

Barquilla de la Santa Maria

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Diocese of Columbus

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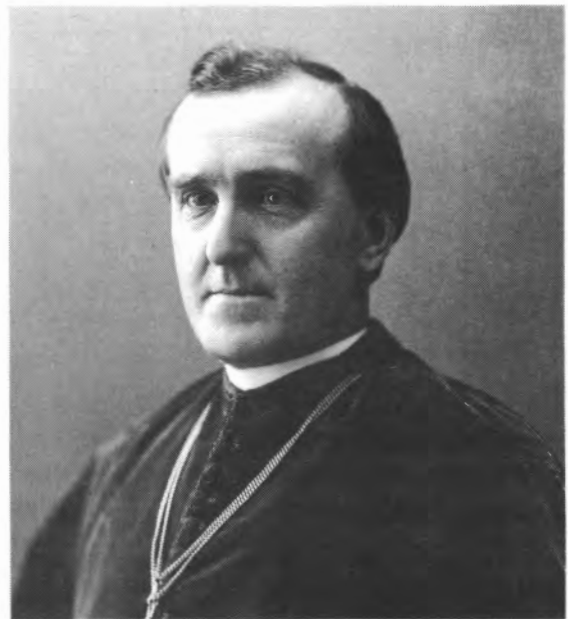
The Bishops of Columbus: Right Rev. John Ambrose Watterson, D.D.

John A. Watterson was born in Blairsville, Pa. on May 27, 1844. He was the sixth of the eleven children of John S. and Sarah Salome (McAfee) Watterson.¹ The Watterson family had come to America from the Isle of Man in 1762, all of them being Episcopalians. The bishop's grandfather, another John Watterson, had been orphaned at the age of seven years by the yellow fever epidemic of 1781 and had been raised by a Catholic family named Eck, in the vicinity of Abbottstown, York County, Pa. The McAfees were from County Armagh, Ireland.

The father was a leading businessman of Blairsville and the Watterson home was the mission station there, their house being called "The Priest's Hotel." In 1841 John S. served on the building committee of the local parish church, Sts. Simon and Jude. Young John received his elementary education at the parish school in Blairsville. On the recommendation of his pastor and his bishop, he was sent to St. Vincent's College, Latrobe, Pa. for further education in the classics, under the direction of the Benedictine Fathers. At the age of seventeen he entered Mt. St. Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland, where he received the Bachelor of Arts degree and then continued on with the theology course. He was ordained to the priesthood by Rt. Rev. Michael Domenec, Bishop of Pittsburgh, at St. Vincent's Abbey, Latrobe, on August 9, 1868.

Soon after his ordination, the faculty of his alma mater, Mt. St. Mary's, offered him a position as professor of Moral Theology and Sacred Scripture in the college which, with the approval of his bishop, he accepted. In a few years was named Vice President and in 1877 became President of that venerable institution. In June of 1879 the young president received the degree Doctor of Divinity from Georgetown College.

His selection as Bishop of Columbus was announced in March, 1880 but he chose to delay



*John A. Watterson,
Second Bishop of Columbus*

his consecration until August. He was consecrated August 8, 1880 in St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus, by Rt. Rev. William H. Elder, Archbishop of Cincinnati, assisted by Bishops William G. McCloskey of Louisville and John M. Tuigg of Pittsburgh.

Bishop Watterson took up the completion of the work of Bishop Rosecrans, to provide for all those things that were necessary to give the Diocese a fitting character and dignity. He struggled to provide a more numerous presbyterate to share the work of bringing the Bread of Life to the people. Not the least among his troubles was the debt that still rested upon the diocese, contracted mostly for construction of Cathedral, with no great resources to rely upon except the generous donations of the poor people. He seems to have held the creditors of the diocese at the status quo, devoting whatever funds became available to additional development, for at the time of his death the diocese was still deeply in debt.

