

Moray, Knox, Buchanan and others, formed a galaxy of learning, combined with moral eminence such as no other country in Europe could boast at the time. The intellectual forces of Scotland ranged themselves on the side of progress.

Sir David Lindsay, courtier and poet, lashed with unsparing pen the vices of the clergy, and his satires coarse and indelicate as they seem to us, were only Dantesque descriptions of the real rottenness of the clerical estate. The influence which they had in promoting the overthrow of the system which he assailed is well portrayed in an old print which represents him clothed in the insignia of his office as Lion-king-at-arms, seated like a smith at an anvil, smashing with his hammer the keys of the Pope.

Of an entirely different character was the influence wielded by John Major, one of the most learned men of his age. At Glasgow and St. Andrew's he inoculated the youth of Scotland with doctrines in religion and politics which could only find their practical expression in the events which followed. Barren as was his philosophy, harsh and unattractive his style, there is no doubt that he was one of the chief intellectual forces in producing a change in which he himself was left far behind. He supplied the logical and moral grounds for the social and ecclesiastical revolution which followed. Knox and Buchanan received the germs of their subsequent teaching from him.

Go to the Free Public Library and pick up a copy of Blackwood's Magazine—the face that greets you on the cover is that of George Buchanan. His name is spoken with reverence to the present day in the land of his birth. He was one of the most brilliant men of letters that Scotland or any other country ever produced. His fame was world-wide, and his influence upon the intellectual life of his time was incalculable. He continued for centuries to mould the literary taste of his countrymen. His version