

Antonio Martini, "with notes under the revision of Monsignor the Archbishop of Milan, illustrated with 230 large engravings by Gustave Doré, and the text ornamented by Enrico Giacomelli"—so said the publisher's notice. The price was put at 75 Italian lire, or \$15 of our currency. It may readily be understood that in a country where the wages of the labourer probably do not on the average exceed half a dollar a day, this elegant edition of the Bible in two ponderous quarto volumes was perfectly certain not to find its way into the hands of the *people*. Unhappily, however, the enterprise did not prove a paying one; and the Treves Brothers have just come to the conclusion to *popularize* the work by reducing the subscription price to 30 lire, or \$6, and to render its acquisition still easier by selling it in 200 numbers at 15 centesimi, or three cents each. That the work will thus gain a wider circulation we cannot doubt; but that it will not be bought for any other object than its fine illustrations is equally certain. It is, indeed, something to rejoice at that the Roman Catholic Church in Italy itself sees the constraining necessity to give the people the Bible, even though in a shape and at a price which render the concession well nigh futile. After all, however, it is a cheap and portable edition of the Holy Scriptures that the people must and will have; and perhaps it is best that the priesthood will not consent to put upon the market such an edition. If they did they would, to a great extent, blunt the edge of the truth by means of notes perverting the meaning of the original on all points of controversy between Rome and primitive Christianity. As it is, the Italian people, if they read the Word of God at all, must of necessity read it as furnished by Protestants, in a more faithful translation, with no note or comment to break the force of its simple and soul-saving teachings.—*The Christian World*.

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