing and waning Great Britain shall be Great Britain alone. In the class called "Moderate Calvinists:" we had stars. A century ago the great Catholic Powers such a dissolution of the empire desirable? We were ascendant. During the century Spain has do not ask how it would affect the price of callost her magnificent American empire, and run co and coffee, of rice and bandanas; but what ses a difference in the moral condition and relation whose course "from spreadom to disgrace." | would be its hearing on the moral progress of tions of infants. Some infants, he seems to ad- During the century, Portugal too has lost Brazil, the world? First, we think it would mit, may be regenerated, but since they "are and - a few African islands and settlements, increase the dangers of war. The French and not capable of affording proof that they are to with a decaying Indian station excepted—ail Dutch, with other maritime nations would be tism-a fact that has been strongly contested by generate, they must be treated as unregenerate." the residue of her machine glory. During the under strong temptations to find cause of quer--P. 168. Again: "As infants generally are century France has last the Canadas, Louislana, rel with states that had once been their owned were unclean, they were obliged, before they unregenerale, and we can never know what canearly all her spreaded possessions in the West which they could easily make their own again, could be admitted into association with the Jows, see are exceptions, three generate infants ought Indies, her position in India, and the Isle of did they see them scattered over the surface of to be bathed or baptized; and this baptism was not to be injured by being baptized as regene- France, which so materially upherd her strength the world, one here and one there, in impotent rate." P. 170. Yet a sam: "Every reader can in the East. To these she has to add in Lurope isolation. Again, we think it would expose the poraries speak of this book with some reserve. circumcised, because capable, as well as unreger fortresses, and of Minorea; for all which Algeria could our Cape colonists protect themselves from they are delighted with Mr. Noel's conversion, nerve adults, of conformity to the law: but unsee at once that unregenerate infants might be the bitter loss of the beasted line of northern young countries to manifold dangers. How nergie adults, of conformity to the law; but un- has been her sole and very doubtful remanerac- the Dutch without, and the Dutch within !-

> Russia has made extensive conquests from become scattered and independent states, and Sweden, Polan I, Turkey, and Persia, besides they are exposed to every nation whom their adadding a large tract of America to her possess- vantages may tempt. And though the colonic territorial objects to gain in Europe, has been money, the possession of such fields for eater adding to her dominions in all the other four prise is as favourable to our national energy, divisions of the world. France had the Canadas the possession of our potent protection is favour cent, Grenada, St. Domingo, Tobago; who has the advantage on our part is quite sufficient to According to Mr. Neel, "no one was permit-them now? St. Domingo is independent; Eng-compensate for the cost, and to make us dependent. nant, because they cannot be shown to be be- with those territories, such as Australia and New foreign powers; without removing from before lievers, so, by the analogy of circumcision, they Zealand, which have rather been taken possess- the British people a spectacle that daily

son for Colonia. Minister not a man who knew the Colonies, -- say like the late Lord Metcals. been equally biar eable. Then, for Governor, we have not had any school of Colonial displine in which men might graduate; but from the deck of a frigate, or the head of a men to the ends of the earth have hitherto been really bound together. We do not wish to strain any proper and salutary complaints against our system of Colonial Government; but we would have it remembered that, with all its had, it has worked better than any other Colonial

What could our New Zealand colonies say to s While these powers have declined, Prussia French fleet? How could the "United State

We believe that our Empire could not be illy tends to irritation be repoved, let the larFEBRUARY 2

# FAMILY CHULE.

#### Lerer I. with hic.

to is the terdency of all error. the my of practice, to makingly itself. this respect, pary be compared to a le at which to he mice ni ve get inte we see the door that leads into the n

Pashion is a deformed little 1 ons el maleon ikin, Lestriding the sl public ortinion. Though weak in put other despots, it has gradually degree of power that is irresiscible. in various forms over the whole sarth. It is the greatest tyrant in the

# Grief at the Death of Infants

There are griefs so gentle in nature, that it would be worse than ism to refuse them a tear. Of this k deaths of infinits. Particular cir may render it more or less advisely in grief for the less of a lottle child neral, parents s'sould be no more repress their first tears on such an oc to repress their smiles towards a chil or to include in any other symmethy aspeal to the same gentle tenderness appeals are rever made in vain. them is an acquitted from the harshe Milietion -from the tring down of the www.aulancho'v ister.

#### Literalure.

The study of Literature nourishes tertains old ago - or lorus prosperity, versity -- is delightful at home. abroad-deserts us not by day nor l panneying nor in retirement.

The way to be Happy in Ol: He that would mend the latter t with bonour and decome v. must

young consider that he shall one and, when he is old, that he was a Hence youthful p. ty is necessary. Mothers and Banghiers.

There be four cood mothers has daughters: Truth inth hatred: propride; security bath peril; and fam

## Marie.

God has made the whole carth sweet sounds. The untravelled ! the notes of the will but I, and the I nen are made glad by the soner of th minstrel. But, above all, the le which combines the highest chara round with the inspiration of though terno ordinary purpose of earthly p its whispers of allestion, now grate expression of religious devetion, by For its solver in trouble, how de participation in joy, how unspeakab

## Intellectual Culture.

To cultivate the sensibilities n thete for romance at an early age. lert of more solid acquirements, wise as to sow arable gir and with spring all will be prematurely within every thing bleak and ber will be but a drawey to istrain, in p fal nouri-hment, to be reaped from

# GENERAL MISCELL

## Remarkable Rock.

One of the most remerkable rewe have any knowled to has lately ered in the middle of Lake Supe gentleman, who has lately returns per Harbor, we learn that a shaf has lately been discovered rising from 150 to 200 miles from land, above the surface of the water, a above four feet. What renders it dinary is, that it stands alone, and to far as examinations have been tom has been reached by any of used on the lake. The point of does not exceed an area of more neven feet square, and as far as of has extended, the mass does not large in size as it descends. It has come a source of alarm to the navigate the lake, who take specie ing, to give it as wide a benth . . It is too s. . Ill, the respect to all admit of a light, so ! doubtless partien to the day of a stigle blast, from a love of s

"aild probab'y do it; but the