He purchased the lots and house east of the Cathedral for an episcopal residence. He established in Columbus a Catholic College for the secondary education of boys, which unfortunately continued only four years. He also resolved the legal status of the old Catholic cemetery in Columbus, taking the case against those who claimed it to the Supreme Court of Ohio to clear his title. He resolved the problem of having two congregations of Dominican sisters in the diocese by allowing the Dominican Sisters of the Sacred Heart to move to the Diocese of Galveston to assist Bishop Gallagher. During Watterson's years, St. Anthony and Mt. Carmel hospitals in Columbus were founded, as were the college and seminary at the Josephinum.

During Watterson's administration many new missions and parishes were organized throughout the diocese. The parish schools especially increased in number, being established

wherever possible, in accordance with the decrees of the Council of Baltimore and Watterson's own strong advocacy of Catholic education. He did not condemn the public school system, but deplored the absence of religious training there. He argued that a child's education should be surrounded by holy influences and that, at the same time his intellectual nature was perfected and fitted for temporal happiness, his moral and religious nature should be developed and fitted for his eternal future. As chief pastor, he saw his duty to be the preservation of the faith of the children of the diocese and their training and discipline as moral men and women and worthy members of the Church. He therefore forced attendance at Catholic schools unless there were grave reasons for dispensation.

At the same time, while he loved all the works of his office, he loved particularly the task of confirming the children. He loved to talk to the little children, to teach them, to instill in their hearts the truths that would make them good citizens here and saints hereafter.

He was a very strong Temperance man. He would allow no saloon owner to be an officer in any Catholic organization and he made all *confirmandi* pledge not to drink until they reached the age of 21. In 1893, despite protests within the diocese, he forbade Catholic societies to admit to membership anyone engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors, or to retain as an officer anyone engaged in that traffic.

Bishop Watterson's life was also filled with the apostolic work of the Lord across the country. As an orator he had few equals in the Episcopacy. He reflected honor on the Church by his scholarship and eloquence, and was much sought after by other cities for special occasions. In speaking, he was forceful and eloquent and his intense earnestness and sincerity always carried conviction to his hearers. He preached Catholic doctrine in season and out of season. Even

when his audience was entirely non-Catholic, he proclaimed the same dogmas which he proclaimed from the pulpit. He wished to bring back all the erring to the fold of Christ, but never did he sacrifice or obscure one bit of Catholic truth.

Nor did he forget his civic duties. Two of his own ancestors had fought in the American armies of the Revolutionary War and he gloried in his American citizenship and loved the city of his residence. He did not, however, seek to Americanize the Catholic Church; his aim was to Catholicize the American people. Regarding the great controversy of his time in the Church in this country, Americanism, Father Lawrence Kearney of Zanesville, having quoted Pope Leo XIII's pronouncement on this subject, wrote, "Not once but a score of times, in public and in private did I hear him [Watterson] give utterance to the same sentiments as those so concisely expressed by the sovereign pontiff. And recalling those utterances, when the long expected papal pronouncement appeared, I could have believed that Bishop Watterson sat at the elbow of Leo XIII while the great pontiff penned that scathing rebuke to the innovators."

Watterson also was a pioneer of interfaith understanding. He was a friend of Dr. Washington Gladden, the famous social reformer and pastor of First Congregational Church in Columbus, who grandiloquently eulogized Watterson at the time of his death.

He died rather suddenly, at the ringing of the morning Angelus, on April 17, 1899. The cause of his demise was said to have been exhaustion. He had been in Washington and had overworked himself; he had been advised by his physician to go abroad and rest. Instead, he returned to Columbus and confirmed a large class at St. Mary's Parish. He then returned to his residence and took to his bed, never to rise again. His remains were carried to Mt. Calvary Cemetery

for burial in the priests' circle, as he had wished. He is the only bishop interred there.

Bishop Watterson was a man of fine appearance, scholarly attainments, and an eloquent speaker. He was always kind hearted, sympathetic, and most considerate in his dealings with the clergy and laity alike. He taught his Catholic people to be true and loyal to their faith, devoid of human respect, uncompromising with the spirit of the world, and faithful to the last in maintaining those doctrines which he preached so eloquently.

