THE BIBLE AMONG THE NATIONS; A STUDY OF THE GREAT TRANSLATIONS

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The Bible among the nations; a study of the great translations by John Walter Beardslee

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JOHN WALTER BEARDSLEE

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JOHN WALTER BEARDSLEE

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How hear we, every man in our own language, wherein we were born? ACTS 2: 8



CHICAGO NEW YORK TORONTO FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY MDCCCXCIX

COVEIGHT, 1899 By FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY

Preface

When God gave his Word to the world the Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the New Testament in Greek. Neither of these languages was to remain in permanent use, even among the people who then employed them, nor could they fitly reveal the grand message of God to other nations. That Word must be translated into different languages as men went with it among the nations. How they have done this is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of Christian work.

In the following pages an effort is made to gather up the record of these labors, as they relate to some of those translations which have exerted the widest influence upon the nations for whom they were prepared. The one object of the writer is to collect information, widely scattered and inaccessible to most readers who would be glad to know something of this inspiring theme. Nothing will more profoundly impress the Bible student

100

Preface

than to see how in all ages and among all people Christian scholarship has thus sought to bring God's Word within the comprehension of his people, that they may read for themselves the wonderful promises in respect to their salvation.

The first article, although not strictly a translation, is added because of its historical relation to the general subject.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, HOLLAND, MICH., Feb. 28, 1899.

CONTENTS

							PAGH
THE	SAMARITAN PENTATEUCH,	•		•		•	15
THE	SEPTUAGINT TRANSLATION,		•		•		29
THE	SYRIAC TRANSLATION,	÷		•		•	55
The	VULGATE TRANSLATION,						7 I
Тне	GOTHIC TRANSLATION,	1		•		•	93
THE	GERMAN TRANSLATION, -		•				111
Тне	ENGLISH TRANSLATION,	•				•	135
Тне	HOLLANDISH TRANSLATION	,	÷		•		173
Тне	FRENCH TRANSLATIONS,	•		•			207