

be strong and prosperous must be moral and to be moral must be religious. The true policy for any nation to adopt is God first. His will done on earth can alone render life worthily honored and happy.

Let us examine for a little some of the leading features of Scottish religious thought ; in other words, Scottish ideals of life. A leading feature of our theology is the sovereignty of God. Whilst the essence of all religious thought is identical, certain features of that essence will have a prominence given them in virtue of the genius of the people it purifies and elevates. The Scottish people have a strong sense of the supremacy of law, and of law binding upon superior, inferior and equal ; of law not to enslave but to liberate the conscience, the will and the intellect of man. Another characteristic of Scottish religious thought is a thorough grasping of the spirituality of God. One of the first questions in our catechism is : "What is God ?" The character of the Scottish catechism may be well compared in its dealings with belief in a large, universal way to others of a local sectarian stamp. The obedience rendered to God, who is a Spirit, is spiritual and vital, which, being the essence of worship, makes all human action sacred and the humblest outward lives great if good. "The Cottar's Saturday Night" invests with higher than palatial splendor the humble dwelling where peasants live the life of God. The scene therein described exhibits whence "Scotia's grandeur springs," and how man glorifies God by walking in His light.

In the breasts of such a people love of liberty is a passion which many waters cannot quench. Whilst rendering to Cæsar the things that are his, they will render only to God the things that are God's. Every man must be his own priest. A sturdy yet respectful independence will impart life and strength to all the relations obtaining between man and man. Such will