

ENGLISH VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE

A HAND-BOOK

WITH COPIOUS EXAMPLES ILLUSTRATING
THE ANCESTRY AND RELATIONSHIP OF THE SEVERAL
VERSIONS, AND COMPARATIVE TABLES

BY THE
REV. J. I. MOMBERT, D.D.

NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION



Multæ terricolis linguæ, cœlestibus una

LONDON
SAMUEL BAGSTER AND SONS LIMITED
15 PATERNOSTER ROW

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

ANGLO-SAXON VERSIONS.

The Ruthwell Cross. Cædmon. Aldhelm and Guthlac's Psalter. Bede. King Alfred. Anglo-Saxon and Semi-Saxon examples. Manuscripts. The Heptateuch. Extracts from Ælfric. The mutilated Decalogue. Printed Scriptures. Anglo-Saxon compared with other tongues. Illustrative examples of Anglo-Saxon versions. Versions in Anglo-Saxon and Old English compared. Anglo-Saxon helps. 1

CHAPTER II.

THE EARLIEST ENGLISH VERSIONS.

The Ormulum. The Sowlehele. Metrical Psalms. William de Schorham. Richard Rolle. Prose Versions of the Psalms. Illustrative examples. Purport of the Translations. John de Trevisa. Literature. 27

CHAPTER III.

THE WICLIFITE VERSIONS.

Account of John Wiclif. His version the first English published. Knyghton. The versions translated from the Vulgate. Order of the books. Nicholas de Hereford. Purvey's revision. Principles of translation. Wiclif's style. Analytical and comparative examples: Vulgate—Hereford—Authorized Version; Old French and English; Wiclif and Purvey's revision; Hereford and Purvey. Purvey's annotations. Collation of St. Matthew viii. 1-13: Anglo-Saxon—Vulgate—Wiclif—Purvey—Authorized Version. Examples exhibiting the literalness of

Wiclif's translation. Wiclif's version compared with sundry versions in manuscript. Characteristics. The influence of Wiclif's version on the Authorized Version illustrated. The Epistle of Paul to the Laodiceans. Editions of Wiclif. 40

CHAPTER IV.

TYNDALE'S VERSION.

Ignorance of the monks. Historical notice. Difficulties in England. Departure for the Continent. Conjectures considered. Hamburg, Cologne, Worms. Tyndale and Luther. Tyndale's helps. The influence of Luther's Version, and the character of Tyndale's. Use made of the Vulgate. Tyndale's independence. His scholarship. His English. Collation exhibiting the relation of Tyndale's version to the Vulgate, and the versions of Wiclif and Luther. The version in England. Account of the various editions. Joye. Hacket. The pseudonyme Hutchins. Entry in Spalatin's Diary. Facts relating to Marlborow (Marburg) developed. Original correspondence on the subject. Tyndale's knowledge of Hebrew illustrated. Helps relating to the Version of the Old Testament. The Pentateuch. His miscellaneous writings. Later editions of his version. Tyndale and Joye. The labors of Joye. Comparison of the editions of 1526 and 1534. His betrayal and martyrdom. Peculiar spelling in the edition of 1535. The New Testament of 1536. Estimate of Tyndale. Examples of his version, indicating the extent to which it continues in the Authorized Version. Collation of different editions. Archaisms and idiosyncrasies. 77

CHAPTER V.

COVERDALE.

Historical notice. The Bible of 1535; the title changed in the edition of 1536. The Nicolson editions. Order of the books. The Latin-English New Testament. Collations. Estimate of Coverdale's New Testament. His life and labors on the Continent. Sketch of his career. The notices of Bishop Tanner and Bale. Examination of the version; not made from the Originals. His own account. Collation of his version with Pagninus and the Zurich version, also with Luther, Schöfer's Bible, and the Com-

bination Bible, as well as the Vulgate, Pagninus and the Zürich. His sentiments concerning the value of different translations. Examples of his notes. Estimate of the version. Idiosyncrasies. The Prayer-Book version of the Psalter. Specimen from his *Ghostly Psalms*. The versions of Tyndale and Coverdale compared. Prayers in the edition of 1537. Order of the books. 149

CHAPTER VI.

MATTHEW'S BIBLE.

Publication of the volume in 1537. Conjecture as to where it was printed. Notice of John Rogers. The initials R. G. and E. W. The first Authorized Version. Nature of this Bible. Foxe's account in correction of Bale's. The name *Thomas Mathewe*. Examination of the text with respect to its authorship. The labors of Rogers described. Collation of Jonah in Tyndale and Mathewe. Collation of Luther, Zürich, Coverdale, and Hebrew. Agreements and differences in the versions of Tyndale, Coverdale, and Matthew stated and illustrated. Additional Examples. Remarkable notes, explanatory and otherwise; some traced to Pellican and Luther. "The Summe and Content of all the Holy Scriptures." The antipapal tone of many notes illustrated. Comparison of the text of the New Testament in Tyndale, 1534, 1535, and Matthew, 1537. His Bible set forth by royal authority. Extracts from the Prologue. 174

CHAPTER VII.

