

Tereace had been translated before 1530. Later in the century we have such noble work as that of Lord North in his translation of Plutarch, and that of Chapman, whose translation of Homer has brought him fame made doubly secure by the admiration of Keats. In the work of translating *Cæsar's Commentaries* Golding had been anticipated by John Brend who had proceeded as far as the middle of the fifth book; this translation was put into Golding's hands, and he continued the work from the point at which Brend had concluded. Later he translated afresh the earlier part for the sake of uniformity. The volume was published by William Seres in 1565,¹ and the dedication to Cecil on October 12th of that year is dated from the family seat in Essex—Belchamp St. Paul. In this connection we should perhaps notice the one other partial translation of *Cæsar's Commentaries* which had been made prior to this time, viz. *Cæsar's Commentaries newly translated owte of latin in to Englyshe as much as concerneth thys Realme of England sumtyme callyd Brytayne*. The translation which is ascribed to that "Italianate Englishman," John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, who was the first classical scholar of the English Renaissance, was published by Rastall about 1530. Tiptoft is also credited with a translation of the *De Amicitia* of Cicero.²

Golding's *magnum opus*, the work with which his name was to be associated by succeeding generations, was his translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, the first four books of which he published in 1565—the same year in which he published his translation of Cæsar. The volume was printed by William Seres, is dedicated to "his singular good Lorde Robert Earle of Leycester, etc.," and is dated from Cecil House. In 1567 appeared the complete translation of the fifteen books which was also printed by Seres and dedicated to Leicester.³

Golding was not the first Englishman to attempt the translation of part of Ovid into English. Caxton had turned into

¹ Joseph Ames, *Typographical Antiquities* (London, 1749), p. 249.

² Lowndes, *Bibliographer's Manual*, V. also Einstein, *The Italian Renaissance in England*, p. 25.

³ Edited by W. H. D. Rouse and published by the De La More Press, London, 1904. The introduction quotes in full Golding's dedication to the first four books which were printed in 1565.