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## fies.т. VOL. XXIII.

2NO. IV.

-THE-

## MONTHLY REECORD

—of rib-
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, -1N

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK $\rightarrow$ ADJOINIRG PROVINOES.


APRIL,


## VARIETIES.

Agents who do not receive the number of Records stipulated for, will please communicate with the editor at once.

An application has been received by the Presbytery of F.dinburgh for admission into the Established Church, from the Rev. W. Mackellar, formerly of the Pencaitland Free Church.

Don't talk much, weither long at a time. Few can converse profitably above an hour. Keep at the utmost di-tance from pious chit-chat, from religious gossiping.-Wesley.

Sir William Thomson has been awarded by the Italiun Scientific Assoziation the prize for the Italian 0 - foreigner who by his writing or discoveries has conributed most during the past year to the advancemert of science.

I am possessed with a most chivalrous and nrm determination to live and die fighting for this bulwark of Protestantism, this ark of righteousness, this conservator of social order and religious liberty, the dear old Kirk.-Norman McLeod.

There is dew in one flower and net in another, because one opens its cup and takes it, while the other closes itself and the drops run off. So God rains goodness and mercy as wide as the dew, and if we lack them it is because we will not open our hearts to receive Him.

A motion has been made in the Edinburgh Free Presbytery for the transmission to the Assembly of an orerture which sets forth that the Hymn book is inadequate and defective, and that steps should be taken to get it enlarged or improved, or that permission should be granted to congregations to use the Hymn-book of some other Church.

Roman Catholic papers are praising the British Gevernment for granting a fine site at Gibraltar on which to build a Roman Catholic Church. They are also praising the Spanish Government for compelling British Protestants to close their churches in Spain. Oh no, the church of Rome is not intolerant as she used to be! Isn't she?
"Captain, we are entirely out of ammuni ion," said an o derly sergeant to his commander, on a field day. "What! entirely out of ammunition ?" exclaimed the captain. "Yes, entirely out," was the reply. "Then cease firing," peremptorily said the captain. Will not some of our speakers take the hint, and stop firing when their ammunition is expended

At the Edinburgh Presbytery on the 28th ult, Dr. Scott pressed the claims or the Endowment Scheme u:on every congregation within its bounds. He explained that an appeal is to be made to the Church fir funds to endow 100 additional parishe: within the next five years, as a fitting tribute to the memory of Dr. Smith, and as a thank-offering to the "Great Head of the Shurch" for he large measure of increase alre idy bestowed.

On St. Andrew's day, the happy event of a Union between the Independents and the congregations, in connect ion with the Church of Scotland in Maunitius took place, the former signing the standards and Formula of the Church of Scotland. without any expressed desire, for the insertion of the thin end of the wedge into any of the chapters of the confession of Faith under the guise of "conscience clauses."

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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# THE MONTHLY REC0RJ 

## MOVA SGJTIA, MEW BRUNSWICK, ARD ADJOINING PROVIIGCES,

VOL. XXIII.
APRIL, $18 \% 7$.
NO.IV.

If forget thee, 0 Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.-Psalm 137, 4-5.

## HUMAN GUILT UNVEILED.

## "What hast Thod Lone."

## A Sermon by Rev. W. Hay Aitken.

"For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord God How canst thou say, I ain nol polluted, I have not gone after Baa!im? See thy way in the Valley: know what thou hast done."-Jeremini ii. 22, 23.

It is scarcely credible that the children of Israel should have dared io use such language as that which is att ibuted to them in our text. When we read their history and the record of all their backslidings aud sins, wo can hardly understand how those who had bcen guilty of such idolutry should have dured to say, "We are not pelluted, we have not gone after Baalim !" Ye this was what they said; and the prophet explains it by the fact that they were s.) far gone in self-deception that they could excuse or deny their gailit in the very presence of God Himself.

We should have wondered still more at the dopth of self deception displayed by them, if we were not so constantly reminded in our own experience of the very same thing, and if we did not behold exhibitions not less startling than those we find here. You will scarcely meet a man, outwardly belonging to the Church of Christ, but who will be ready to make confession of having sinned, and of having come short of the glory of God. But I venture to say that in the majority of instances where this admission is made, it amounts practically to nothing. It is made as a matter of form and ss a piece of orthodoxy; and they who make it are unacquainted with the evil within their 'own hearts.

Now, if the work of grace in this neighbourboodyis to be a decp and a Divine work, we must begin it by seeing ourselves as God sees.
ns. And I wish you not to think mohard and devoid of feeling if I preach to you very pointedly on human guilt. I want, by Gcu's he'p, to impress you with your true state before God, and of your need of the grace of Christ. I 8sy it boldiy, that in many cases whi'e confession. is made with the lip. "we have erred and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep," the beart is not convinced of the solemn truth, and is saying, like Isracl of old, "1 am not pollated."
I remember on one occasion conducting a meetine in Liverpool, and at the close of tho service I had some conversation with a miserable woman whose carcer had becn one of sin, and whose appeararce clearly said so. She seemed as hardened as ever she could be. I said to her, "Do you feel yourself a sinner ?" Her reply immediately was, "I don't know that I am! I suppose I am like other people. I don $t$ feel spritually very bad.' These were her replies to various queries "But do you not feel that you are a sinnaz?" "I do hǜ sec how I am." She spoke the truth. She had not learned to conceal it by any sophistry. I found that, outratdly at least, there was hardly a sin that this woman had not committed; yet she could say, "I scppose I am like other pectele-I do not feel myself a simer."

