

found felicitous expression in the familiar phrase, "perfervidum ingenium Scotorum." By the possession of this and other closely related qualities, the Scottish people as a whole are marked off, not only from the people of England, with whom they have been long, and happily, politically one ; but also and even more from the gay and volatile nation with which they had for a long period so close and perilous a connection, and from the far more witty and in many respects more brilliant race still inhabiting the island from which so many of their ancestors came.

The religious life of the people could not fail to be affected by these traits. They account to some extent for the thoroughness with which the work of the Reformation was accomplished in Scotland. Such a people, when a change of this kind has to be effected, will be apt to go to the roots of things, and to be not very sparing of