

the two above named editions, says that he noticed 2,000 variations, some of whole verses, and many others contradictory to each other. Yet both editions were declared by Papal Bulls to be authentic, and the least alterations guarded against by threatened excommunication.

The Council of Trent, in 1546, adopted the Latin Vulgate, making it the standard, even exalting it above the inspired Hebrew and Greek Scriptures. We copy a portion of the decree. The Council "doth ordain and declare, that the same old and Vulgate edition which has been approved by its use in the Church for so many ages, shall be held as authentic in all public lectures, disputations, sermons, and expositions; and that no one shall dare or presume to reject it, under any pretence whatever." Here the translation of Jerome was exalted as the standard instead of the original Sacred Records. Many of the most learned Romanists acknowledge that Jerome's translation abounded with errors. Speaking of this the celebrated biblical scholar, Dr. Jahn, says:—"Jerome did not invariably give what he himself believed to be the best translation of the original, but occasionally, as he confesses, followed the Greek translation, although he was aware that they had often erred through negligence * * * and therefore we find that in his commentaries he sometimes corrects his own translation. Sometimes, too, he has substituted a worse instead of the old translation." The same writer, who was a Roman Catholic, still speaking of this old Latin Vulgate, says:—"The universal admission of this version throughout the vast extent of the Latin Church multiplied the copies of it, in the transcription of which it became corrupted with many errors." One more brief extract from Dr. Jahn, who candidly relates the facts respecting the edition of Sixtus and its suppression by Clement. Speaking of the Roman Catholic standard, he makes the following remarkable admission: "The more learned Catholics have never denied the existence of errors in the Vulgate; on the contrary, Isidore Clarius collected *eighty thousand*." Bear in mind the fact, my friends, that the Douay version is a translation from the Latin Vulgate, being translated from a translation which Roman Catholic writers of repute declare abounds with errors; while our English Bible is a translation from the original Hebrew and Greek. I leave you now, my friends, to judge, calmly, candidly and prayerfully, of the points which, in these strictures, have been brought under review, and may the only Head of the Church, our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, lead us into the way of all truth. Amen.