A friend of mine was visiting a dy:ng carter, and my friend said to him, "Do you feel yourself a sinner?" The man's reply was, "I do not know that I am so bad!" "But do you not feel that you are a sinner?" "I do not know that I am." "Now, we must get that $p_{\text {e }}$ int settied. Let me ask you a few questions. Have you ever taken a drop too much ?" "Well, fellows like me are like enough to do that now and then, out as they are $m$ all whethers and all kinds of company." "Well, $\bar{I}$ am not asking you for cxcuses. My question is, Have yo. sone it ?" "Yes, I have." "Have you ever sworn? Have you ever cursed, and taken God's name in vain ?" "Winl, we cartors

## The Mounhly Reowd of the Chwork of Nootcond

are a rough lot, and a man's temper sometimes gets the butter of him" "stop, stop! I am not as ines you ahast the roughess of your lot; I am abling you, have you ever suorn? Yo. admit that yoa have. Did yon ever braak the Lords day?" "We'l, I think if a man has his : orves to look after-" "Stop! Here are three thing- -drankendse, profane swearing, and samath-breaking. Now the sooner you take your place ns a simner the better. It is of nos hise rase suying th you are not one."
Now I siy the sane to those I am how aldressing. You may say that those of whom I have told you were foor, ignorant people. Wel, how is uwih you? Can any one of you be convieted by your own neighliears of there sins, yet say at the same time, I an not guilty? Oh, let us take our true place, let us Seo oursenves as Gor sees us! This sell-derep-
is no confined to the ignorans. I would it $w . \quad$ i. I hate foand the bame spirit of self righ ce.usneas existing rmong men and women who recrularly go to church, and who have bern famitiar with Bible truth. Their denial of sin dues not always come up in this rough way. They will tell gou, "In saying that I ani a sianer I mean no m, re than that I io not profess to he a saine." If there is no deeper scuse of shame than this, let me tell you any one who speaks like this is

## Plating thices with uod's rauth.

There is a isliad before his eyes, so that he does not see. The very confestion of sin which siome people matar, is being perverted by the enesuy of souls, who is lating them into a stupo:. If a man were honestly to say, "I do not be.ieve myselt a sinner," there would be some cis reise ot thought required. He would have it think about it, and this thinkiug would bring him to recall certain circamstances of his life. He rould remember sin aftur sin . There would be some hoje of such a man. Bat wac 1 we lind a man saying lighty, "I am a simer iske everybudy eloc,' 1 du the know any one who is more under the thraldem of sin. Only think of 1 t ! Going on grieviag the iloly Spint, amb sinaing, and yei you say, hite Israt, "1 am noi po latud!' Bat the eyerlasting liod comes duwa in His Word wite the crusting weish: of a haminer, which breaks the rock in pieces. He asiss, "How can you say, I am not jopilated! see thy way ia the yalley: how what thou hasi dune." What does He muan by that? Ho way askiag the leta 1ites, when unt the tol of the mount, to lova bater uyon the valley of chosaphat,

"Look at thy may in the alley; look at that monument, and the smounsering tires of Tophet: $k$ ow what thou hast done." And when the Spirit of Gud speaks in His Wor?, He does
just the sume. God docs not convirt us of laving been born of sinsid parents. We liavo to do, not with "hoginal gui t but with our own iniguity is what we shond think of here. Gind takes us up to a point rom which we can look down on this, and He snys, Open your eyes and look back. Let it not be merely the voice of the preacher which hids you do th s. Let the bivi:e vaic sound in your ears. Let your path through life ris. up before you. Somo of you may have toremten it, hat lod han iot. God hecon a book of iemembrance, and $m$ ihat, your path is written. L ok 'enek on the past and ask yourcelves, as in the presence of llim before whose bar you will stand, "What have I done?"

1. What hast theu done in regard to the g.eat object for which thon wast called 'into bring? It is an inguiry whela demands ve serions whection. Have you risen to the true object of your being? What hast thon done? "I have done no harm." s me will reply. What do yon mean? Is doing no harm the chject of God in calling you into existonce? Is that your adeat? If that was all, might not God havo made you an inamianate stone, which can do no ham? Is your aim nothing hisher than this? What ponsense men tals! As if doing no harm wero the great end of existence. Do you imaging that you can ge to heaven be doins no hatrm? Besides, there is not a man here of whom that is true. You may not have been a thief, or a forger, or a drunkard; but if you wiil look at your way in the valley, if you wiil rend your life aright, you will see that it has unformly bcea

## in opposition to the divine will.

Whatever influence you have exerted, has been contrary to the Divino wil'. Your lite maly bave been comparatively innocent; but "except you repent" you will find when you stand before the bar of God that $y$ ? 1 aro not alone in your iniquity; others have been influeneed by you. Oh, what have you done in relation to the oiject for which you vere called ine being? When a tue answer is give.a to this question, youl w:il find your whole ife crying out agranst you.
2. Ar-in, what have you done in respert to lifes opportunities? You hare all had them. Some one replied when asked the question, "I have been settang up tombstoncs for lostopportumities." Is that your answer? When ron were a hoy, you had your opportunities, but you ost them. As a girl yon might have begua your life for heaven; but you re inquished your purpose. You had your opportunity, hut you lost it. As you grew in yeus, yon had your opportunity, for there came to you the blessed tidings of great joy. On many who have left you for ever, you might have exe: ted
a good influence. How many you might have awakened to a sense of ife's solemmity! I ventare to suy that the humblost here might have alrendy hail up treasures in heaven, treanes in that glorions kinglom, so that he might look forward to the time when the Master's voice shall be heard sayng, "Well done, good and faithol servant."
You have hat these opportunities. What hast thou done? Remember if there has lieen one whom you mipht have influenced, but whom yon have not influenced, you will have to give an arcount. What hist thou done? 'lhis will be the question which the Junge will ask one day. Have you improved yutur oportunities? Have you been faithtul to your trust? Be assured, I am your friend in thus pressing home his subject to your hearts. In the light of my opportunities, in the li ht of my privileges, $O$ God, what have I dene?
3. Aguin, what have you done in relation to jomer social reponsibilities? What have you done as an cmployer of labour? Have you made $y^{\prime}$ ur influcuce felt as you mghe have done? What have you done among your servants in the workshop and manufactory? Hare you made it felt among those who dai $y$ manister to your wants? Are your servants the bettor for it. How many of your servants have you ineped to become Christ's acerants? Or a e you compelled to say, I could not lead them to Christ, because 1 have no come to Him myself? You have been put in a postion of responsibility, and the voices of those whom you have not influenced tor Chist ery out, "What hast thou done?"

Or shala we come a little closer? Look at your own home. God has given you a home. He has not brough.t you up in the solitude of the wilderness. He has placed you amongst those whose dives are very dear to you. Mother! He has givern you children, and you could not have been entrusted with a more sole $: n$ responsibility. What have you done? You love your daughter; you have heen a gond mother. But what have you trained her fier? We should have spoleen of you as a bad mother it you !ad staxk jour chitiaiten. But if you have trained them for ill, you have done worse than if you had struck them. It they have seen you living for the world, end for nothing else; if they have seen you living for fashion, mother, what hast thou done?

