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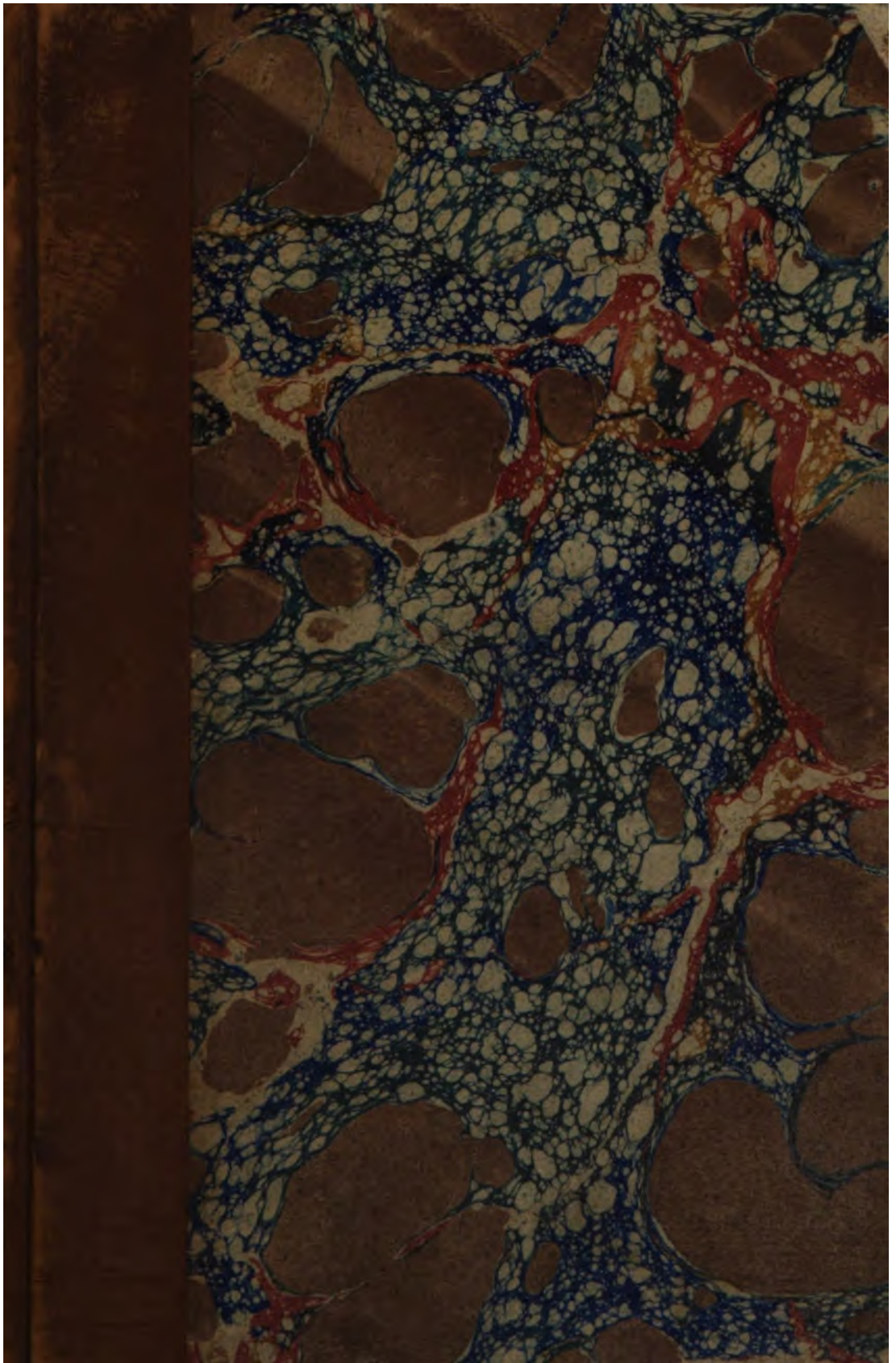