TAVERNER'S BIBLE.

Account of Taverner. His Bible published in 1539. The Dedication. Character of the version. The individuality of the translator or reviser strongly stamped upon it; illustrations. His dependence on the Vulgate. Nature of his recognition, and examination of his corrections. Examples of words and phrases, introduced by Taverner, remaining in the Authorized Version. 194

CHAPTER VIII.

THE GREAT BIBLE.

Cromwell the promoter of a new edition of the Bible. Coverdale in Paris. The work of printing there stopped by the inquisitor

general, resumed and finished in London, 1539. Description of the volume; the title-page, and frontispiece designed by Holbein. Contents of the volume. The injunctions of 1538, and royal declaration. Account of its reception. The nature of the version. Helps used by Coverdale. Account of the early editions. Collation of the version with the Hebrew, Vulgate, Luther, Zürich, Matthew, Coverdale, and Münster, and in a second example with these and Pagninus. The influence of Münster and the Zürich. Textual comparisons of different editions. The influence of Erasmus. Coverdale the editor of the Great Bible. Cranmer's Prologue. *Cranmer's Bible*. Merits and demerits. Objectionable additions. The Prayer Book Psalter taken from this version. Synoptical comparison of renderings of the Psalms in the Prayer Book and the Authorized Version. Later editions of the Great Bible. Extract from *The Supplication of the Poor Commons to the King*. The pecuniary interest of Grafton in the production of this Bible. 201

CHAPTER IX.

THE ENGLISH BIBLE DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF HENRY VIII., AND UNDER THE REIGNS OF EDWARD VI. AND MARY.

Convocation of 1542. Gardyner's proposals. Act for the *Advancement of true Religion*. The injunctions of Edward VI. Editions of the Bible and New Testament published in his reign. Mary's translation of Erasmus' paraphrase on John. Leo Judæ's paraphrase on the Revelation. Sir John Cheke; specimens of his English, and extracts from his version. Account of Mary's hostility to the reading of the Scriptures in the vernacular. . 230

CHAPTER X.

THE GENEVAN BIBLE.

The exiles at Geneva. Their labors. The New Testament of 1557. Title and description of the volume. Examples, collated and annotated, illustrating its relation to Tyndale's version. The Genevan Bible. Description of the edition of 1560. *The Breeches Bible*. The Dedication and Address to the Christian Reader. The popularity of the version. Helps used by the translators. Collations of the text of the Great Bible and the

Genevan, and of the same versions and the French of 1556 and 1588. Collation illustrating changes in different editions and revisions of the Genevan Bible. The influence of Beza. Supplementary clauses. Peculiarities of the version illustrated. The marginal notes. The first Bible printed in Scotland a reprint of the Genevan edition of 1561. Collation of the New Testaments of 1557 and 1560. Examples with annotations. Account of sundry matters furnished after the New Testament. Specimens of the *Arguments* before the books. 239

CHAPTER XI.

THE BISHOPS' BIBLE.

Origin of the version. Archbishop Parker's *Observations respected of the Translators*. His perplexity concerning the translators. List of the revisers. The archbishop's letter to the queen upon the completion of the work. Account of editions. The Bible described. Classification of the books of the Bible as *legal, historical, sapiential, and prophetic*. The order of the books. The preface. Quality of the translation. Helps used. Influence of the Genevan and other versions. Lawrence's list of errors in the renderings of the New Testament. Example, and Collations. Specimens of literalness and expansion. Marginal notes. The Apocrypha. Broughton's critique; specimens of his strictures. Collations with other versions, and notes. The use of the Vulgate in the Apocrypha. Example from double version of the Psalms in edition of 1572. The controversy of Martin and Fulke illustrated. 265

CHAPTER XII.

THE RHEMES NEW TESTAMENT AND DOUAY BIBLE.

Account of the translators. The New Testament of 1582. Title Extracts from the preface. Examples of characteristic renderings. Its dependence on Wiclif. Specimens. Redeeming features. Illustrations. Animus of the notes. Controversy between Martin and Fulke. The Old Testament of 1610. Title. Preface. Collation of two *infallible* versions of the Vulgate. Origin of the text of the Douay Bible. Examples from the version, and specimens of the notes. Literature on the version. Anecdote of Mary, queen of Scots. The relation of different R.

