one of the clerks of the signet. In 1539, Taverner published his edition of the Bible: "The most sacred Bible, whiche is the holy scripture, conteyning the old and new testament, translated in to English, and newly recognised with great diligence after most faythful exemplars, by Rychard Taverner. 23-Harken thou heuen, and thou erth gyue care: for the Lorde speaketh. Esaie. i. Prynted at London in Flete street at the sygne of the sonne by John Byddell, for Thomas Barthlet. Cum privilegio ad imprimendum solum. M. D. XXXIX." The version was allowed to be publicly read in churches. After the fall of Cromwell, in 1540, Taverner's labours on the Scriptures brought him under censure, and he was committed to the Tower: his imprisonment, however, was of short duration, and he was soon restored to the king's favour. In 1552, though a layman, he received from Edward VI. a general licence to preach. We are told that he preached before the king at Court, and in some public places in the kingdom, wearing a velvet bonnet or round cap, a damask gown, and a chain of gold about his neck; in which habit he was seen and heard preaching several times in St. Mary's Church, · Oxford, in the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth. During Mary's reign Taverner prudently remained in retirement. Elizabeth showed him marks of special favour, and made him high sheriff of the county of Oxford. died in the year 1575.

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