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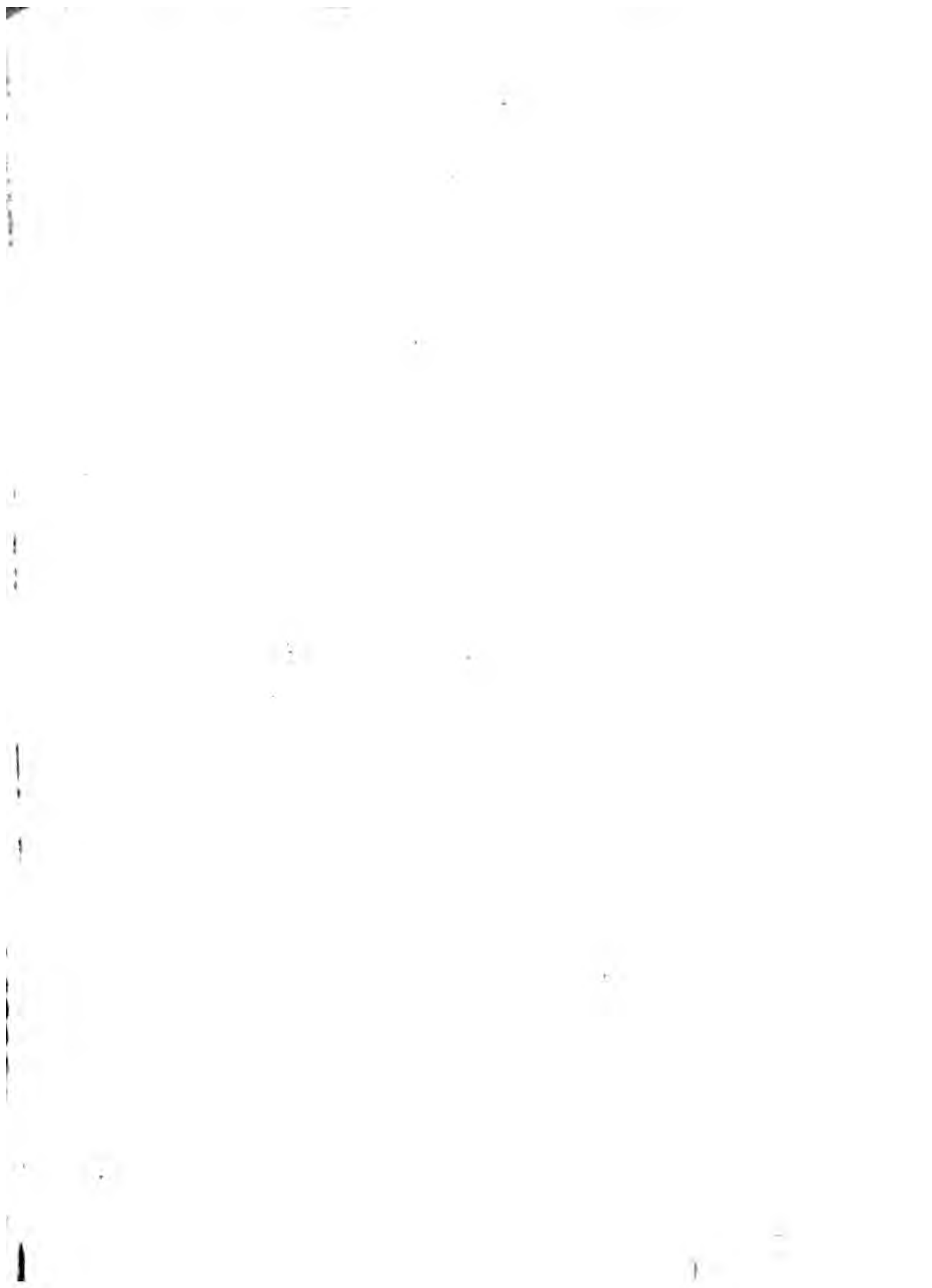


