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THE ENGLISH BIBLE.

If any one desires to make himself acquainted with the full history of the English Version of the Bible, we commend him to the work on that subject by the Rev. Brooke Foss Westcott, B.D., of Cambridge University, England. This work differs from Anderson's "Annals of the English Bible," inasmuch as the latter is what it professes to be, the "Annals" of the Bible. It traces the various fortunes of the Bible, and the successive steps by which it came into the possession of the people, and the measures adopted under several reigns to secure, not only its translation, but its dissemination. Westcott's work, on the contrary, is an account of the translation itself. Beginning with the manuscript Bible, in the fourteenth century, and Wickliffe's translation, i.e. traces the version through the hands of Tyndale, Coverdale, and Rogers; he gives an account of the Great Bible, as it is called, and the Genevan Version; and then shows the influence of them severally in the production of the Authorized Version.

The use made of these several versions, in making our present English Bible, shows the care, judgment, and great labour of the translators. No labour previously bestowed on translation had been lost. It all helped to prepare the way for a final version, which was made when the English language had acquired a classical and a permanent character. The language had now obtained maturity, and its literature was adorned by the most distinguished men. Sidney, More, Cranmer, and Whitgift, had passed off the stage of action. Shakspeare, Joseph Hall (the English Seneca, as he has