

a sort of trial, he was condemned. He was first strangled by the hands of the common hangman, and then burned, near Filford Castle, about eighteen miles from Antwerp, in the year 1536. The last words which he uttered after he was tied to the stake were, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes." So perished by the hands of violence, one of the greatest benefactors to his country and to the world: but "the memory of the just is blessed."

Of his character his enemies have recorded, what must be satisfactory to his friends, that he was "*Homo doctus, pius, et bonus*,"—a learned, a pious, and a good man. His memory will be ever dear to those who love the Bible. By his translation of the New Testament into English, he did more towards expelling the darkness and superstition of the land than any man of his age. He lived for the benefit of mankind, and he died a martyr in the cause of religion. How faithfully he discharged the duty of a translator, his own solemn appeal will testify, and competent judges have confirmed its truth; "I call to God to witness, when I shall appear at the judgment-seat of Christ, to give an account of all my actions, that I have not altered one syllable of God's word against my conscience; nor would I for all the honours of this world, if they were laid at my feet."

Christians who use the English language are not sufficiently aware how much, under God, they owe to the pious and adventurous efforts of this good man. Our present translation of the Bible is to be traced back to his version; there has never been an entirely new public translation since the days of Tyndale and Coverdale. Different editions of their translations, with improvements, more or less numerous and important, have been, from time to time sent forth by authority; but for the basis of the text we are indebted to these two faithful

men, and more particularly to William Tyndale, who was so ill requited by his ill-judging contemporaries that he perished in the flames. His reputation rose from the ashes, and his record is on high. The version of Wickliff had been circulated in writing; but the priests of that age did all in their power to restrain its circulation. Justice requires us to "render to every one his due." To Wickliff belongs the honour of having first translated the Scriptures into English; and to Tyndale the church is indebted for the first printed English Bible. Let us be thankful to God for having raised up such men to illuminate the world.

"KEEP YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER."

As you are a tenant at will of a very handsome, genteel house, and are now capable of furnishing it in the politest manner, ruling it by the strictest maxims of economy and decorum, permit a friend to give a few cursory hints in an affair of so much importance.

Your building is composed of the finest materials I ever saw, and is so much more the likely to discover any flaw or spot that may accidentally come upon it. It is erected of a proper height and just size, reared on a regular plan, and finished with the most accurate proportions. On the top stands an eminent tower, furnished with a room of a globular form, which I observe has two crystal windows in front: these are so constructed as to be exceedingly useful, as they command an extensive prospect, and, if always kept clean and bright, will prove a very great ornament to the house. I advise you not to look through them at every object that passes by, to shut them soon at night, and you may open them as early as you please in the morning. On each side I discover a small portal to receive your company; take care