

the existing translations. Upon which, Parker, the Archbishop of Canterbury, learning that a fresh supply of copies was required throughout the kingdom, seized the opportunity of causing a careful revision of former translations to be made by several very learned men, amongst whom he distributed the Bible in distinct portions, for their exact and particular revision. The majority of these divines being Bishops, the corrected version which they published, in a large folio, in 1568, obtained the name of the "*The Bishops' Bible*." Both this and the version of Geneva continued to be used during the whole reign of Elizabeth; the former being principally made use of in churches, while many private families preferred the latter.

King James succeeding to the throne in 1602, the Puritans immediately presented to him a petition of church grievances, which led to the well known Conference at Hampton Court; where these complaints were solemnly examined, and were adjudged frivolous and groundless. But as they found fault, among other things, with the Bishops' Bible, and earnestly pressed the formation of a new translation, the king assented to their request; and by a Royal Commission, delegated the important work to fifty-four of the most learned men within his dominions: these were enjoined to parcel out among themselves the several portions of the work, guiding themselves by the inspired originals, and following the Bishops' Bible as nearly as those would permit; making no change in any thing for the mere love of novelty, and submitting every part of their labours to the deliberate judgment and revision of the entire body, to be assembled at a general meeting.

These judicious regulations being received and attended to in the best spirit, the great work was brought to a happy conclusion, by the united labours of so many sound scholars, within seven years from the issuing of the commission; the first edition of the new Translation, being published, in a large handsome folio, in black letter, in 1611.

At its first appearance, cavils were raised against this version, both by the Roman Catholics and Puritans; but these soon died away, and the translators deservedly obtained, not only from our own countrymen, but also from learned foreigners, the praise of great fidelity, united with precision and clearness of expression. The former of these qualities was the most important, but even the latter was not without its manifold use. For, since this Bible was designed, not (as formerly) only for the closets of scholars, but also for the daily use and comfort of even the humblest individual, it was essential that its language should be freed as far as possible from every needless obscurity, and every ambiguous or ill-understood expression. To this, the translators appear diligently to have attended; and this object they were enabled through God's Providence, so far to attain, that even now at the distance of more than two hundred years, our authorized Bible continues readily intelligible to persons of every class; and perhaps contains fewer words or phrases, the meaning of which have sunk into obscurity, than any other work in the English language, of the same bulk and age.

Happily for this country, God's blessed Work is now unfettered by any human restrictions: it is open for every perusal: all are taught, advised, and exhorted, to make it their study, and look up to it as the Great Charter of their salvation. We own it for our sole and perfect rule of faith: we know that countless multitudes are daily deriving from it comfort, and joy, and hope: and, while we distribute it around, in tens and hundreds of thousands yearly, we pray that all into whose hands it falls may have grace to use it in such sort, that through the blessing of Almighty God it may make them wise unto salvation.

The establishment of our religion ought always to be accompanied by an unlimited toleration of all others, upon the principle of both justice and policy.—*Bentley*.

A FATHER TO HIS DAUGHTER, ON PRESENTING HER A BIBLE.

No diamond bright, or ruby rare,
To grace thy neck, adorn thy hair,
My dearest child I give;
These are vain toys, that please awhile,
But, like the rainbow's transient smile,
Their beauty cannot live.

This sacred treasure, far more dear
Than diamond, pearl, or ruby clear,
This living gift divine,
A father's love presents to thee—
Oh, may it to thy spirit be
What it has been to mine.

A solace, hope, unerring guide,
Companion constant at thy side,
To check the wrong desire;
A faithful monitor to warn,
Its purity thy soul adorn,
Its promises inspire.

GOLDEN RULES, TO RENDER YOUNG TRADESMEN RESPECTABLE, PROSPEROUS AND WEALTHY.

1. Choose a good and commanding situation, even at a higher rent or premium; for no money is so well laid out as for situation, provided good use be made of it.
2. Take your shop-door off the hinges at seven o'clock every morning, that no obstruction may be opposed to your customers.
3. Clean and set out your windows before eight o'clock; and do this with your own hands, that you may expose for sale the articles which are most saleable, and which you most want to sell.
4. Sweep before your house; and, if required, open a foot-way from the opposite side of the street, that passengers may think of you while crossing, and that all your neighbours may be sensible of your diligence.
5. Wear an apron; if such be the custom of your business; and consider it as a badge of distinction, which will procure you respect and credit.
6. Apply your first returns of ready-money to pay debts before they are due, and give such transactions due emphasis by claiming discount.
7. Always be found at home, and in some way employed; and remember that your meddling neighbours have their eyes upon you, and are constantly gauging you by appearances.
8. Re-weigh and re-measure all your stock, rather than let it be supposed that you have nothing to do.
9. Keep some article not usually kept, or sell some current article cheap, that you may draw customers, and enlarge your intercourse.
10. Keep up the exact quality or flavour of all articles which you find are approved by your customers.
11. Buy for ready-money as often as you have any to spare; and, when you take credit, pay to a day, and unasked.
12. No advantage will ever arise to you from any ostentatious display of expensiveness.
13. Beware of the odds and ends of stock, of remnants, of spoiled goods, and of waste; for it is in such things that your profits lie.
14. In serving your customers be firm and obliging, and never lose your temper—for nothing is got by it.
15. Always be seen at church or chapel on Sunday; never at a gaming-table; and seldom at the theatres, or at places of amusement.
16. Prefer a prudent and discreet to a rich and showy wife.