This, also, is the question put to you fathers. Father! what hast thou done? Thn boys think that what their father does must be right ; and wha have they seen? God has given you a solemn charge to keep. How is it, if they see that you take no interest in the worship of God? How is $t$, if they see that your religion is an empty form? The children can soon see through it, if it be so. If your religion is no.
thing more than a mere conventional form, they will take know edge of it. Do pou not see that you are training t' enc bors of yours to know nothing of trao religion? Bi-mud-by these very lads of yours wili be brought into contact with truc religion; and what then will be their father's ndvice y He will sar, "In not be carried away with excitement." Now, I wat to teil you honestly. in that monent smeh a fathers example will aid them in resisting the influeace of the Holy Ghost: Thins of $t^{\text {his. }}$

When you stand before the bar of God and the books are opened; when son stand face to face with Deity, what if fom the mighty throng before that bar there shall come fonth io you no strunger, but a member of your own family to hear witnes against you? Who is it? The child whom you have taught! The son whom you mad" the object of your ambition' The daughte rhom you sold to your vanity! What if in that a lemn hour they should lit up heir hamis, sayire in horro", "Father, what hast thou done * $F$ : ther, I hive losith erown of life. Father, the gates of Pamadise me closed for eve ngainst me! Faher, my doom is seal. ed for all eternity; but if there is ute person more than another to whom I owe this, it is to thee! What hast thou dene? Wi.l you sit down, and sny, "I am not so very bad?" Oh, hearken to God's voice speaking to cyou, "See thy way in the valles: bnow what thou hast dore."
4. Still further, What hast thou done in the light of thy re'ations to the Grind, the I'ather who loces you? He is your Father What havo you done for Him? "If 1 am a Father, where is my honour?" asks the Lord. If we are His sons, lle has the right to look to us to treat Him as our own Fathers? But "look back in the valles," and see your past life. How have rou treated the hest of Fathers? What had He the right to expect? Devotion, obed ence, willingaess to do llis will. He had the right to expect this. But where is the man who has not wandered into the far country? Some hive come home, but others have not come. You have suid to your Father, as tho prodigal said, "Father, give me my portion of goods; I wamt exy money to do as I choose ; I want my time to do what I like with $t$; pleasure is to be my law of life; I am now going to
have my ows way.'
And he has done it. He can do it, for we lave been placed in a position ${ }^{-}$an which we are free to choose. Our sin has consisted in this, that we have turned our backs on our Father. We have taken with us our portion of goods, and have lett Him. O God, $h \div w$ wondrous has beeat Thy forbeara"ce that Thou hast allowed poor wretched sinners to do this, and cidst not strike them down to the deep damnation of hell.
5. Anain. How have you treated that Holy Spirt that has been striving with you 9 There is a gentle voice that has beon spealing in your heart, and has been long speak, nj there. Some of you can remember the time when you knelt at your mother's knee, and poured forth jour heart in childliko pra, er. Your heart was soft and sus. eptible in those days. You wanted to belong to Jesus. You said you would give your heart to Jesus. Well, look down now on the long valley of your life. The history of your bygone years-what is it?" "Yo uncircumcised in lieart, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost, even as your fathers did." That is God's accusation against you. "I called, and none answered. I held out ny hands, and none said, Here am I. They would have none of my counsel; they have str.ven against my my Spirit." Oh, my friends, let us hang down our heads for shame, if this is indeed the Divine accusation against us. Where is the man or woman who has not again and again sinned against the grace and influence of the Holy Spirit?
6. Or, once more: How have you treated that One who was content to take our place and to bear ot'r sins-who for cur sakes was smitten of God and afflicted? On Calvary the darkness of Eternal eqth was around Him, and in His awful loneliness He uttered the cry, which went sounding throughout God's universe, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me ?" Hewhe loves you attered that cry. The Saviour who died on Ca vary, He looks you in the face as He says, "Can I do more? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow." What do yonsee? His precious b.ood being poured forth, and you bear the cry of the Jews, "His blood be upon us!" True, indeed, has been the fuifilment of that improcation. His blood has been upon that nation until now. But have we not been guilty of saying something like this 2 Remember that

## AT THIS MOMENT CHRIST'S BLOOD IS JN US, EITHER IN JUDGMENTOR IN MEK?Y.

It is on us to cleanse us from guilt, or it is crying out against base ingratitude. What ha $f$ thou dene? Hast thou snid. "I do not want to have anything to do with Thee. Kcep Thy salvation to Thyself! I am so very respectable I do not want Thy blood to be upon me. Keep Thy gifts, and let me order myown way. I do not want that Jacob's ladder of yours to reach heaven with. Keep it!' I can manufacture a religion of my own!" A.d all the while behold He stands at the dcor and knocks. Oh ! that I could convince you of the love of Jesus! That I could bring you to feel the necessity of having that blood sprinkled upon your heart! "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." Go and stand by that cross, and hear the voice of His
agony. "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by! Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow." As you stand there, are you not asked, What hast ihon done? Hast thou not tramp'ed on His blood as an unholy thi g? Hast thou not grieved thy best friend? What hast thou done? Oh, seo to is!

