

**THE LIFE OF  
WILLIAM TYNDALE**

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The Life of William Tyndale by F. L. Clarke

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**F. L. CLARKE**

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LIFE OF WILLIAM TYNDALE.

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TYNDALE.

*Life of Tyndale.*]

*[Frontispiece.*

THE LIFE OF  
WILLIAM TYNDALE.

BY

F. L. CLARKE,

*Author of "The Life of Charlemagne," "Lives of the Stephensons,"  
Etc. Etc.*

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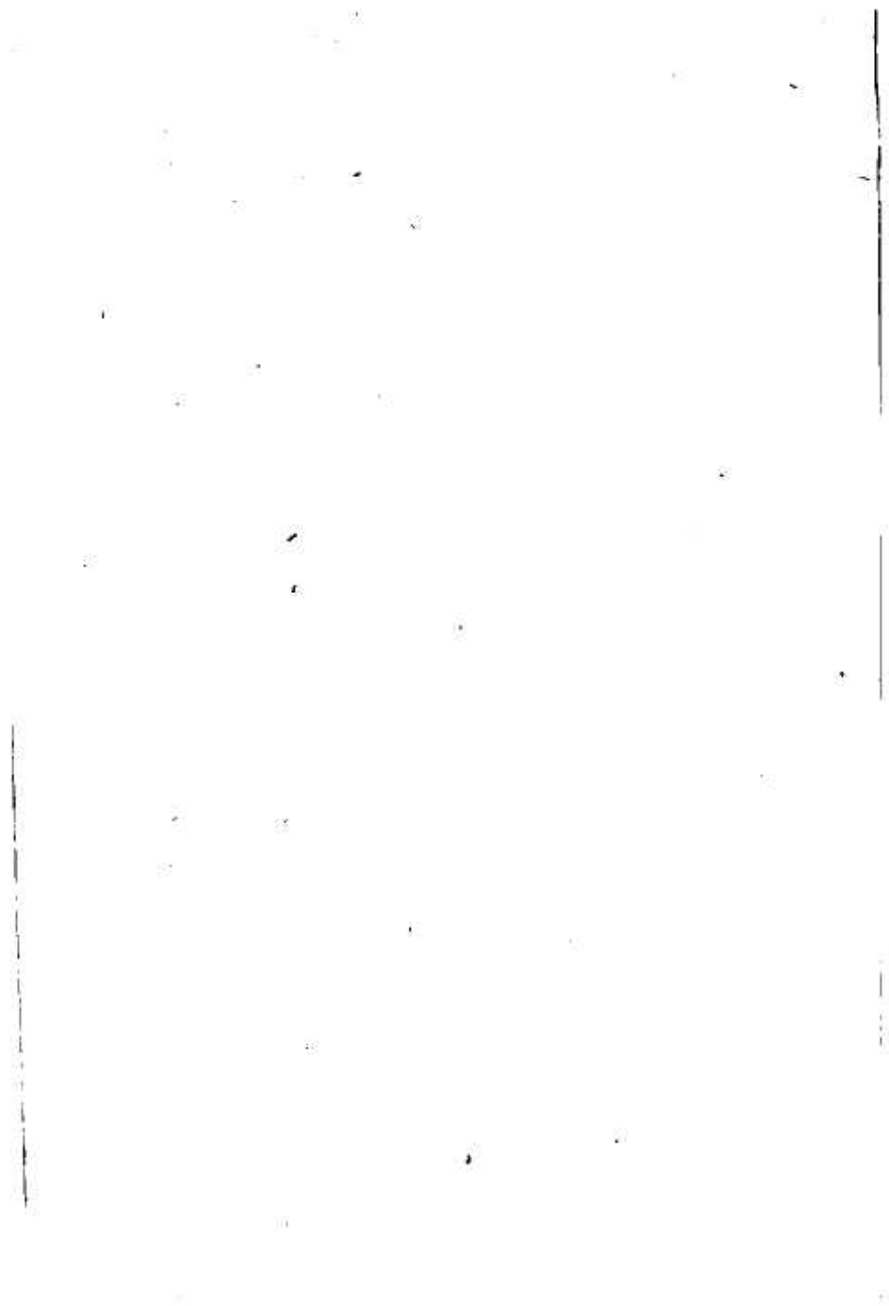




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## CHAPTER I

### *INTRODUCTORY.*

**I**T is very difficult for us in these days of books, costly or cheap, elegant or plain, grave or gay, to realize that a very few hundred years ago books of all kinds were scarce and very valuable, and that the Bible, the Book of books, was copied in secret and read in terror. When printing made books somewhat less expensive, the Bible, translated into the language of the country, was a forbidden book. Many men, good and noble in themselves, like our Sir Thomas More, thought that for the Bible to be placed in the hands of the common people was a dangerous thing—the poor and ignorant should be content to hear only those portions that the priests might think fit to read in the churches; *they* were the shepherds who were appointed to feed the sheep. But, unfortunately, they did *not*