

stantial blessing : that is to say, Christ must have communicated to these infants some *spiritual* good. But if "infants" were capable of receiving spiritual good *then*, they must be capable of receiving it *now*. And surely we may justly expect that, in connexion with a solemn religious rite, and in answer to the prayers of a Christian congregation, the Lord Jesus will graciously communicate a blessing to our infant children. Of the precise extent of the blessing which we are warranted to expect, we *know* nothing, and therefore can *say* nothing. But that infants are *capable* of spiritual good we have seen ; and surely we are authorized to expect its bestowment in connexion with their solemn dedication to God in the rite of holy baptism.

APPENDIX ON RE-BAPTIZING.

It not unfrequently happens that conscientious persons, who were baptized in infancy, and who have not examined this controversy, are brought into a state of doubt and perplexity by the incessant talk of some over-zealous neighbor ; and in this state of mind are urged at once to be re-baptized by dipping, in order to put an end to their perplexity. But this advice is certainly most unsound. We would urge the man who is in doubt to read and think until he is thoroughly persuaded in his own mind ; and *when* he is thus persuaded, and *not before*, let him act according to his convictions of duty. If baptism in infancy and by sprinkling *be* valid baptism, and we think we have proved that *it is*, then it becomes a serious matter to repeat it. Our authority to

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