

century the Bible was translated into Swedish by direction of St. Bridget. In Iceland a translation of the Bible was made as early as 1279.

In 1488 a Bohemian Bible appeared at Prague, of which three other Editions were published in 1498, 1506 and 1511.

Very many Editions of the Bible in Syriac and Arabic, have been printed at Rome itself, and also at Venice, for the use of Eastern Churches. The well-known Convent of Armenian Monks, at the latter city, has published beautiful versions of the Bible in Armenian. A version even in Ethiopic was published at Rome in 1548.

In England there was a version made by Venerable Bede in the eighth century. In the year 706 Aldhelmus first Bishop of Salisbury translated the Psalter into Saxon; and by his advice Egbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, translated the Four Gospels. (Horn.) In the ninth century, there was a partial translation of the Psalter, supposed to have been made by Alfred the Great. Elfric Archbishop of Canterbury translated into the vulgar tongue the Pentateuch, Joshua, Job, the Judges, Ruth, parts of the Book of Kings, Esther and the Maccabees. in 995; and in the year 1290 a translation of the whole Bible into the English of that day was made. In the fourteenth century a new version was written by John de Trevisa. It is unnecessary to say any thing of the Douay and Rheims English versions in 1609 and 1582, of which innumerable Editions have been published in England, Ireland and America.

Even with regard to the Polyglot Bibles, the only Protestant one was published at London so late as the year 1658, whilst the other three were all Catholic, and published long before, viz. that of Cardinal Ximenes at Alcala in Spain in 1515, that of Antwerp in 1572, and that of Paris in 1645.

This protracted note may close with the remark that there were at least TWENTY Two different Catholic versions of the Bible in various countries of Europe BEFORE the appearance of Luther's Bible in 1530, and that of these versions no less than *Seventy* Editions, or one for each year, were published between 1460 and 1530. Simultaneously with Luther's Bible a great number of other Catholic Translations appeared, which, together with the previous versions were frequently reprinted at that period.

It must be remembered likewise in connection with the above important facts, well known to every Biblical scholar, that the Art of Printing was only gradually practised throughout Europe from the year 1440 or '45 to 1500, and that therefore, considering all the circumstances of the times, the Catholics made use of the new discovery with astonishing rapidity for the diffusion of the Scriptures in the living languages of Europe. Would to God that this simple exposure of a most unfounded calumny may induce many a candid Protestant to examine seriously other similar charges against the Catholic Church!