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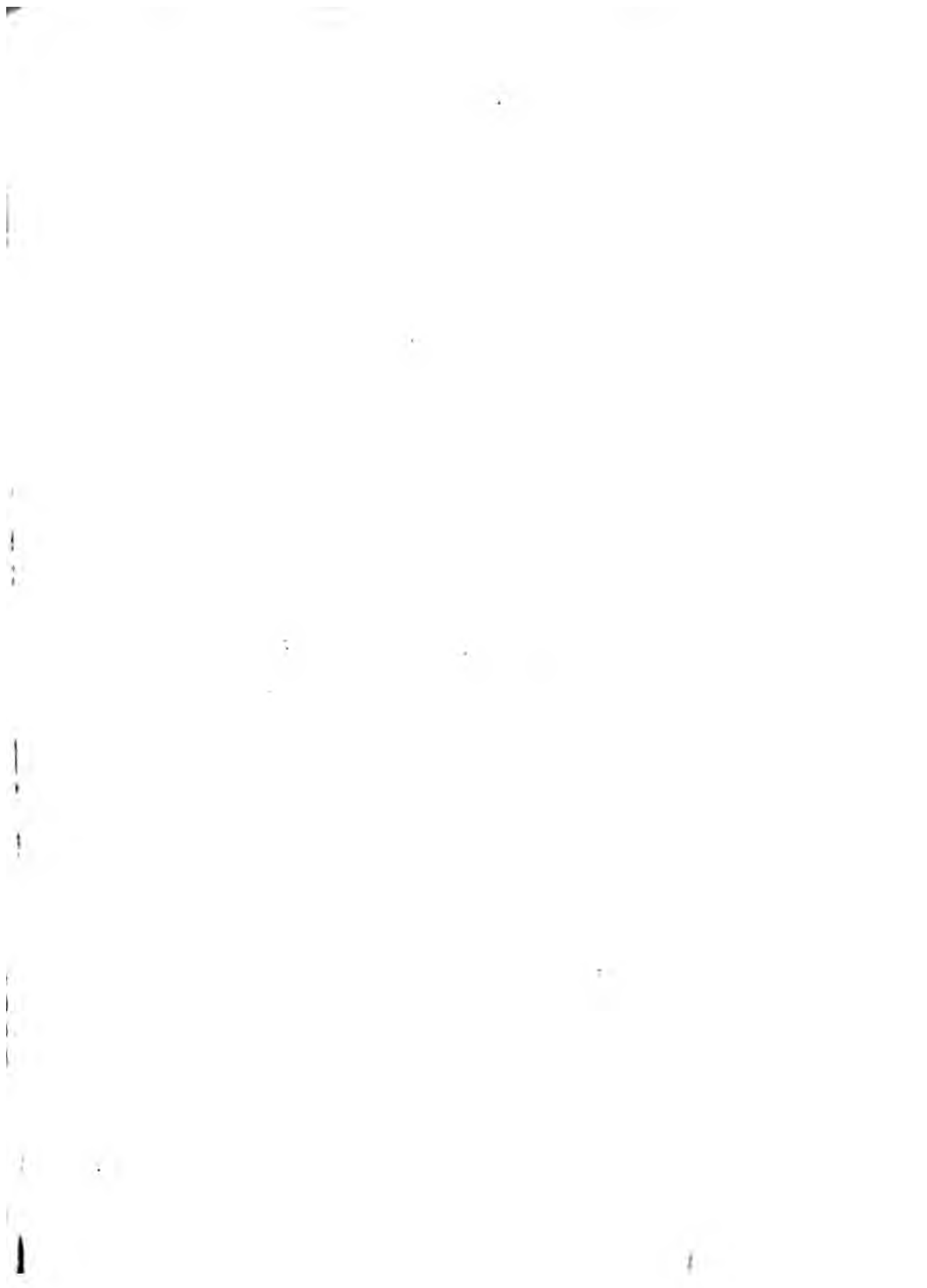
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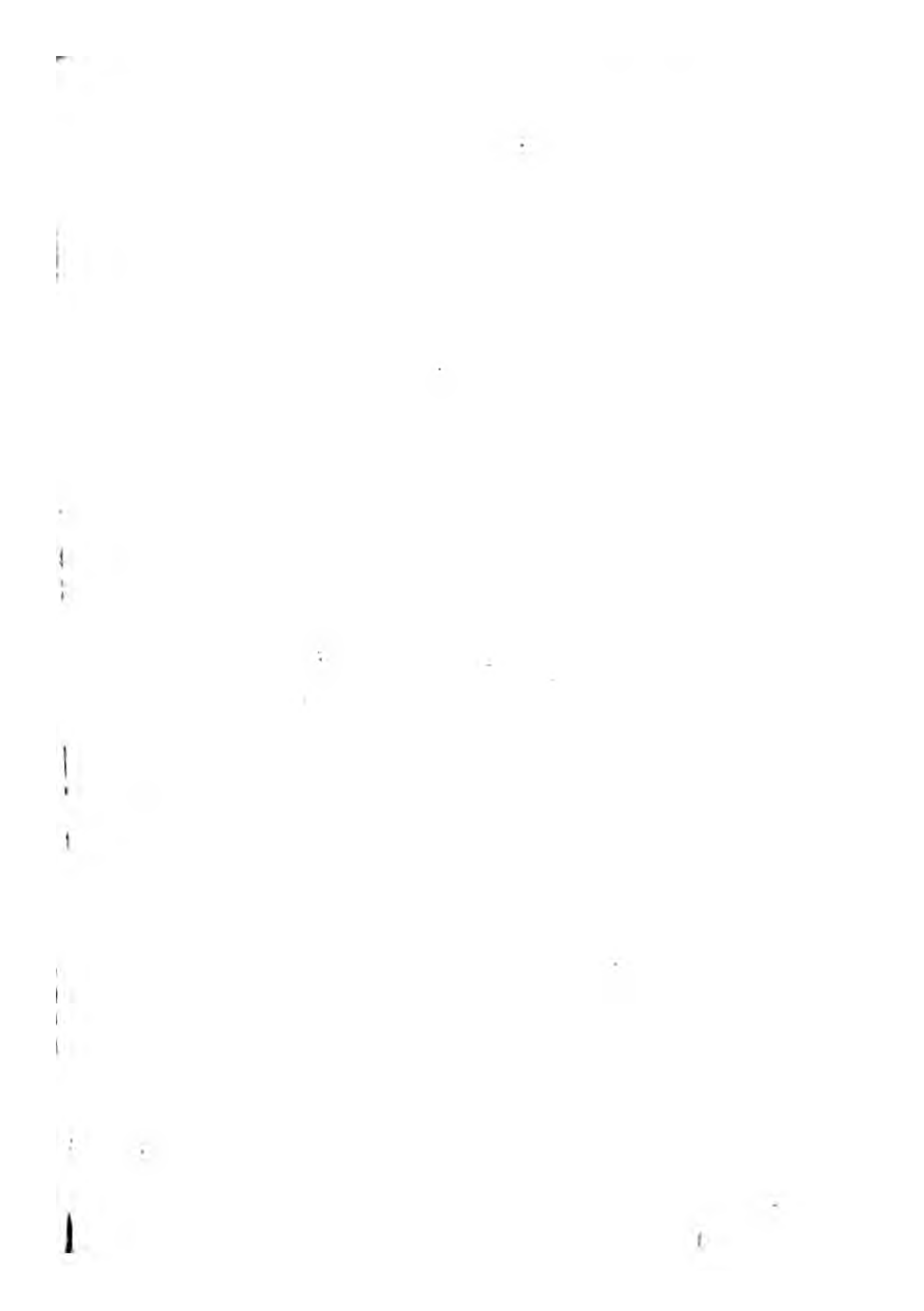