Only the other day $I$ was taiking to a young lady whe couid not feel any burden of sin. Every time I spoie of it she said she had no feeling resperting it. whe did not feel it to be a burden. I said to her, "If you were in dis tressed circumstances, and I went away to a distant land to obtain a maintenance for you, and brought you beck 3,0001 . aud laid it at your feet, and told you, I havo undertaken five years of toil to get it ; but now you will be able to go on your was with a happy heart. Suppose you were to take the cheque I placed in your hands and tear it up? She said, "Perhaps I should do $i$, for $i$ am a proud woman." "Well, if you did so, you would only have sourself to thank for starvation.' "It would serve me right,' he replied. "Well, that is (xactly how you have served the Lord Jesus," I said. "He has not laboured three or four years simply, but has given His life; He died for you. He stands before the door of your heart and pleads with you. He bays, 'See what I have placed within your reach, here it is. All you have to do is to stretch ont your hand and take it.' But you have treated Him with carclessness and indifference. Now what do you think?" She answered, "It is so." "Well, will you contess that you have sinned against the love of Jesus?" Next day I met her and said, "May I speak of $\sin$ as beiog a burden to you 9 ' "Oh, yes," she replied, "you may use thet word now." The plague of her own heart had come to light.
I do not know anything that will show me my own sinfulness so much as the love of Christ. Show me the man who is ungrateful to his friend, and I will show you one for whom we have contrmpt. Every unconverted man is a contemptible man, hecause he is sinning . gainst his best Friend. There is nothing manly in $\sin$, there is nothing womanly in sin. It is a despicable thing to sin, and so it merits deep damuation. What hast thou done? A very despicable thing. when thou hast sinned. Shall we ask ourselves the guestion? Thank God we are not now asking it in the day of judgment! Let us judge oursnlves. Lot us open the book of our pas ${ }^{+}$life, and take a go.ld look at it. You will soon drop it, and cry, "God be merciful to me a sinner!'

What are you going to do? Here again learn from what is written: "For though thou wash thee with nitro, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord." There will be plenty to tell you that
you are not eo very bsd. They willsay, "Some may he had enoukh to $n$ ed the tear of peniten e; but an innoce't pure girl docs not want it." Ah $l$ it is washing with nitre. Others will have the soap of morality, and try to lead.' a better life. Now, I tell you in the name of God, that if there is a grain of truth in God's book, all such attempts are deceptions of the devil designed to ruin you. Let God be true, and every mana liar. There is no sucn method of washing nway your sins. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots ?" But if you cannot do away with your sins, there is a supernatural power thet can. There is One whs can take that past life of yours that cries sut against you, and throw it into the depths of the sea. Will you let Him do it?
Come and take Christ's religion. What is it? It begins and ends with the blessed truth: "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin." Brethren, if tears cannot was ${ }^{2}$ away guilt, if our best efforts cannot make atonement for it, thank God there stands One so near you that you can clasp His hand, and He can pat away sin.
"There is a fountain filled with blood, Drawn from Emmanuel's veins;
Ard sinners plunged beneath that fluod Lose all their guilty stains."
-Christian Herald.

## PROF. FLINT ON THEISM.

On the 25th ult., Professor Flint delivered in St. George's Church, Edinburgh, the third of a seriex of lectures on "Theism." They thought, he said, to have reasons for belief in the existence of God.' They could hare no right to believe it simply because they wished or willed to believe it. The grounds or reasons which they had for their belief must be to them proofs of God's existence. Those who affirm thai Gôd ex-
nd, and yet denied that His existence b proved, must maintain a position obriously erroncous or use the word proof in a sense fitted only to perplex. The proofs of God's existence must be in His own manifesta-. tions-in the ways in which He made Himself known, and in the phenomena on which His powers and character were imprinted, and according to this view the evidences were countless. They were
found in all the forces, laws, arrangements of nature, in every material object, every organism, every intelligence and powe, and in the entire wealth of human nature. God could only be properly thought of in the higher theistic sense as the cause of which the universe was the effect ; but to thirk of God as the cause, and to apprehend the universe as effect, they must have direct inmediate experience of causation, and such experience they had only in the will. When the soul willed it knew itself as an agent-a cau-e. But the principle of casuality by itself was quite insufficient to light up the mind to in apprehension of Leity. The evidence of intelligence must be combined with the evidence of power before they could be warranted to infer more from the facts of the universe thar the existence of an ultimate force; and no mere iorce, however great and wonderful, was worthy to be called God. God was not only the ultimate cause, but the supreme intelligence. But a step further muts be taken. It was only in the recognition of an absolute being of infinite power, who worked with perfect wisdom towards the accomplishment of perfectly holy ends, that they reoched a true knowledge of God, or, what was much the same, a know'edge. of the true God. The professor went on to elaborate the thought that knowledge of God was obtained simply and naturally, as knowledge of our fellow-men was obtained; that our entire spiritual being was constituted for the apprehension of God, in and through His works. Thereafter he argued that the opinion that man had immediate intuition of God was untenable, and that the opinion that man had an immediate feeling of God was absurd.

Contributors will please accept thanks and are requested to continue their favors.

## RELIGIOUS THOUGHTIN SCOTLAND.

Stotland has always been regarded as a stronghold of evangelical faith. In the doctrindl standards of the Presbyterian Church there is a very full embodimpat and expression of the fundamental principles of Holy seripture. A consistent adherence to these standards has tended in an eminent degree to preserve the Church and the country from the invords of superstition and unbelief; and not oaly hava Scottish divines be en anong the foremost champions of orthodox truth, but for at least two hundred years the Scottish Church has proved a veritable bulwark of Protestantism, in the fullest acceptation of the term.

There are, however, very striking indications of a chanse in the direction of a latitudinarian system or spirit, by which a divergence from "the old paths" will become inevitable, and through which, it is feared by some, that the power of the Church will be injured. As symptomatic of this it is enough to mention the controv risy engendered by the article of Professor Simith on the "Bible" in the Encyclopoctia Britunnica and the speech of the Rev. D. Macrae in the Greenock U. P. Presbytery on a revision of the standards. Both lave taken the country very much by surpriss and both have given rise to an amount of disputation which clearly demonstrates a greater contrariety of opinion on doctrinal subjeets than has been previousiy known within the bosom of the Church.

A remarkably striking ant:cle on this subject appears in the Mare.. number of the C.metemporary Review from the pen of Principal Tulloch. It is characterized like all the productions of the wo:thy principal, with closeness of reason and clearness of expression, combined with judical calmoess and philosophical acumen. As a fair exposition of the progress and aspects of religious thought in scotland at the present time, the article is of great value, and should be
very widely and carefully read. In this notice it is impossible to do more than indicate the general purport and bearing of the article; and this even will be of much int resest to those who watch the religious condition of their native land, and yet who may not have the opportunity of examil.ing in detail such a striking production as this.

