

to have been printed by Guttenburg and Faust at Mentz, between the years 1450 and 1455, and it is probably the first book printed with moveable metal types. It derives its title of Mazarin from the first copy having been discovered by M. de Buse, in the library of the Cardinal of that name, belonging to the College des Quatre Nations. Copies of this Bible are necessarily of extraordinary rarity. Only 26 examples are known to be in existence, and of these four only one printed upon vellum. Of the latter, two copies are in this country—viz., one in the Grenville library at the British Museum, and a second in the possession of Mr. Henry Parkens. The volume discovered by Mr. Sims contains the New Testament only. It consists of one hundred and twenty-eight leaves of pure white vellum, measuring 16 inches in length by 12 inches in breadth, the margins being from  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches to 3 inches in width. The text commences upon the recto of the leaf, with the prologue of St. Jerome of the Gospel of St. Matthew, and ends upon the verso of folio 128, with the rubricated words "*Expl. Apocalypsis.*" The verso of folio 120, which immediately precedes the Apocalypse, is blank. The *incipits* and *explicit*s are rubricated and written in by hand, as are likewise the names of the several books (and these not always correctly) in the upper margins. The volume is richly ornamented with illuminated initial letters, large and small, the latter in great profusion. The larger letters, resplendent with vivid colours and burnished gold, are composed of a bold floriated ornament with bracket bordures of the description known as English "fifteenth century art." These add greatly to the beauty of the volume, and render it equally an object of interest to the artist and the Biblical student. It may be worthy of remark that the vellum used in printing the Lambeth copy apparently had been previously prepared for the office of the scribe, each page being carefully ruled with horizontal and perpendicular lines to guide the hand of the copyist as was customary with mediæval manuscripts. From this circumstance it might be inferred that the present copy was amongst the earliest printed. The Grenville copy is marked with the perpendicular lines only. A full account of this newly-discovered treasure has been drawn up for the archbishop, who has also had a table case made for its exhibition in the library at Lambeth.

### BIBLE PARADOXES AND CONTRADICTIONS.

*The Habitation of God.*—Notwithstanding the Bible teaches the doctrine of God's omnipotence, nevertheless it assigns to him a habitation—locality—in a specified sense; and ignorance or scepticism might ask: "How can omnipresence and locality agree? Are they not contradictory?" How any being, though a Spirit, can fill immensity—heaven and earth—no finite mind can conceive, no more than it can comprehend the idea of self-existence or omnipotence. And yet this is a doctrine of Revelation, and is essential to the nature of absolute Divinity. Habitation is not so difficult of conception. But to locate an omnipotent being, without a Divine instructor, is attended with perplexing doubt. When done, it is done at the sacrifice of the spirituality of the Godhead, and reduces Him to absolute corporeity. When, therefore, we speak of the habitation of God, who "lives through all life, and extends through all extent," we should endeavour to understand in what sense the Bible gives to Him a particular location.

On the one hand He is represented as filling heaven and earth, inhabiting eternity, dwelling in hell and the uttermost parts of the earth. These expressions are designed to teach the doctrine of His omnipresence—His natural existence in every department of the universe. While, on the other hand, God is said to be in heaven, to dwell in the high and holy place, seated upon a throne, to dwell with His people, with the humble and contrite, to meet with those who meet in his name. Here is special locality, a definite habitation.

It is said that Cain was driven out from the presence of the Lord; and