

ever-present and covenant-keeping God. The revisers have made an advance on the Authorized Version in the transliteration of the Hebrew word. But it would have added force to many passages and helped the reader to understand them better, had they universally translated the Hebrew name יהוה into the English form Jehovah.

The same may be said of the important word שְׁאֵל, Sheol, and others. In some cases the revisers have transliterated the word into English, in others they have translated it pit, grave, hell. The word signifies the abode of departed spirits both good and bad. And though in some passages it may have another meaning, it would have been in harmony with their own plan, and better for the ordinary reader, had the revisers transliterated it, in every case, and allowed the reader to determine its specific meaning by the context.

While many improvements have been made in the Pentateuch, there are some deficiencies and wrong translations which the increased knowledge of the Semitic languages, and the knowledge of Egyptology, and recent discoveries, ought to have prevented. The following are a few of the passages in which they occur:—

In Genesis iv., 23-24 the revisers have failed to show the parallelism of the verses. This is caused by the revisers adhering to the Massoretic accents. They have given them:—

“Lamech said unto his wives:

“Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;

“Ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech.”

The rendering should be:—

Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah:

Hear my voice, ye wives of Lamech;

Be attentive unto my speech:

This is the order in both the Septuagint and the Vulgate versions, which were made from the unpointed Hebrew Text. Besides, this arrangement brings out the parallelism of the verses, one of the chief elements of Hebrew poetry. And the above order shows, also, that the verses were arranged in tetrameters as may be seen in the original.