According to Father Kearney, as a man, a gentleman, a patriotic American citizen, a scholar, an orator, a bishop of God's Church, John Ambrose Watterson had few equals and fewer superiors in the Church in this country.

NOTES

Sketches of Watterson's life appear in: Hartley's *History of Fifty Years*, pages 33-40. Alfred Lee's *History of the City of Columbus*, Vol. II, pages 658-660 (these two are in essence the same sketch, originally written by Rev. Dennis A. Clarke). The *Columbus Register* of Apr. 30, 1943. "Rt. Rev. John A. Watterson, D.D." by Teresa Beatrice O'Hare, in *The Rosary Magazine*, Vol. XIV, No. 6 (June, 1899). Father Kearney's fine account of the Bishop's character and work is contained in the *Memorial Calendar, St. Patrick's Church, Columbus, O.*, Vol. VI, No. 1, May, 1899, along with pieces from the local secular press.

1) Clarke's sketch gives the birthplace as Blairsville, Indiana County, Pa. Code gives the place as Bairdstown, which is across the river from Blairsville, in Westmoreland County. The 1840, 1850, and 1860 federal censuses indicate that the family home was Blairsville. John S. Watterson is also mentioned in J. T. Stewart's *Indiana County, Pennsylvania: Her People, Past and Present*, pages 468 and 283 (Chicago: J. H. Beers & Co., 1913).

Chronicle of Events in the Diocese of Columbus for 1996

Compiled by the Editor

Parishes

January 21 Bishop Griffin blessed the new addition at Westerville St. Paul Parish, consisting of classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, and kitchen.

March 10 The restored Ruffati organ at Columbus St. John the Baptist Church was rededicated at a concert by Mrs. Delma Rouleau, as part of the parish centennial celebration.

March 17 Ground was broken for a new church for Columbus St. Andrew Parish.

April Property was purchased for the new Holy Trinity Parish, Zoar.

July After over a century of service at Dover St. Joseph Parish, the Capuchin friars withdrew from the diocese, because of "shinking numbers and graying of the clergy."

July 21 Rev. Jerome Rodenfels and other parish representatives broke ground for the addition of religious education and meeting space at New Albany Resurrection Parish.

August 14 The new Family Life Center at Chillicothe St. Peter Parish was dedicated by Bishop Griffin.

August 24. A new altar and tabernacle at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Columbus were consecrated by Bishop Griffin during the centennial celebration of the church building.

August 28. The elementary school at St. Brigid of Kildare Parish, Dublin opened, the first new Catholic parish elementary in Franklin County in

over thirty years. The new education center was blessed by Bishop Griffin on October 5.

November 17. The new addition at Hilliard St. Brendan School (seven classrooms, a media center, and offices) was dedicated by Bishop Griffin.

Institutions

August 26 Expanded facilities at St. Francis de Sales High School in Columbus were blessed by Bishop Griffin, including ten classrooms and a performing arts area.

Vocations

April 21 Diocesan seminarian Jeffrey James Conny was ordained a deacon at the Pontifical College Josephinum by Archbishop Elden Curtiss of Omaha.

June 29 Rev. Michael F. Nimocks, Rev. David W. Sizemore, and Rev. Joseph J. Trapp were ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph Cathedral by Bishop Griffin, for this diocese.

Retirement

July 9, Fr. Charles P. Essman, associate pastor of Worthington St. Michael Parish.

Necrology

January 4, Sister Dorilda Kubilus, O.P., at Mohun Hall, aged 87 years, a native of Steubenville

January 14, Sister Alice Maeder (formerly Sister Mary Florine), S.N.D. de N., at Mt. Noter Dame Convent, Reading, Ohio, aged 75, a native of Columbus.

January 27, Sister Patrice Sinnott, R.G.S, aged 78 years, a native of Ironton.

Domody
January 31, in Mt. Vernon, Rev. Ralph R. Domody, retired, founding pastor of Columbus St. Mathias Parish, aged 77 years; burial was in Cincinnati.

