

country a Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge. It began, though under another name, in 1698. Its object is to distribute Bibles, Common Prayer Books, and religious tracts consonant with the doctrines and discipline of the establishment. This has been done, to a very large and beneficial extent, within our own country. The efforts of the Society have also been directed to the promotion of charity schools at home, to the support of the Danish missions in India, and to the assistance of the Greek Church in Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, Arabia, and Egypt. This Society is confined to those who are 'well-affected to His Majesty and his government, and to the Church of England as by law established.'

Recently, however, (1810,) has been formed another society, for the purpose, as is expressly stated in its proceedings, of distributing Bibles alone, without note or comment, and without religious tracts, or the Book of Common Prayer. To this has been given the name of the British and Foreign Bible Society. No test of principles is required; and admission is open to all who will subscribe. Of this institution Lord Teignmouth is the President, and he states the original idea of it to have been suggested by 'the extreme want of Welsh Bibles in North Wales, and the despair of obtaining them without resorting to new and extraordinary means for that purpose.' p. 11. This is denied by the advocates of the ancient society.— Here then is the commencement of the controversy; and as the first step in it requires to be distinctly marked, we beg the particular attention of our readers to the following statement of Dr. Wordsworth.

'A Church Bible, in folio, was published by the University of Oxford about 20 years ago, at the request of some of the Welch Bishops, which is still in use, and there is no want of a further supply.

'But there being found a want of Bibles in a smaller size, for common use, a resolution was passed, Feb. 9, 1796, by the society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, to print, with the aid of the Oxford press, 10,000 copies of the Bible in 8vo. and 2000 of the New Testament, to be distributed at a cheap rate. The delegates of the Oxford press acceded to these proposals, and undertook the work, June the 10th, in the same year.

'The letter addressed by the Secretary of our Society to the Welch members, to notify that the above were ready for delivery, was dated Dec. 16, 1799.

'There was a great demand for these Bibles, and when they came to be circulated through the country, it appeared, in a few years, that the demand was greater than the supply, and that another edition of the same number of copies was wanted; and intelligence to this effect was communicated to the Society.

'At this period the British and Foreign Bible Society stepped into this province, and, as appears by your Lordship's Letter, (p. 11.) passed an order