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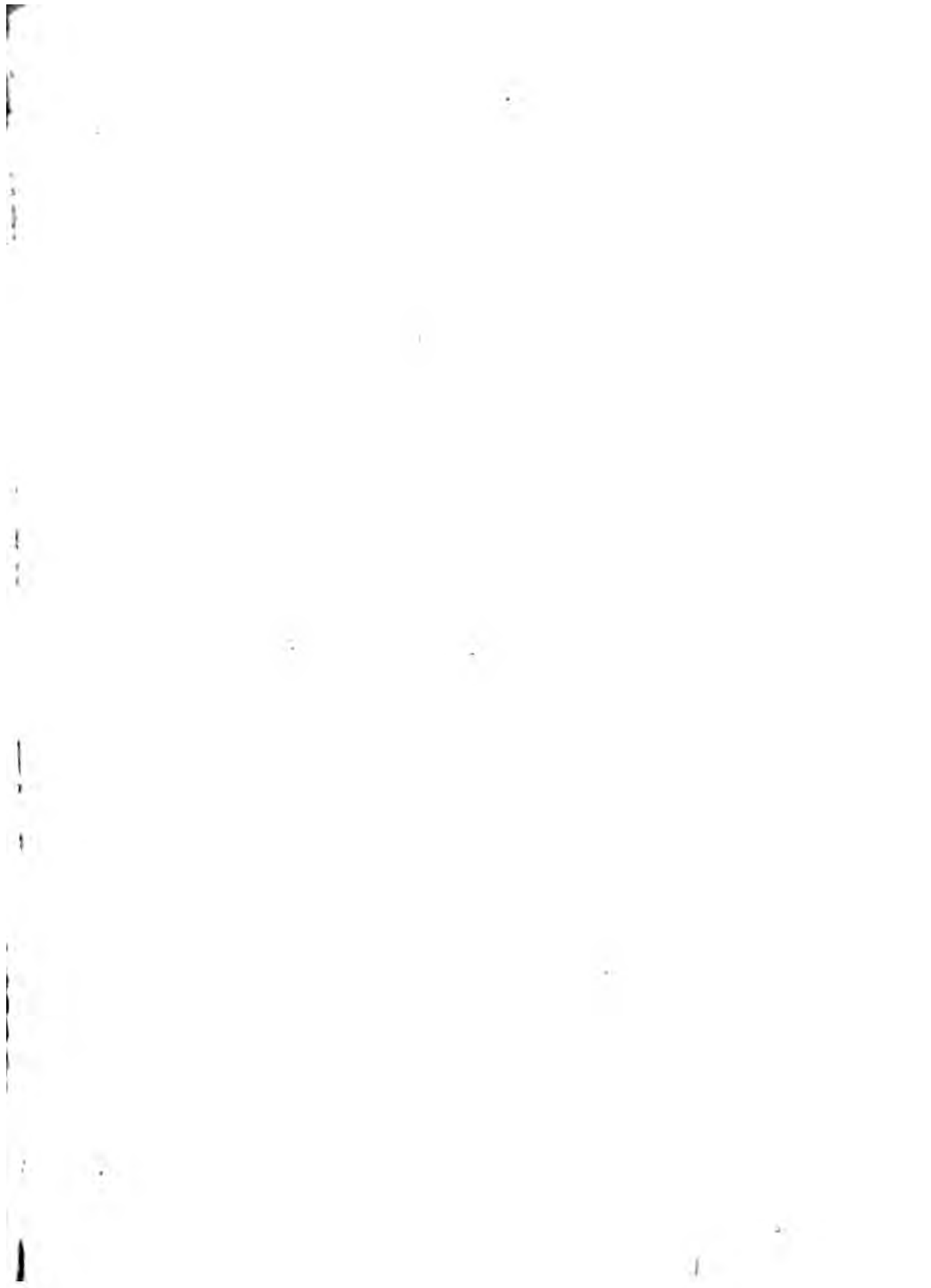
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AN
EASY CATECHISM