In the opening paragraphs of his essay Principal Tulloch says that there are many unmistakable signs that the "old and hard crust which so long enclosed the religious thought and life of Scotland" is beginning to break up. This catastrophe, he says, was distinctly fors"en by such men as Dr. Kobert Lee and Dr. James Robertron, who did so much as to promote the causo of "liberal Christian thought." Since the Secession of 1843 , he considers that the main influences which have educated the youthful Scottish mind have been largely outside the universities and the Church, and have been "partly literary and ; artly speculative." Among the chiefs of those causes which have operated "beneath the surface towards a determ nate change in the theological opinion of Scotland," he mentions the teachings of Coleridge and the Hares, of the school of Maurice and Kingsley, and of Carlyle and Erikine, with the study of German theology and metaphysics. In building up "its seclesiastical sytem," he considers that the Free Church committed itself to a sytem of "ultra-orthodoxy" a der the leader:hip of Cunningham and Candlish, to whose eminent ability he pays a just tribute of admiration. Even Dr. Candlish, however, lived to "neologise" in his own behalf in the ablest and best of his theo'ogical writings-"Lectures on the Fatherinood of God"-in reply; to which a champion of orthodoxy appeared in the ranks of the Estabisished Church.

In the "sccond decade afier the Disruption," Principal Tulloch proceeds to show that a "new spirit of Curistian thoughtfulness made rapid progress.'

Some of the stages of this movement have been portrayed in the memoirs of Dr. Norman Macleod, who is pronounced to he in "all senses a large man, with intellectual gifts of the most rich, varied, and ebullient character, distinguished alike as an orator in the pulpit and on the platform, and no less distinguished by bisenthusiastic, yet ever intelligent, labors as a pastor in the largest parish in Sentland." Like Dr. Chalmers before him, Maclood was more than an ecclesiastic, or preacher, or writer. He looked over the ecclesiantical fence which office or acedent had drawn around him into the wide and open world; and more than either Robertson or Lee he came definitely under the new influence of thought which spread into Scotland from England and Germany. As illustrations of this liberalizing tendency of Macleod's mind, he refers to the influence upon him of his relative, Mr. Jchn Macleod Campbell, to the character of Gortl Werdis, and to the controversy provoked on the authority of the Jewish Sabbath; and from the whole movement in which Macleod play it so prominent a part, he thinks the Liberal party in the Church made a decided gain. This, he says. is proved by the circumstance that the liberal movement has since made steady pogross, and has within the last few ?ears invaded the very citadel of the ! r re Church itself.

From this point Principal Tulloch proceeds to analyse the recent development of " liberal theology in Scotland." In doing this he details the circumstances under which Professor Smith wrote his article for the Encyclopoctia Britannica; and after a review of the character of that article, he considers that the views enunciated are in advance of any that have hitherto been maintained in any of the British Churches on the subject of Scripture, and that it is nothing less than a -..arval that such views should have been reccived so quietly and with
so much favor. On the other hand, the criticism directed against the Confessior. of Faith by Mr. Matrate and others, he considers louder and more distinct than any which has previously taken place. In compariso with this, indeed, the criticism of 1865 was measured and timid; and this time the onslaught is made, no: by a minister of the Established, but of the United I'resbyterian, Churel.
In surveyir.r the whole, Principal Tulloch says ..at none can tell what may come of the present movement of thought in Sentand. The resulls are, in the meantime, incalculable. But one thing may be safely said, that none of the Churches, as they now exist, will make much capital out of the movement. English writers that survey it from a distance are apt to estimate the chances now of an betabished Chure: and now of the Free Church, as lhey see the liberal flag blowing from the ramparts of the one or the theological halls of the other. This is all imagination. The current of free thought is runuing deep and sure in all the Churches, t ven within sofiened and exclusive precincts where it makes no noise at all. It will Hake its way towards the light by-andby, and from all quarters of the ecclesiast cal horizon; and the Church which will have most chance may posssibly not be any of the present organizations, but a Church more excelien-because at once more liberal and Catholicthan any of those now existing.

There is as mach of furee as there is of beauty in these remark. However mech religious controversy may be stgretted in some of its phaves, it is undoubtedly symptomatic of enquiry and progress, and will eventually be ove:ruied by the Divine Ilead of the Church for the firmer implantation and surer propagation of the truth iself. If the present unsettled aspect of theological dogmas in Scollund should have this re
sult, a beneficent end will be attained; and towards such a culumination the article of Principal Tulloch will contribute in a very apprec:able degree. S. A. J.

## A PROBLEM.

A young man, distinguished for his mathematical attainments, was fond of challenging his fellow students to a trial of skill il colving difficult problems. One day a clas: mate came into bis study; and, laying a folded paper before him said: "There is a problem I wish you would help me solve," and immediately left the room.

The paper was eagerly unfolded, and there instead of a question in mathematics, were traced the lines. "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his one soul? Or what shall a man give, in exchange for his soul?"

With a gesture of in phatience he tore the paper to atoms, and turned again to his books. But in vain he tried to shake off the impressions of the solem: words he had read. The Holy Spirit pressed home his convictions of guilt and danger, so that he could find no peace till he found it in believing in Jesus. He subsequently became a minister of the Gospel he had once despised, and his first strmon was from the words, so eminently blessed to his own soul: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul."

## WHAT THE CHURCH NEEDS!

How does God manifest his glory? Is it through doctrines and formulas and creeds?- through confessions of faith and covenants of man's make? -words. mere words? No. The man who grows in virtue, in purity of morives; in unselfishness of purpose, in honesty with his fellows; the woman who grows in patience, in moral whitness, in a Marylike love for the Master-these are the mediums through which God reveals his
nature and the working of his truth. If every creed ane theological dogma were blown to the winds, and lost to the memory of men, while men and women lived, God would not lack a medium? expression, or the world testimony to the truth as it is Jesus. The Christ like spirits, even more than the Christ spoken letter, is what we and all the world need. We want fruitfulness on our barren figtrees, and men that will go in and eat with, as well as pray for, the publicans. We want piety that shall mot be ashamed to take vice by the hand, and lead it up its own levil. We want honesty inspired by something higher than fear of jail. We want virtue, strong, tender, and self-prized enough to send hyperitical crulty away when it draws its hatefll circle around the weak and the wicked, and to stand up and say through the lenghth and breadth of the land, "There is hope for the thief and the wanton in Jesus." We have had enough of words: they have contributed more to the fighting than they have to the piety of the world. We want now labours of love virtue, strong enough to stand on its own, feet, and filled with self-doing in affection for God and man.
W. H. H. M.

