

Remarks on certain passages in the N.T. will be found below.

Turning now from Segond's work we observe that in 1886 was published in Paris a French version of the Gospels which excited extraordinary interest. It bears the *imprimatur* of the Abp. of Paris dated Nov. 11, 1886, and was highly lauded in a message from the Pope conveyed in a letter, dated from Rome Dec. 4, 1886, written by His Holiness's Secretary of State, Cardinal Jacobini. The letter, addressed to the translator, commences thus :—

“Illustrissimo Seigneur,

“Il Santo Padre, che ebbe regolamente la traduzione francese di' Santi Evangeli da Lei intrapresa, e condotta a termine con plauso e l'approvazione di cotesta Curia Arcivescovile, m'incarica di encomiare l'intendimento cui Ella s'inspirava nel porre mano e nel pubblicare l'interessante lavoro.”

It seems scarcely credible that within a single year this work reached the 26th edition and was then disapproved, and placed in the Index of forbidden books by the same Pope who had at first so highly commended it.¹ Such is the hatred that Rome—most justly in her own interest!—cherishes towards the Sacred Volume. Let us hope—nay, we will confidently hope—that the translator, a sincere and reverent lover of God's Word, though thus severely disappointed when trusting to the tutelage of his Church, will obtain an ample reward from Him who is infinitely more trustworthy, and will find in his own experience the truth of his own words: “Le Souverain Maître ne nous demande point la réussite et le triomphe, que Lui seul donne quand il lui plaît: il nous demande le bon vouloir et l'effort, lesquels ne sont jamais inutiles, alors même qu'ils semblent momentanément perdus” (Préf., p. xxviii.).

And who is this translator? Monsieur Henri Lasserre. To us Protestants it cannot but occasion some astonishment

¹ For full particulars and documents see Dr. William Wright's most interesting pamphlet, *The Power behind the Pope*. Though suppressed in France, Lasserre's charming little volume can be obtained without difficulty in London, from Bagster and other publishers.