February 15, Sister Ann Lucille (born Leonora) Schick, at Mt. Notre Dame Convent, Reading; a native of Columbus, she was 80 years old.

February 24, in Manitowoc, Wis., Sister St. John Francis Aumann, aged 97, born Pauline Elizabeth Aumann in Delaware, Ohio, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity

June 15, Sister Rose Dolores Sheridan, O.P. at Mohun Hall in Columbus, aged 94 years, a native of Columbus.

July 15, Sister Maris Stella Haid, O.P., at Mohun Hall, aged 84; she had entered the St. Mary of the Springs congregation from Delaware St. Mary Parish.

October 21, Rev. Daniel P. McGinnis, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Zoar, died in New Philadelphia at the age of 50 years.

November 8, at Mars, Pa., Rev. Francis F. Brown, retired priest of the Diocese of Steubenville, aged 80 years. He had been ordained for the Diocese of Columbus in 1943 and was assistant pastor at St. Joseph Parish, Ironton, when the Steubenville diocese was erected.

December 16, Rev. John H. Graf, a native of Portsmouth, retired priest of this diocese, aged 77 years.

December 20, at St. Raphael's Home, Columbus, Msgr. Julius George Klinec, P.A., aged 87 years, retired pastor of Chillicothe St. Peter Parish.

December 21, at Zanesville, Rev. Paul Scanlon, O.P., aged 74 years, a graduate of Columbus Aquinas High School, former pastor of Zanesville St. Thomas Parish.

December 25, Sister Mary Benedetta (Rose Antoinette Dattalo), C.S.C., aged 73, at Mohun Hall; burial was at Holy Cross Motherhouse, Notre Dame, Indiana. She had entered the Holy Cross congregation from Columbus.

December 28, in Columbus, Rt. Rev. Edward Gerhard Hettinger, D.D., Titular Bishop of Teos and retired Auxiliary Bishop of Columbus, aged 94 years.



The Paul Pry House

On pages 162 and 163, Studer's history of Columbus mentions that the first Masses in Columbus were offered in the Paul Pry House, on Water street, "a small frame" building. The congregation at that time consisted of the Reinhard, Studer, Murphy, Turney, Clarke, and Jacobs families.

Some later writers have taken Paul Pry to be the owner of the house. However, Pry was not a Columbusite and not a Catholic; he was a literary character. British author John Poole (1786-1872) wrote a play, named for this character, in 1825. Some say the original was Thomas Hill, a drysalter, book collector, gossip, and part-proprietor of the Monthly Mirror, a resident of Sydenham, England. (See William Amos, *The Originals, An A-Z of Fiction's Real-Life Characters*; Boston and Toronto: Little, Brown and Company, 1985.) A newspaper of 1835 says the character was based on an idle old lady whom the author knew.

The Paul Pry House apparently was a tavern or an inn. Who was its proprietor???

St. Luke Parish, Danville, Ohio
Baptisms and Marriages, 1829-1842

(Continued, from Vol. XXII, No. 1)

1831, continued

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11 July, Winifred Magers d/o William [R] Magers & Margaret [Sapp]Magers. Sps: George & Catherine Sapp. C. D. Bowling

11 September, Daniel Phillips s/o Berrie & Honora Phillips. Sps: Daniel Durbin & Anna Durbin. CDB

11 September, John Dial s/o Samuel Dial & Elizabeth [Lawrence] Dial. Sps: Gabriel McKenzie & Anna McKenzie. CDB

1832

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6 January, Francis Blubaugh s/o Jacob [Blubaugh] & Onora [Honora McKenzie] Blubaugh Sps: Elias Arnold. CDB