## ENDOWMENTS.

Notwithstanding all that her enemies in their ignorance or malice may say to the contrary, there is life, yea, abundant life, in the national Church of Scotland. None of those who clamour and labour, zealously to disendow and dise tablish her are doing more, if as much, to pr vide gospel ordinances for the masses. There is great activity wi:hin her bounds. Small livings are being augumented, quoad SacraChapels erected into parishes and endowed, and she is making such changes in her constitution and govern ment, without compromise of truth $o_{r}^{-}$ Principe, as to make her par-excellenc ${ }^{\text {s }}$ the Church of the people and nation.*

## 

APRIL, 1877.

## OUR OWN CHURCH.

"Will the "Kirk" retain a foothold in the Dominion?"

A would be loyal son of the Kirk who takes a gloomy view of the "situation," writes to ask us if we think the kirk in N. S., or the Dominion, will survive the shock of the loss of the majority of the late synod, and live down the frowns, persecution, and loss of property to which she has been subjected since the consummation of Union:

We reply,-Do we think the "Kirk" can much longer surrive the frowns, persecutions and loss of property she has been subjected to since the consummation of Union? Certainly we do, the more she is shaken the brighter will her light become. In the-meantime, much chaff must go. Survive, yes, we believe the very "gates of hell shall not prevail against her!" Why should they? is she not the arknowledged Nova Scotian branch of the national church of Scotland? Does not the Kirk in N. S., hold the same ductrins and church government, the same confession of faith and standards that the kirk of Scotland holds! and seeing that she did survive on two occasions, in her history in this province, very fierce blasts of malice. calumny, and persecution, by he help of the great head of church, the will now ride along on the crest of the wave to victory and still greater extensinn The scheme of Mr. Dunn, successfully carried out, will place her in a position,that will make her the envy of her bigger, tho younger sister, and a city of refuge to congregations to which scant justice may be dealt. Survive?

Yes we hope to see her occupy a proud position in the Dominion before those who are now young become very old! We would be deeply sorry to see her use "carnal weapons," for the accomplishment of her object, yet we hope to see her strike her roots deeper, and spread her branches wider than ever before, not losing sight however, of the possibility of union, but waiting with patience, and looking with due deference to the mother to move in that direction first.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Aberdeen on Thursday, a cordial vote of congratulation was passed to Dr. Pirie on his appointment to the Principalship of Aberdeen University. The compliment was proposed by Rev. George Jamieson, and seconded by Rev. G. F. J. Philip. Dr. Trail, as Moderator, expressed the congratulations of the Presbytery, and hoped that some of the kirk sessions in the city would place Dr. Pirie in the Presbytery as an elder, in order that they might have the benefit of his counsel. Principal Pirie, in acknowledging the kindness of the Presbytery, said that if spared to continue to act in the Church Courts, he would work as heretofore to bring into closer relationships the various Christian denominations. He mentioned that since his appointment to the Principalship the number of congratulatory letters he had received was so great that it would be totally impossible for many years to answer them, snd that from yersons of the very highest character, and the higbest position. He considered it no small thing for a man, after thirty years' labour in that Presbytery and the Church Courts, to receive so much kindness from a new generation, for the gentlemen around him were for the most part of a different generation from those with whom he began his lebours in that court.

## ON CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

We wish all nur readers to understand that the Kirk in this County has Missionary Schemes which she supports, that she is not only evangelical but evangelistic. Indeed no Church has a right to the tite of Church of Clurist unless she patronize Missions. Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature, is as much the duty of a Church as to look after her bome population. The former is as much the charge of her Divine Head as the latter and if she neglect the one she is as culpabe as tho she may neglect the other. There were days gone by in which this was but slightly understood or at least acted upon; the Churches of Eng and and Scotland slumbered during the last century and minded nothing but their own temporalities; but they were revired and quickened by the labours of Wesley and Whitfield, Simeon and Hill, and since this century began, every Church has vied to diffuse the Gospei abroad as well as preach it at home. The Kirk in this County has never resigned her inte est in the Mission fitiul, isolated trough she be, and with-ou- Missionaries of her own, yet she claims a part in the Foreign Mission rerrer $_{r}$ resented by Messrs. Robertson and Frazer Campbell, and last year sent a considerable sum to be expenced by th $m$ in the fields of Erromanga and Madras. This is now one of the standing schemes to which all our corgregations are invited to contribute aye, and on Sabbath Schools likewie. The writer has been asked to correspond with Messrs. Robertson and Campbell and to suggest the contribution of $\$ 200$ for native Catechists. Thus we would have a living Mission of our own in which all might be evpeoted to interest themselves and to a:d. For the argument that a congregation has not enough of its own on hund will not stand. Unless we water o.hers, our own place
will bedry : it is in helping the pershing we help ourselves. Twenty-nine years ago in one of our villages a congrcgation of thirty members started, and every year since has contributed, ts hundreds of doll r: iowards Missionary objects, and now it has built its new (hureh, is paying its venerable pastor $\$ 1000$ annually, and stand foremost among its own connection in : he ranks of liberality. But this congregation struck out right from first, not selfishly or for domestic purposes merely subsisting, but for the benevolent objects Christ enjoins, and devising liberal things, by liberality, stands. And simila.ly with some of our own congregations it was in 1852 beiore a Presbytery $w$ is formed, that the w er's congregation. began its first Missianary contribution, collecting for the lost -heep of the house of Israel, and the reflex benefit was felt in the congregation itself as well as services performed to the cause. "There is that giveth and yet increa elh, and there is that withholdeth, and yet it tendeth to poverty." "If a Church for example, act on the principle of merely looking after number one, or if a minister will not give his peopl- an opportumity to contribute for Mission, one cons quence he has dried up the resourees of benevolence in his people and paralyzed his own right arm, and ancther is he has neglected to aid that cause for whicu the world stands. If so our conqregations for their oun cakes ought to invest in Missionsfiforeign and home, and Ministers ought to call forth the benerolence both to increase the Missionary spirit within, as well as aid benevolent: objests abroad ; for the Missionary spirit is the spirit of .Christ and a church ito fulifl, her high destiny must be evangelistic as well as cvangelical.
H.
$i$ P. S.-In reference to the above missions, it may be mentioned that Mr. Robertson has a congregation of 500 hearers on the Sabbath, and several communicants, on blood-stained Erro-
manga, where 3 Missionaries ha:e been cacrificed. His object is to persuade he nativ_s to relinquish their idola'ry and to worship the true God and his Son Jesus Christ.

