

ting. Hence it happened that during the synergistic controversy, some of them again embraced the Augustinian theory in full. The greater part of them, however, believed that all they wanted was a more systematic adjustment and connexion of the opinions they entertained; and this conviction was undoubtedly the principal reason for that caution; and in direct opposition to the polemic spirit of that age, they evaded a controversy on the subject. It was, therefore, not until 1561, that a formal dispute on this subject occurred, between the Lutheran and Calvinistic divines, the occasion of which was the celebrated Zanchius, at that time Professor of Theology, at Strasburg." This is a correct and impartial statement of the facts in the case, which never has been, and never can be successfully controverted,"*

If the Manual of the Lutheran Church, from which the above extract is taken, be worthy of our credit, then it follows that Melancthon had no sympathy whatever with the Calvinistic dogma of predestination, and Luther the Prince of The Reformers renounced it, *and stigmatized it*, toward the close of his useful and laborious life.

We would like now to show from the Manual that the Lutheran Church believes that the *atonement was made for all the human race*;—and that *grace is resistible*, but space forbids. We shall probably do so in our next number.—M.

DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY.

Having in last number entered upon this important and extensive subject, having defined what we understand by the term, and having also shown from scripture that God is a sovereign, we are now in some measure prepared to look at one or two of those manifestations of sovereignty, which the Divine Being has given us. We shall begin as near the beginning of our subject as we can well get, by observing that, **GOD ACTED AS A SOVEREIGN IN PURPOSING TO CREATE.**

That matter has not existed from the unbeginning ages of past duration, is one of the first principles of natural religion. There was, and in the very nature of things, there must have been, a period in past duration when our world had no existence. There must have been a period when no planet revolved around the sun,