6 January, William Loge [Logue] s/o John & Elizabeth [McKenzie] Loge [Logue]. Sps: Caleb & Margaret McKenzie. CDB

6 January, Elizabeth Metcalf d/o Thomas & Anna Metcalf. Sps: Absolem Buckingham & Anna Durbin. CDB

11 March, Elias [Arnold] s/o John & Christina [Sapp] Arnold. Sps: Winny Magers. CDB

11 March, Maria [Durbin] d/o Joseph & Elizabeth [Lybarger] Durbin. Sps: Benjamin & Rosanna Durbin. CDB

11 March, John [Magers] s/o Nathaniel & Winifred Magers. Sps: Caleb & Margaret McKenzie. CDB

11 March, Sara [Kreakbaum] d/o Conrad & Priscilla [Blair] Crikbum [Kreakbaum]. Sps: Daniel Loge [Logue] & Elizabeth Magers. CDB

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11 March, Elias Stoffer s/o John & Harriet [Durbin] Stoffer. Sps: Samuel & Helen Durbin. CDB

11 March, Honora [McKenzie] d/o Jonathan & Sara McKenzie. Sps: Daniel & Henrietta McKenzie. CDB

11 March, Baptist [Durbin] s/o John [Jr] & Maria [Winebrenner] Durbin. Sps: Baptist & Catherine Durbin. CDB

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13 March, Maria Abigail Miller d/o Jacob & Anna Miller. Sps: Thomas & Maria [Mary] Porter. CDB

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10 May, Catherine Sapp d/o Jonathan & Maria [Durbin] Sapp. Sps: Benjamin & Rosanna Durbin CDB

12 May, Cyril [McKenzie] s/o Ignatius & Elizabeth [Magers] McKenzie. Sps: Caleb & Margaret McKenzie. CDB

(blank) May, George Edward Colopy s/o Jacob & Delila Colopy. Sps: Moses McKenzie & Elizabeth Blubaugh. CDB

14 May, Anna Loge [Logue] d/o Raphael & Catherine Loge [Logue]. Sps: Thomas White & Lidy [Lydia] Porter. CDB

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20 May, Margaret Shafer d/o Peter & Anna [White] Shafer. Sps: Winifred White. CDB

20 May, Frances M Durbin d/o Martin & Sarah [Sapp] Durbin. Sps: Moses & Hester McKenzie. CDB

12 August, John [Miller] s/o Frederick Miller & Rachel Daniels alias Miller. Sps: Thomas White & Elizabeth Blubaugh. D. J. O'Leary

12 August, Sarah Margaret Dial d/o William Dial & Rebecca Arnold alias Dial. Sps: Nathan Majors [Magers] and Winifred Majors DJO

12 August, William Henry Porter s/o John Porter & Lenora Allbright alias Porter. Sps: John Durbin & Maria Porter. DJO

13 August, William Porter [Carter] s/o John Carter & Sarah Louge alias Carter. Sps: William Carter & Eliza Blubaugh. DJO

15 August, J----- Jacob Sapp s/o Samuel Sapp & Susanna Majors [Magers] alias Sapp. Sps: Caleb McKenzie & Margaret McKenzie.

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15 August, Catherine Durbin d/o Benjamin Durbin & Rosanna Lybarger. Sps: Nathan Majors [Magers] and Winifred Majors [Magers]. DJO

15 August, Maria Emily Ward d/o Stephen Ward & Sara McGough. Sps: Patrick McGough & Helen McGough. DJO

15 August, Catherine Bowser (born in 1810). Sps: [none given] DJO

17 August, Joseph Hyacinth McKenzie s/o Samuel McKenzie & Henrietta McKenzie. Sps: George Sapp & Catherine Sapp. D. Josh. O'Leary, Ord. Prae.

1833

10 March, Susanna McKenzie d/o Aaron McKenzie & Maria Logue alias McKenzie. Sps: Daniel Durbin & Anna Durbin. J. V. Bullock

same day, Richard F. Magers, s/o William Magers and Drusy [Drusilla] Sapp alias Magers Sps: Conrad Krigbum [Kreakbaum] & Priscilla Krigbum [Kreakbaum]. J. V. Bullock

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10 March, Nathan McKenzie s/o Gabriel McKenzie & Nancy Logue Sps: Aaron McKenzie & Mary McKenzie. JVB

same day, Daniel Mimaugh [Mumaw] s/o Frederick Mimaugh & Honora Logue Sps: William Catie [Carter] & Rachel Logue. JVB

same day, Sylvester McKenzie s/o Moses McKenzie & Hester Sapp Sps: Benjamin Blubaugh & Elizabeth Blubaugh. JVB

same day, James [Sapp] s/o Simon [Hartley] Sapp & Rachel Sapp Sps: Jacob Sapp & Anna Sapp. J. B. V. DeRaymaecker, O.P.