ON THE
Aposles' Creed;

INTENDED FOR VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.

BY THE
REV. JOHN WILLIAMS, M.A.

PERPETUAL CURATE OF NERQUIS, DIOCESE OF
ST. ASAPH.

Author of "Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymry."



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AN
EASY CATECHISM, &c.

INTRODUCTION.

Baptism.

“Almighty God, grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit, through our Lord Jesus Christ.”—

COLLECT FOR SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY.

Question. What is your name?

Answer. N. or M.

Q. Who gave you that name?

A. My Godfathers and Godmothers.

Q. When?

A. In my Baptism.

Q. Who baptized you ?

A. God's Minister.

Q. With what ?

A. With water.

Q. In whose name were you baptized ?

A. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Q. What were you made in Baptism ?

A. The child of God.

Q. In what faith were you baptized ?

A. In the Christian faith.

Q. Repeat the articles of that faith ?

A. I. I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

II. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

III. Who was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary.

IV. Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell.

V. The third day he rose again from the dead.

VI. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

VII. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

VIII. I believe in the Holy Ghost,

IX. The holy Catholic Church: The Communion of Saints.

X. The forgiveness of sins.

XI. The resurrection of the body.

XII. And the life everlasting. Amen.

Q. Are you bound to believe all this?

A. Yes.



SECTION I.

Of God the Father.

“O God the Father, of heaven, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the first article of your belief?

A. "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth."

Q. Who is God the Father?

A. The First Person in the Trinity.

Q. Whose Father is He?

A. The Father of Jesus Christ.

Q. Is He not our Father also?

A. Yes.

Q. When were we made his children?

A. In our Baptism.

Q. In what prayer do we call him our Father?

A. In the Lord's Prayer.

Q. What is "Almighty?"

A. Able to do all things.

Q. Can any one but God do all things?

A. No.

Q. Who made heaven and earth?

A. God the Father.

Q. How?

A. By his word.

Q. In what time did He make them?

A. In six days.

Q. What did He do on the seventh day ?

A. He rested.

Q. Anything else ?

A. He sanctified it.

Q. Ought we to rest on one day out of seven ?

A. Yes.

Q. Which commandment bids us to do so ?

A. The fourth.

Q. Which day of the week do we keep holy ?

A. Sunday.

Q. In memory of what ?

A. The resurrection of Christ.

Q. Did God make all things in heaven and earth ?

A. Yes.

Q. What creatures are there in heaven ?

A. The Angels.

Q. Do they obey God ?

A. Yes.

Q. Ought we to do the same ?

A. Yes.

Q. Do we pray for grace to do so?

A. Yes.

Q. Where?

A. In the Lord's Prayer.

Q. How?

A. "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven."

SECTION II.