Rev'd F. Campbell, in one of the provinces of British India, is prosecuting a work such as Rev'd Charles Grant beean several years ago and describe.! in the pages of the MI, whthly Bicord, namely, arguing with the subtle Hindoos on the folly of their religion and recommending the Christian as $t$ e alone true incarnation and Divine system. But boh Missionaries aim at at one and the same end. riz:leading the natives to Christ; and special prayer as well as pecuniary means should go forth for success to both Missions the one in the easi :and the other in the west.
"What though the spring breezes
E ow soft in Ceylons Iste.
Though every prospect pleases
And only man is vile!
In rain; with lavish kindness,
T:uegifts of God are ktrewn
'She Fienthen. in his blindness
Bows dowa to wood and stone.
Shall ne whose souls are lighted
With wisuom from on high,
Shall we to man benighted
The lamp of lite deny; Sativation Oh Saltation,
The joviul sound proclaim,
Tili cach reme tost nxtion
Has learnt Meesiah's name."
A. W. H.

## COLLEGES.

Colleges at the present time, seem to be the all-important subject. That they are receiting attention from several branches of Christ's Church is nothing to be wondered at, when we take into consideration that an educated minority is necesiary. They have done a noble work in other countries, having made themselves felt far beyond their prescribed limits through the many intellec ual and educated men they have sent out, and why should not the same be done by them in Cauada, in a Country
which is daily rising into importance, and geving proof of wealth as yet unknown. 'To warrant success, both in founding thes, a-d making them useful afterwards, numbers must be a oided. Many small colleges, as well as se- eral weak, dwindling congregations, instead of being a help to a Church, are a burden which hinder to no small extent the whole working of the Church. Efficiency is d manded, not number: ; thorough improvement. not a silly rivalry. The Presbyterian Church, regardless apparently of inprovement in efficiency, in order to have the liberty to boast of numbers, is presently making a great effort to endow a Theological College in Halifax Who can show this to be a wise step? Where is the actual necessity of draining the country of so much money which might be otherwise usefully employed in behalf of the Church, for a college which is not needed, and not only not needed, but will continue to te a drain upon the resourcce, and likewise send forth men little more than half educated! Were there only one in Canada we would say that the effort is justifiable, notwithstanding the burden imposed upon the Church. But with so many then the step is unwise and uncalled for. The journey to Canada to-day is neither long nor very expensive. Scotland, the great seat of education, is not the distance it was many years ago, taking into consideration the time spent in the journey, nor is the journey so expensive as to prevent our young men from studying there. The Paris Presbytery o! the Canada Church, were it not that the basis of union is ignored, is on tọe right track for the good of the whole, in demanding the union of some of the colleges in order to a more thorough improvement and efficiency. And if union is real, we canrot see why the Church will not jield. It is perfectly ridiculous to keep up so many in Canada with two dozen of stud-
ents or so attending each, for the sake of suppoint several Professors, and yielding twe cetain silly associations, particularly .i. these are a burden to the Church, sud an injury to young men who have to study at colleges, not equal to many academies If such a state of matters is to continue, we know not where the establishment of colleges win
end. At this rate there will soon be one in every Synod, then in every Presbytery, and lastly in each section of the country. Fine times will the Professors have, to lecture to students of painted wood; what a quiet meeting on the occasion of these delivering their discourses! What a comfort each retarning night will bring, when they can throw themselves down in the lap of ease, without any thought of what the locture is to be on the morrow! The colloges we have, (for the Paris Pres-bytery-one of the Presbyteries of Canadian Church, declares it to be a necossity to increase the number of Professors in each college?) not to speak of those which are likely to be establish d, are a perfect tarce. How can any people who have been accustomed to have their ministers well educated think of contribting towards their endowment. The idea is preposterous. Yet we bave been asked to support the college in Halifax. Though several of our friends lave left us, some in anger because we would $n$ nt do as we were told, we would not tum upon them and despise an institution established by then whish we in common believed to be for the good of the country. Still we maintain, in principles which every intelligent man must receive, that the 1. college is not meeded, and that two would do more work, and do it better. Then we would have all the Professors required, and men too of education, a healthy competition among the students, and colleges which would not only take care
themselves, but, through bursaries which could and should be founded in
connection with them, the students likewise. Some tell us that we must hav one in Halifax else the students who $\mathrm{g}^{0}$ either to Scotland or Canada will no return. This has been in too many instances distressingly true, but here is no necessity that such a state of matters shall continue. Put the Church on a good footing and not only will those return who go away to their education but they will bring others back with them. This going and remaining has arisen from the fact tha there was nothing to induce men to return, nay but there was much to induce them to remain, owing to the charges around them, which were and are so superior to most of the congregations with us. Were it not, therefore, that the Church of Scotland is paying one of the Professors in Halifax, the Presbytery of Pictou could have no difficulty as to its present action. A good, and efficient college, a college thoroughly equipped, the Presbytery of Pictou could have no difficulty in countenanciry and most hasartily supporting, but to contribute to one in the midst of so many, must appear to any membir, a throwing away of money which might otherwise be turned to good ac:ount

It is our painful duty to record the death of another of the foremost and most respected residenters of Hopewell, Daniel Gray, Esq., which sad erent took place on Sabb th, 25th Mareh. The deceased, who had long been of failing health, died of heart disease, at the comparatively early sge of 42 . He has left behind him a young wife and three little children, and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. His satd death ha: e'st a deep gloom not only over Hopewell and the immediate neighborhoud, but also over the greater part of the county of Pictou, throughout which he was well known and universally beloved on account of his many exceilent qualities.