11 March, Sara Helen [McKenzie], born October 9, 1832, d/o Caleb McKenzie & Margaret Magers Sps: Sam Durbin & Helen Durbin. JBVD

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same day, Jacob Doyle [Dial], born August 11, 1832, s/o George Doyle [Dial Jr] & Margaret [Logue] Sps Eleanor Hartley. JBVD

[scratched out: same day, Sara d/o Nathaniel McKinzie & Mary Dyel, born 20 October, 1832; sps: Marg. McGue. In hand of JBVD]

12 April, Absalom Durbin s/o Bazil Durbin & Aparilla Buckingham Sps: Daniel Durbin and Anna Durbin. JVB

11 [no month named], Sarah McKenzie illeg d/o Maria Dial w/o Nathaniel McKenzie, three years after [Nathaniel's] death. JBVD

15 May, Hilary Blubaugh s/o John Blubaugh & Elizabeth Sapp Sps: George Sapp & Anna Sapp. JVB

16 May, Parmelia Anna Durbin d/o Joseph Durbin & Elizabeth Durbin nee Lybarger. Sps: John Durbin & Maria Durbin. JVB

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16 May, John Henry Porter s/o David Porter & Lydia Sapp Sps: William Carter & Anna Sapp. JVB

16 May, Delila Helen Durbin d/o Samuel Durbin & Helena McKenzie Sps: Samuel McKenzie & Anna Doyle [Dial]. JVB

11 August, Sarah Anna [Logue] d/o Richard Logue & Catherine Sapp Sps: Nathan Major Magers & Winifred Logue. Tho. Martin

same day, Charles Bowling [Buckingham] s/o Absalom Buckingham & Anna [Nancy] Murphy. Sps: Basil Durbin & Aparilla Buckingham. TM

same day, Matilda Ann Bowser d/o John Bowser & Eliza Ewing Sps: Jacob Walsh & Elizabeth McGaw [McGough]. TM

same day, Winifred [Porter] d/o John Porter & Rachel Arnold Sps: Stephen Blubaugh & Susanna Sapp. TM

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same day, Julia Anna [Arnold] d/o John Arnold & Christina Sapp Sps: William Carter & Rachel Logue. TM

12 August, Leo Sapp s/o Levi Sapp & Maria Colopy Sps: Nathan Magers & Winifred Logsdon. TM

same day, Matilda [Welker] d/o Solomon Welker & Elizabeth Richardson Sps: Daniel Durbin & Hanna Dial. TM

same day, Patience [Blubaugh] d/o Stephen Blubaugh & Honora Logsdon Sps: Thomas Porter & Maria Parker. TM

same day, conditionally, Benjamin Sapp s/o Frederick Sapp [Jr] & Mary Parker. TM

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"Names omitted, 1833"

2 September, Emily [Durbin] d/o Benjamin Durbin & Eliz. Reams Sps: Henry & Hanna [Honora] Durbin.

4 September, Elizabeth [McGough] d/o Henry McGough & Margaret Arnold Sps: Dan Logue & Liddie [Lydia] Porter. Fr. D. J. O'Leary Ord Præ

(To be continued)

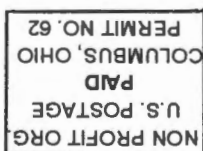
**The Annual Luncheon Meeting, Saturday,
February 15, 1997, begins at 11:45 a.m.**

Catholic Record Society – Diocese of Columbus

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Donald M. Schlegel, editor



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