Of God the Son.

"O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us miserable sinners."—
LITANY.

Q. What is the second article of the Creed?

A. "And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord."

Q. What is the meaning of the word "Jesus?"

A. Saviour.

Q. Whom does Jesus Christ save?

A. His people.

Q. From what?

A. From their sins.

Q. What is the meaning of the word
“Christ?”

A. Anointed.

Q. Was Jesus Christ anointed?

A. Yes.

Q. With what?

A. With the Holy Ghost.

Q. For what purpose?

A. To be a Prophet, Priest, and King.

Q. How is Christ our Prophet?

A. He teaches us.

Q. Where?

A. In his word.

Q. What did He do for us as our Priest?

A. He died for us.

Q. How is He our King?

A. He rules in our hearts.

Q. How?

A. By his grace.

Q. Whose Son is Jesus Christ?

A. The Son of the Father.

Q. When was He begotten?

A. Before all worlds.

Q. Is He of one substance with the Father?

A. Yes.

Q. What relation is He to us?

A. He is our Lord.

Q. Ought we to serve and obey Him?

A. Yes.

SECTION III.

Of Christ's Birth.

"By the mystery of thy holy incarnation, by thy holy nativity and circumcision: Good Lord, deliver us."—LITANY.

Q. What is the third article of the Creed?

A. "Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary."

Q. Is Jesus Christ both God and man?

A. Yes.

Q. When was He made man ?

A. 1848 years ago.

Q. Who was his mother ?

A. The Virgin Mary.

Q. Who told Mary that she should be the mother of our Lord ?

A. The Angel Gabriel.

Q. What festival do we keep in commemoration of that event ?

A. The Annunciation.

Q. When is that ?

A. March 25th.

Q. How was Jesus Christ made man ?

A. By the power of the Holy Ghost.

Q. On what day was He born ?

A. On Christmas Day.

Q. Where was He born ?

A. In Bethlehem.

Q. Where was He first laid after his birth ?

A. In a manger.

Q. Who proclaimed his birth ?

A. An Angel.

Q. To whom?

A. To the shepherds.

Q. What were they?

A. Jews.

Q. Who were the first Gentiles who saw Christ?

A. The wise men.

Q. How did they find him out?

A. By a star.

Q. What festival is appointed to commemorate this circumstance?

A. The Epiphany.

Q. May Gentiles as well as Jews be saved through Christ?

A. Yes.

Q. When was our Saviour circumcised?

A. On New Year's day.

Q. How old was He then?

A. Eight days.

Q. What name was given to Him?

A. Jesus.

Q. Why did Jesus Christ become man?

A. That He might die for us.

SECTION IV.

Of Christ's Sufferings.

“By thy baptism, fasting, and temptation; by thine agony and bloody sweat; by thy cross and passion; by thy precious death and burial: Good Lord, deliver us.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the fourth article of your belief?

A. “Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, He descended into hell.”

Q. When did Jesus Christ begin to suffer?

A. When He was a child.

Q. Who sought to kill Him?

A. Herod.

Q. Who was Herod?

A. King of Judea.

Q. When did our Saviour suffer most?

A. Under Pontius Pilate?

Q. Who was he?

A. Governor of Judea.

Q. Did our Saviour ever suffer from hunger?

A. Yes.

Q. Where?

A. In the wilderness.

Q. How long?

A. Forty days.

Q. Who tempted Him there?

A. The devil.

Q. Where did He sweat drops of blood?

A. In the Garden of Gethsemane.

Q. Who betrayed Him?

A. Judas Iscariot.

Q. Who denied Him?

A. Peter.

Q. Was our Saviour scourged?

A. Yes.

Q. Who put a crown of thorns on his head?

A. The soldiers.

Q. What else did they ?

A. They spit upon Him.

Q. Any thing more ?

A. They struck Him.

Q. Was He put to death ?

A. Yes.

Q. Of what death did He die ?

A. He was crucified.

Q. Where ?

A. On Mount Calvary.

Q. When did He die ?

A. On Good Friday.

Q. Was his body buried ?

A. Yes.

Q. Where did his soul go to ?

A. To Hell.

Q. Did He deserve all this ?

A. No.

Q. Why then did He suffer ?

A. To redeem us.

Q. What season has the Church appointed to commemorate the sufferings of Christ ?

A. Lent.

Q. How should we spend it ?

A. In prayer and fasting.

SECTION V.

