

was afterwards appointed by the Pastors, but after several years' toil, which seemed to meet with ever-increasing difficulties, the Committee abandoned the work, and the Pastors have never renewed the effort.

Now all these French versions, even those which profess to be based on the Hebrew and Greek originals, have been so greatly influenced by the Vulgate that Segond goes so far as to say that the Reformed Churches using the French tongue have never possessed a translation of the Bible made directly and simply from the original languages. The cause, we are told, has not been the want of men capable of performing the task, but the blind though reverential attachment of the people to the long familiar form of words, as though a version which is simply the work of men were like the Ark of the Covenant of old which even the priests were not permitted to touch. Just such a hold has the venerable Authorised Version among ourselves upon the affection of the majority of the religious world, who cling to it for the sake of its archaic flavour and for old association's sake.

Within the last fifty years however no fewer than eight French versions of the whole or part of the Bible have been published.

One of these was published at Neuchâtel, one at Lausanne. The former I have not had an opportunity of seeing. The Lausanne edition, containing the N.T. only, was brought out in 1839 "par une société de ministres de la parole de Dieu, sur le texte Grec reçu"; but though it thus professes to be taken direct from the Greek, its strong resemblance to Ost. seems to prove it to be a revision rather than an independent translation. Nor though professedly based on the Text. Rec. does it altogether spurn the results of modern textual criticism. For instance it gives "d'entre les morts" ($\tauῆν ἐκ$ instead of $\tauῶν$) in Phil. iii. 11. It was reprinted in 1849 with a few corrections.

A third, published at Paris, is the work of "une réunion de pasteurs et de ministres des deux Églises Protestantes de France," similar to the Swiss Committee. The publication commenced in 1864, and the ninth livraison