



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

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TUESDAY, 28 MARCH, 1911.

Whitehall, March 25, 1911.

The following Address was presented to The King at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday, the 21st instant:—

May it please Your Majesty,

On the occasion of the Tercentenary of the issue of the "Authorised Version" of the English Bible we, who believe the Bible to be "the most valuable thing that this world affords," desire to unite with Your Majesty in thanksgiving to Almighty God for the inestimable blessings bestowed upon the English-speaking people by its translation into our mother-tongue and its influence in the moulding of our national life. These blessings are enjoyed not only in these islands and Your Majesty's Dominions across the Seas, but also in the United States of America and wherever the English language prevails.

In acknowledgment of our indebtedness, we pay a grateful tribute to the memory of those who laboured and suffered—some of them laying down their lives—to secure for their fellow-countrymen not only a version of the Holy Scriptures which they could understand, but also liberty to read it in their own homes. With this work the Throne of our country has been happily linked. We remember with special thankfulness that it was Your Majesty's

illustrious ancestor, King James I., who appointed companies of scholars to revise the English Bible in the light of the best Hebrew and Greek Texts available in their days, and after a careful comparison of earlier Versions in English and in other tongues.

Though the lapse of time and progress of scholarship have recently led to a further revision, the place which the translation of 1611 has won for itself in the affections of the people during the last three hundred years, is attested by its title "Authorised." While no external warrant can be found for this title, there is abundant justification in the inherent merits of faithfulness and style which mark this Version and in its general and reverent acceptance through many generations.

The growth and strength of the Empire owe much to the English Bible. It has sweetened home life; it has set a standard of pure speech; it has permeated literature and art; it has helped to remove social wrongs and to ameliorate conditions of labour; it has modified the laws of the realm and shaped the national character, and it has fostered international comity and good will among men. Above all the English Version of the Bible has made accessible to us the revelation of God our Father in His Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

We feel that the indebtedness of the British people to this Book is so great that the Tercentenary of the Version, which has been treasured