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NOTES

UPON A DISCOURSE ON CHRISTIAN BAPTISM.

No. 1.

There is a pamphlet before us the title of which reads, "A Discourse on Christian Baptism, by the Rev. D. F. Hutchinson: Published by Request: St. Catharines, C. W.; H. Leavenworth, Printer: 1849." This document was forwarded for notice or review months ago by the esteemed elder Bradt of Wainfleet, and was put on file for earlier notice, but until to-day has been 'tiding its time' along with a mass of other papers and doctrinal budgets which may not be disposed of according to order before the generally anticipated conflagration of the world.

Of Mr. Hutchinson we have some faint knowledge by testimony. He is a "sound minister" and a "learned theologian," not to say a ready "defender of the faith," of the good old predo baptist school—a Presbyterian, if we mistake not, who ministers to his flock (in Niagara County) the solid luxuries of Westminster theology. As we are always desirous of keeping sober and sedate company, we have to congratulate ourselves upon our great good fortune in meeting and forming an acquaintance through the press with Dr. Hutchinson. And without any prosy preambles or discursive prefixes we shall enter upon the proposed interview.

The author delivers his discourse from Matt. xxviii: 19, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations—baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." In directing the reflections of his readers, after quoting this language, he purposes noticing "1. The nature and design of Christian baptism; 2. The proper subjects of this ordinance; 3. The scriptural mode of administering it." We propose following him in this order, and hence shall rapidly consider his firstly, leaving secondly and thirdly for the cool working days of December.

Mr. Hutchinson's first sentence on his first section, is, in itself, a happy hit, provided the language of the schools be a model. He says,