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THE FIRST ENGLISH COPY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

The first complete copy of the New Testament in English was printed at Worms, and not at Antwerp, as stated by Mr. Froude and Mr. Smiles. It appeared in 1525, in octavo, without note or comment, and was executed in the press of Schoffer, son of the associate of Faust and Guttenberg, the inventors of printing. The title page did not give the name of either the translator or printer, and, with the exception of a brief epistle "To the Reder" at the end, the book contained nothing but the sacred text. Three thousand copies of it were printed, and these were immediately followed by an equal number of the quarto edition, with marginal glosses and a preface. They were all sent to the coast and shipped to England; but the news had gone before. The Romish hierarchy condemned the book and all in whose possession it should be found. Not content with this, active emissaries were sent by Cardinal Wolsey to various towns on the coasts of England and Holland to search out and buy up copies. These were collected and burned in the presence of the Cardinal and his clergy, before the gates of St. Paul's Cathedral, on Sunday, February 11th, 1526. So successful was the work of destruction, that, at the present time, of the quarto edition only a fragment is known to exist. It is in the Grenville collection of the British Museum. Of the octavo edition, there are but two copies known, both imperfect—one in the Baptist College, Bristol, complete, with the exception of the title-page; the other in the Library of St. Paul's, London. The former was