

GIVE ME  
THE  
LITTLE  
BOOK

Rev. x. 9.

by  
Rev. James Alexander Macdonald  
of  
The Church of Scotland

Written to catch the eye of those  
who will not read serious books

ANDREW M. GRIEVE

MOFFAT

ANNANDALE

## ENVOI.

*To the Country of Calvin and the Huguenots.*

FRENCHMEN! We, Scots, who fought of old  
With Joan "the Maid" your lilies to uphold;  
And now once more as in the days of yore,  
With Foch and Haig,  
In many a desperate advance.  
Where poppies bloom on yon fair fields of  
France,  
We too are Catholics, though not of Rome,  
Catholicism claims a wider home,  
We too, as Scientists, explore and test;  
With Scaliger and Pascal, seek the best.  
Pasteur and Lister comrades, Christians both,  
Encourage us anew to plight our troth.  
With your Voltaire we lies and frauds detest:  
Then clear of fables, let us still pursue  
In every realm, the honest and the true.  
We, Protestants, too often chase with you  
Fables, in Science and Religion too:  
But men like Baird may teach us television;  
And Revelation bring us to precision.

## A STIR OF LIFE IN GERMANY.

There is a notable movement of new life in Germany, according to all observers, a new industrial revolution, stabilization of finance, restoration of confidence, recovery, energy, and resilience after the "utter prostration and despair" at the turn of 1923-24. As Germany found new life after the oppression of Napoleon I., so is she finding fresh life after the collapse of the Great War. In both cases a religious revival indicates the deepest source of renewal.

"*The Word of God and the Word of Man*," by Prof. Karl Barth, of Munster University, translated by Douglas Horton\*, is documentary evidence of this new movement. The title might well have been—*The Word of God against the Word of Man*. "One acute critic accredits Barth with having saved Protestantism in Germany. Another characterizes him as the greatest religious thinker since Schleiermacher. He and his friends, to say the least, have captured the attention of the Churches of Europe both in the Protestant, and to an important degree in the Catholic areas. So says his translator.

\* Hodder & Stoughton,

*The Times* reviewer confirms this estimate. "Modern Theology since Schleiermacher," he says, "has been moving in the view of Barth and his friends, upon wholly false lines. It has forgotten its real task, which is to speak about God; it has spoken instead about man. The Theologians have substituted what is in effect anthropology—a phenomenology of the religious self-consciousness of man—for Theology proper. They have discussed *ad nauseam* human religious experience. They have forgotten God and His Word."

No words could better express our objective. The True Religion is not built up like the Tower of Babel from earth. It is a Revelation, an interposition from on High, a wholly Supernatural redemption.

This is the fundamental position of the Reformed Religion so clearly expounded by the late Prof. Hastie of Glasgow. Anglican Protestantism sought its basis in the pure and primitive Church, a precarious quest, as the event is proving. Lutheranism and Methodism are also largely based on human foundations in justifying faith, and spiritual experience. But the Reformed faith went beyond man altogether—to God and God only. Hence saints and fathers, leaders like Luther and Wesley, Calvin or Knox, obtain no recognition; no monuments are raised to their glory. The glory of God, shining out into the worlds of nature and grace, has dimmed or extinguished those lesser tapers. This is the pure Protestant principle, far