Of Christ's Resurrection.

“By thy glorious resurrection : Good Lord, deliver us.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the fifth article of your belief ?

A. “The third day He rose again from the dead.”

Q. On what day did our Saviour rise again from the dead ?

A. On Easter Sunday.

A. Who removed the stone from the mouth of the grave ?

A. An Angel.

Q. What happened at the time when our Saviour rose ?

A. A great earthquake.

Q. Who first saw Him after his resurrection ?

A. Mary Magdalen.

Q. Who doubted of his resurrection ?

A. Thomas.

Q. Did He believe when he saw Him ?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did our Saviour remain on earth after his resurrection ?

A. Forty days.

SECTION VI.

Of Christ's Ascension.

"By thy glorious ascension: Good Lord deliver us."—LITANY.

Q. What is the sixth article of the Creed ?

A. "He ascended into heaven, and

sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.”

Q. When did Jesus Christ ascend into heaven?

A. On Holy Thursday.

Q. From what place?

A. From the Mount of Olives.

Q. Who saw Him go up?

A. His disciples.

Q. What was the last thing He did to them?

A. He blessed them.

Q. What hid Him from their view as He was ascending?

A. A cloud.

Q. Did they then see any body else?

A. Yes.

Q. Whom?

A. Two Angels.

Q. What did the Angels say to them?

A. That Jesus Christ would come again.

Q. Where, in heaven, is Jesus Christ?

A. On the Father's right hand.

Q. What do you mean by that?

A. The place of greatest honor.

Q. What is He doing in heaven?

A. Interceding for us.



SECTION VII.

Of Christ's second coming.

"In the day of judgment: Good Lord, deliver us."—LITANY.

Q. "What is the seventh article?"

A. "From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead."

Q. When shall Jesus come again from heaven?

A. At the end of the world.

Q. How shall He come?

A. In glory.

Q. Who will accompany Him?

A. The Angels.

Q. For what purpose will He come?

A. To judge the quick and the dead.

Q. What do you mean by the quick ?

A. Those who will be found alive.

Q. Will the dead be raised up ?

A. Yes.

Q. How shall we be judged ?

A. According to our works.

Q. Where shall those who have done good go to ?

A. Into life everlasting.

Q. Where shall the wicked go ?

A. Into everlasting fire.

Q. When does the Church call upon us particularly to think of these things ?

A. In Advent.

SECTION VIII

Of God the Holy Ghost.

“By the coming of the Holy Ghost : good Lord, deliver us.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the eighth article of the Creed ?

A. “I believe in the Holy Ghost.”

Q. Who is the Holy Ghost?

A. The Third Person in the Trinity.

Q. What does He for us?

A. He sanctifies us.

Q. Did Christ promise to send the Holy Ghost from heaven?

A. Yes.

Q. How soon after our Saviour's ascension did He come?

A. In ten days.

Q. When was that?

A. On Whitsunday.

Q. Upon whom did He then descend?

A. Upon the disciples.

Q. Do we stand in need of the Holy Spirit?

A. Yes.

Q. Can we do no good works without Him?

A. No.

Q. Should we therefore always pray for His help?

A. Yes.

SECTION IX.

Of the Church.

“O Lord God, may it please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the ninth article?