C. versions to the Authorized Version. Collation exhibiting the differences in the text of R. C. editions of the Bible. Account of R. C. versions. Caryl's *Psalms*. Nary's *New Testament*. Witham's *New Testament*. Troy's *Bible*. Geddes' *Bible*. Murray's *Bible*. Lingard's *Gospels*. Kenrick's *Version*. Ward's *Errata*. 293

CHAPTER XIII.

THE AUTHORIZED VERSION.

Historical notice of its origin. *Order agreed upon for translating the Bible*, with biographical notices of the translators. Set of instructions. Information respecting the version drawn from the preface, from Selden, and the account of the delegates to the Synod of Dort. Title of the edition of 1611. No evidence of its having been *authorized*. Preliminary matter. Account of various editions. Errata. The Cambridge Paragraph Bible. American editions. The italic type. Collation illustrating its use. Authorized and unauthorized matter contained in the volume. Examples of alternative renderings. Parallel references; their number, and arithmetical statement of the contents of the Authorized Version. Punctuation. Chapter headings. Origin of chronological dates. Examination of the work done by the several companies of translators. Illustrations. Examples with analysis. Collation showing the demerits of the Apocrypha. Felicitous renderings. The same Greek word expressed by different English words. The preponderance of Saxon words. Estimate of the version by Selden, Walton, Lowth, British Critic, Middleton, White, Whittaker, Doddridge, Taylor, Geddes, Beattie, Clarke, and Newman. Critical apparatus used by the translators. The nature of their Greek text. Collation of A. V., the Vulgate, and Tremellius, and of A. V., the Vulgate, and Beza. Nature and origin of the improvements introduced into the version. The versions of Cassiodoro de Reyna, Usque, and Diodai; examples of their influence on the Authorized Version. Critical examination of six longer passages. Classified lists of alleged blemishes, imperfections, infelicities and archaisms remaining in the version and necessitating revision, with proposed corrections. Survey of attempted revision in chronological order by Broughton; Ainsworth; Canne; Fox; Beausobre and L'Enfant; Mace; Simon; Whiston; Purver; Wynne; Doddridge; Har-

wood; Lowth; Blayney; G. Campbell; Wakefield; Newcome, Scarlett; Macrae; Evanson; Thomson; Socinian New Testament; Bellamy; Campbell-Doddridge-MacKnight; Alex. Campbell; Nourse; Coit; Dickinson; Webster; Penn; Lee; Norton; Sawyer; Wellbeloved-Smith-Porter; Five Clergymen; Heinfelter; Bagster; Baptist version; Alford; Noyes; Tischendorf; Davidson; McClellan; Julia E. Smith; Cheyne-Driver-Clarke-Goodwin; Gotch-Davies-Jacob-Green; Taylor; Rotherham. . . . 338

CHAPTER XIV.

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN REVISION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT;
OR, THE WESTMINSTER VERSION.

Lightfoot's Sermon. Parliamentary action in 1653. John Row's Proposal. Additional Literature on the subject. Reference to American writers. Controversy on the merits of the Revised New Testament. History of the present Revision drawn from official documents. Lists of the Revisers with notes. Appearance of the New Testament. Title. Contents. The Preface. The Greek text used. Illustrations. Nature of the alterations made, with critical estimate of them. Classification of changes introduced, with examples. Language. More changes desired by the American revisers. Treatment of proper names. The marginal notes. Italics. Paragraphs. Metrical arrangement. Punctuation. Illustrative collation. The omission of Summaries of contents, chapter headings, and parallel references. Adverse criticism. Renderings less felicitous than those of the Authorized Version. Compromise and concession. Examples of shortcomings. The Appendix. Classes of passages preferred by the American Committee. Specimens. Collation of three representative passages with notes. Estimate of the version. Conclusion. 442

CHAPTER XV.

ANGLO-AMERICAN REVISION COMPLETED.

Edition of 1885. Title. Preface. Hebrew Text. Papyri. Various Readings and Marginal Notes. Massoretic Notes. Particular Words. Archaisms. Paragraphs. Italics. Proper

Names. American Co-operation. Appendix. Classes. Specified Passages. <i>Revised Version with References</i> , 1898. <i>Revised Version with References and the American Preferences embodied in the Text</i> , 1898. Preface. Titles. Examples. <i>American Standard Edition</i> , 1901. Titles. Preface. Reasons for publication. Changes. Uniformity. Recessions from the Appendix. Other changes. Different Renderings. References and Headings. <i>Collation of Isaiah lx. in the three Versions</i> . Examples. <i>The Apocrypha</i> . Title. The Books. Preface. Committees. Dates. Proper Names. The Revision. Extent. Quality. Examples. Various Readings and Marginal Notes. Omissions. Concluding remarks and Estimate	496
<hr/>	
Preface	iii.
Contents	v.
Comparative Tables	xvi.
General Index	523
Index to illustrative Passages	536
“ “ “ “ in Chapter XV.	539