

order for printing an edition, Sept. 3, 1804. They committed the superintendance of this edition to one of the most noted leaders of the secretaries in Wales, by whom alterations were reported to be projected. This caused a great alarm among the clergy, who applied again to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, through the Bishop of St. Asaph, (then Bishop of Bangor,) for a supply, which produced an order from that Society, in March, 1805, for an edition of 20,000 copies, to be carefully revised under the superintendance of the Welch Bishops, and to have the authority of their signatures, conformably with the Act of Uniformity. The Bible Society had not then begun to put their order in execution, as appears by the message brought by one of their members to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, that they had altered their plan, and would print after the text of the Oxford copy.* But they did not withdraw their order; on the contrary, they hastened their edition, and by putting (if I am rightly informed) different parts into different hands, succeeded in anticipating that of Oxford; which it was soon seen would take up much time, on account of the pains taken in correcting the text, and from the adoption of the stereotype, then new at that University.—p. 47 to 49.

Notwithstanding these circumstances, the British and Foreign Bible Society has proceeded with its object; and the success which it has experienced is very considerable. In so fair a light indeed have its proceedings hitherto appeared, that not only has it received ample subscriptions from those who, on account of their religious principles, were not admissible within the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, but churchmen themselves have readily given it their current assistance. Bishops have consented to partake in the direction of its affairs. Many of the beneficed clergy have contributed to its support; and smaller societies are forming in various parts of the country, in aid of the views of the parent society in London. At length, however, an alarm has been taken; and under that impulse was prepared the first pamphlet of Dr. Wordsworth, which contains his reasons for declining to become a sub-

* Indeed the final resolution to undertake to print your edition was not passed, I see, till Dec. 9, in the same year, (1805,) eight months after the like resolution by our Society, as appears by an extract from the minutes of your Committee, given in the Second Report, page 180.

“9th December, 1805.

“Resolved Unanimously,

“To adopt the edition of 1752, with the orthography of Dr. Davies in proper names, as the copy for the edition of the Bible to be printed for this Society in the Welch language, correcting typographical errors, and collating the text with former authorized versions.”

“It may be fit, however, that I should state, what is not specified by your Lordship, that the size which you fixed upon was a smaller than octavo,” and for a reason thus assigned in your first report: “The size of the Welch Bibles was ultimately fixed, in consequence of a resolution of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, to print an octavo edition of it.” p. 20.—p. 49.