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## The Reply of King George V. to the Deputation who Presented His Majesty with an Address and a Specially Bound Copy of the Bible on the Commemoration of the Tercentenary of the Issue of the Authorized Version.

IT has given me sincere pleasure to receive the deputation, and to learn that it represents the joint celebration by the English-speaking peoples of the issue in 1611 of that world-famous translation of the Bible into our tongue, which has ever since been known as the Authorized Version. The happily chosen words of the Address which Your Grace has read bring home to us all the profound importance of that event. The labors of the Translators and of My Ancestor, King James the First, who directed and watched over their undertaking, deserve to be held in lasting honor.

This glorious and memorable achievement, coming like a broad light in darkness, gave freely to the whole English people the right and the power to search for themselves for



the truths and consolations of our faith; and during three hundred years, the multiplying millions of the English-speaking races spreading ever more widely over the surface of the globe, have turned in their need to the grand simplicity of the Authorized Version, and have drawn upon its inexhaustible springs of wisdom, courage and joy.

It is My confident hope—confirmed by the widespread interest your movement has aroused—that My subjects may never cease to cherish their noble inheritance in the English Bible, which in a secular aspect is the first of national treasures, and is, as you truly say, in its spiritual significance, “the most valuable thing that this world affords.”