The funeral of the deceased took place
on Tuesday afternoon, the 27 th ult. Services were he'd first in Hopewell Church and then at the grave, at West Branch, by the Free Masons, of which fraternity the deceased was a member. At the hour appointed, the remains of the deceased were conveyed in a hearse to Hopewell Church, accompanied by about 150 Free Masons, and many mourning relatives and friends. Notwiths anding the inclemency of the weather, the church was crowden, and many were unable to gain admittance. The solemn funeral service was conducted by the Rev. P. Galbraith, of West Branch, of which church the deceased was a member. In the beginning of his address Mr. Galbraith alluded to the deceased somewhat as follows :-
"My dear friends: it is little more than two months since we were assembled together in this church to pay our last respects to one of the foremost and most respected members of our community, Mr. Alexander M: Donald, who was called away from our midst under the most heartrending and distressing circumstances. Again a deep gloom has been cast over our whole neighborhood by the removal from amongst us by death, of one who was no less respected and beloved, of one indeed, whom to know was to love, and of whom it can be truly said, he has not left an enemy behind him. Insiduous disease had long taken hold upon that noble frame, but it was only w .thin the last three weeks that his anxious friends saw good grounds for fearing any immediate danger. After being brought nigh to the gates of death, he so far rallied that last Lord's day morning most of those in attendance upon him during those anxious weeks were enabled to leave him for a short time, and to join with us in this church at Divine Service. But that ominous knocking at the Church door, in the middle of our serrice, and the hurrying out of anxious
relatives, told us only too surely that a change for the worse had taken place, and prepared us for the sal tidings soon after, that his spirit had already fled. There he lies, after "lifu's short and fittul dream," ready to be borne away to his last resting place, like those who have gone before him.

You knew him well, most, if not all of you, longer, if not better than I did, for he grew up in your midst; and you know well, that for gentleness, for largeness of heart, for integrity of life, and for uprightness of dealing, he his left few equals behind him. Ill can we spare such noble and precious lives as those which have lately been taken from our midst ; but God's will be done, and it is for us to bow reverently to his decrees. In thi. last departure from amongst us, we have all lost a beloved friend a a d brother. But of what have those tearful and mourning relatives been bereft? Thosc venerable p rents of a son who, I an told, never said nay to their will; and who as their firstborn son, was their greatest siay and comfort in their old age; that wereping young wife of a loving and, tender husband, and the fond parent of her now fatherless little ones; and those sorrowing brothers and sisters of a beloven and attached elder brother"

The visible emotion to be witnessed throughout the large assemblage during the adilress showed what deep and heartfelt sympathy was entertained for those mourning , relatives, all of whom were present. At the close of the service the brother Masons of the deceased took charge of his remains and proceeded with them to the grave in West Branch, followed by an iumense procession, hoth on foot and in wayons. Ths solemn and interesting Masonte burial service was gone through at the grave, after which the large assemblage of mourners slowly dispersed.

List of AGENTS of fbe "RECORD."
Ber. W. McMillan, ................ Bridgville. Hugh McLean. . . . . . . . . West River Sintion. Zobt. Maxirell, . . . . . . . . . . Lime Rork, W R. Kenneth Sutherland,....... Watervale, W. R. James McLead, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Saltsprings. Geo. Sutherland, .............STix Milo Brook. James Hixlop,… ....................... Pichon. Poshnaster, ................................. Glasewn. Postmaster, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Stellatiton. Pestmaster, ............ ............ . Westville. Rov. A. J. MacKichan, . . . . . Barney's Riyer. Geo. Gu:m, . . . . . . ......................Truro.
Zav. J. W. Fraser, . . . . . . ............ Scotsburn.
John MrKenziя, ..................... Scotsburn.
Jobn McLean, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Roger's Hill.
Alex'r MrDonald, B. S........... Scotsburm.
John MeKay, mder, ................ Millville.
Alex'r MrCLel!an, ......... ........... Millville.
Alex'r McDonald, Elder, . . . . W. R. Station.
Daniel McKensie, .................... Gairloch.
John Sutherland, .. . . . . . . . . . . . . . Mill Brook.
James McLeod, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Glengary.
John McDonald, (Morchant)..........Picton. John Sutherland, .......... Three Mile House. John (irant, ....... ....... Irish Mountain. Dóng'd Mclougall, Lock Side St Peter's, C.B Wm. Grant, (Tanner)............ Springritte.
4. Mici)onald, (Pipar)..............Bridgville.

Alox'r MeDonald, . . . . . . . . . . . Sunny Brac.
Samuel Praser,...........................insivile.
Geo McLeod,........ .......... WCest'River
Alox'r Sutheriand, . . . . . . . . . . . . Ccotch HIII.
Donald Jraser, ....................... Carrityoo
Murdoch McKenzio, Three Brooks, Carrilioo
Jokn Fraser, . .... . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Glengarry
John Ross,......................... . Scotch Hill.
Alex'r' McQuarrie, . . . . . . . . . Hardyood Hill
Nm. A. McDonald, . . . . . . Kempton, Col. Co. Alex'r McKenzie, . . . . . . . . . . Carribioo Istand.
Wm. McDonald, Elder, ............. Gairloch.
James McKay, Esq, ,............... Earltown.
Rev. P. Galbraith, ................... Hopewell.
Donk'd Gray, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Capo John.
Alex'r Fraser, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Teney River.
Rev. W. Sterart, . . . . . . . McLennan's Brook.
Wm. M. McPhersoni, . . . . . McPherson's Ahilis, Sutherland's River.
Kenneth J. McK으zie, . W. B. R. John.
Robert Denğlass,
. Irogansrille.
Wra. McLeed, ....Tatamagouche Piver, Cob Mardoci MeKersis, ..... Upper Forth Miver. Capt. Angus Cameron, River Inhabitaats, G.B Aliain McQuarrie, . . . . . . . Cape Mahon, C. B. Geo. Bxillie, . . . . . . . . . . . Port Haxtings, C. B, Joseph Hart, Esq ... . . . . . . . Baddeck, C. B. Angus $\mathrm{KCKay}_{1} \cdot \ldots$.......Plsinfold, Picton Co Rer. D. McCunn, ........................
W. G. Pender, ....................... Halifax.

Neil Mel , mald, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Lnke Ainglit. Chae Iramer,…............st. Panla, E. B

The Mantilly Retard lat 1877

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