

**ANGLO-AMERICAN BIBLE
REVISION: ITS
NECESSITY AND PURPOSE**

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Anglo-American Bible revision: its necessity and purpose by Various

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VARIOUS

**ANGLO-AMERICAN BIBLE
REVISION: ITS
NECESSITY AND PURPOSE**

ANGLO-AMERICAN
BIBLE REVISION.

ITS NECESSITY AND PURPOSE.

BY

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN REVISION COMMITTEE.

Fourth Revised Edition.

PHILADELPHIA:
AMERICAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION,
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1879

PREFATORY NOTE.

EMMANUEL

THESE essays on the various aspects of the Anglo-American Bible Revision now going on, are issued by the American Revision Committee as an explanatory statement to the friends and patrons of the cause, with the distinct understanding that suggestions and statements in regard to any particular changes to be made, express only the individual opinions of the writer, but not the final conclusions of the two Committees, who have not yet finished their work.

PHILIP SCHAFF,

NEW YORK, *March, 1879.*

In behalf of the Committee.

SECOND EDITION.

A SECOND edition of this work being called for, some inaccuracies have been corrected.

The book is published by the American Sunday-School Union at Philadelphia, and has already been twice republished in London during the last summer. The American Committee has prepared the book exclusively for the American public, and is in no way responsible for the English reprints; but these several editions are an encouraging proof that the interest in the revision is rapidly growing on both sides of the Atlantic.

P. S.

NEW YORK, *Oct., 1879.*

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ORIGIN OF THIS VOLUME.

IN the spring of 1878, Alexander Brown, Esq., Senior Member and Chairman of the Committee of Publication of the American Sunday-School Union, invited to his hospitable mansion in Philadelphia, for the purposes of consultation and impartation of knowledge, a number of gentlemen, clerical and lay, employed or interested in the greatest Biblical enterprise of modern times — the Anglo-American Revision of the Authorized Version of the Holy Scriptures.

Whilst listening to the lucid expositions given by various speakers of the necessity and character of the Revision, the Rev. Edwin W. Rice, Editor of the Periodicals of the American Sunday-School Union, was impressed with the importance of giving a wide circulation to these expositions; and he therefore addressed to the distinguished President of the American Revision Committee the following letter:

Office of "THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORLD,"
PHILADELPHIA, May 18, 1878.

TO THE REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D., L.L.D.

President American Bible Revision Committee.

DEAR SIR:—In view of the present deep interest in the Revision of the English Version of the Bible now in progress, it has been suggested that a fresh statement of the purposes and aim of this work, from some of the Biblical scholars engaged thereon, would remove several misconceptions and undue apprehensions in the public mind respecting its character. Such

a statement might include a brief account of previous Revisions, the reasons for a new Revision, and a fitting notice of the principles and spirit in which it is conducted.

Any information which you and your eminent co-laborers feel at liberty to furnish to the public through "The Sunday-School World," will encourage the large body of Christian teachers of all denominations interested in diffusing a more intelligent knowledge of the blessed word of life among all English-speaking peoples.

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN W. RICE, Editor, etc.

Appended to the letter were further suggestions as to points upon which the Christian public might derive special information. These included: (1) Previous Revisions; (2) The need of a new Revision; (3) The principles and spirit of this Revision; (4) Present condition and purity of the Greek and Hebrew texts; (5) Inaccuracies of the Authorized Version; (6) Important distinctions obliterated or created by the Authorized Version; (7) Archaisms, or obsolete words and phrases; (8) Chapter, verse, or paragraph divisions of the Bible. Other topics have been added to complete the series.

In "The World" for October, 1878, eight of the Revision articles were published and four more appeared in "The World," January, 1879. All of these thoroughly revised, and seven new papers added, making nineteen, will be found in the present volume; which not only fully answers the purpose for which it was originally designed,—to explain the necessity and character of the Anglo-American Revision,—but also, by means of its copious indices, will be of permanent value as a body of Biblical criticism, and a commentary on many passages of Scripture.

S. AUSTIN ALLIBONE,

Editor of Books, American Sunday-School Union,

PHILADELPHIA, April 4, 1879.

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