A. “The holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints.”

Q. How many Churches are there?

A. One.

Q. What do you mean by “Catholic?”

A. Universal.

Q. Is it open to all men?

A. Yes.

Q. What else do you say of the Church?

A. It is holy.

Q. Are its members holy?

A. Yes.

Q. What are they therefore called?

A. Saints.

Q. How do they become so?

A. Through the Sacraments.

Q. How many Sacraments hath Christ ordained in his Church?

A. Two.

Q. Which are they?

A. Baptism, and the Lord's Supper.

Q. How many parts are there in a Sacrament?

A. Two.

Q. Which are they?

A. The visible and invisible.

Q. What is the visible or outward part of Baptism?

A. Water.

Q. What is the invisible part?

A. A new birth unto righteousness.

Q. What is the outward part of the Lord's Supper?

A. Bread and Wine.

Q. What is the inward and invisible part?

A. The Body and Blood of Christ.

Q. Are we united to Christ through the Sacraments ?

A. Yes.

Q. And to one another ?

A. Yes.

Q. Are the Saints on earth and the Saints departed joined in one communion ?

A. Yes.

Q. Are these Sacraments generally necessary to salvation ?

A. Yes.

Q. May they be had out of the Church ?

A. No.

Q. How many orders of ministers are there in the Church ?

A. Three.

Q. Mention them.

A. Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

Q. Ought you to submit yourself to these ?

A. Yes.

Q. Ought we on any account to leave the Church?

A. No.

SECTION X.

The Forgiveness of Sins.

“May it please thee, good Lord, to give us true repentance, and to forgive us all our sins, negligences and ignorances.”—LITANY.

Q. What is the tenth article of the Creed?

A. “The forgiveness of sins.”

Q. Are we all sinners?

A. Yes.

Q. When did we first become such?

A. We were born in sin.

Q. And what do we deserve as sinners?

A. Everlasting punishment.

Q. Can we give satisfaction for our sins?

A. No.

Q. Has any one done so?

A. Yes, Jesus Christ.

Q. Can He forgive us our sins ?

A. Yes.

Q. When are our first offences pardoned ?

A. In Baptism.

Q. Do we not commit sins afterwards ?

A. Yes, continually.

Q. What must we do to receive forgiveness of these ?

A. Repent.

Q. Has our Lord taught us to pray for pardon ?

A. Yes.

Q. How ?

A. "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us."

Q. Will not God forgive us, if we forgive not one another ?

A. No.

Q. If we die in our sins, where shall we go to ?

A. To hell.

SECTION XI.

The Resurrection of the Body.

“Grant, O Lord, that we, through the grave and gate of death, may pass to our joyful resurrection.”—COLL. FOR EASTER EVEN.

Q. What is the eleventh article of the Creed?

A. “The resurrection of the body.”

Q. Must we die?

A. Yes.

Q. What is death?

A. The separation of the soul from the body.

Q. Where does the soul go to?

A. To the world of spirits.

Q. What becomes of the body?

A. It is buried.

Q. Will they ever be re-united?

A. Yes.

Q. When?

A. At the last day.

Q. Who will raise our bodies from the grave ?

A. Jesus Christ.

Q. Will the good and bad rise ?

A. Yes.

Q. Who will rise first ?

A. The good.

Q. What sort of bodies will these have ?

A. Glorious bodies.

SECTION XII.

The Life Everlasting.

“ O Lord, grant us in the world to come life everlasting.”—ST. CHRYSOSTOM'S PRAYER.

Q. What is the last article of your belief ?

A. “ And the life everlasting. Amen.”

Q. Where will this life be ?

A. In heaven.

Q. Who shall enjoy it ?

A. The righteous.

Q. When will it commence ?

A. At the resurrection.

Q. Will there be no end to it?

A. No.

Q. Will it always be happy?

A. Yes.

Q. Who will be with us in heaven?

A. Jesus Christ.

Q. Will He love us?

A. Yes.

Q. What should we do to obtain everlasting life?

A. Keep our Baptismal vows.

Q. How many vows have we made in our baptism?

A. Three.

Q. Which is the first?

A. To renounce the devil, the world, and the flesh.

Q. Which is the second?

A. To believe all the articles of the Christian faith.

Q. Which is the third?

A. To keep God's commandments.

Q. Can you do all this without grace?

A. No.

Q. How then are you to obtain grace?

A. By prayer.

Q. Let me hear if you can say the Lord's Prayer.

A. "Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUSION.

The Trinity.

"O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons, and one God, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.."—LITANY.

Q. What do you chiefly learn in these articles of your belief?

A. To believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

Q. Are there three Gods?

A. No; there is but one God.

Q. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. Three.

Q. Which is the First?

A. The Father.

Q. Which is the Second?

A. The Son.

Q. Which is the Third?

A. The Holy Ghost.

Q. Are these then co-equal?

A. Yes.

Q. How is God to be worshipped?

A. "The Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped."

Q. Ought we to have a right faith in the doctrine of the Trinity?

A. Yes.

Q. What is the hymn of praise which

the Church so frequently addresses to the Holy Trinity ?

A. "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

"As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

THE END.



