

JOHN CRAIK THE SCOTTISH DOMINICAN

"While thus bowed down with despondency and doubt he perceived a dog come out of a neighbouring wood and approach him with a purse in his teeth."

Memorials of the Origin of the Reformation in EUROPE



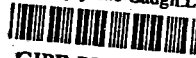
THE FIRST PRINTED BIBLE

As if to reach the noblest purpose to which the art would ever be applied, the first book printed with moveable metal types and as beautifully was the BIBLE. Page 750

THOMAS NELSON LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

MEMOR

Dhananjayrao Gadgil L.



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OF THE

DAWN OF THE REFORMATION

in Europe.

" Grey dawn awakes, and light with slanting beam
Through darkness struggles on to breaking day.
The gathering light contends against the gloom
That, like a menaced foeman comes all armed,
And marshalling battalions for the strife.
The ineffectual Dawn's o'ermastery
Seems threatened; yet the clouds with rosy hues
Assume his livery, and the shadows flee
Like Truth triumphant o'er malignant scorn."

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PREFACE.

THE admiration and gratitude with which those eminent men have been regarded, who stood foremost at the great crisis of the Reformation in the different kingdoms of Europe, has naturally given a pre-eminence to their actions and characters in the histories of the period, that has tended to throw into the shade those no less noble and worthy confessors who were their precursors and fellow-labourers in the same cause.

These Memorials are designed to exhibit, in a just and impartial light, the power of truth as exhibited in the records of nearly every nation of Europe. The leading narratives embody biographical sketches, gathered from rare and authentic sources, of some of the noblest precursors of Luther; while those lighter and less earnest assailants of error who have been depicted in the Pasquils of the Reformation, cannot but be regarded by every thoughtful student of history as affording remarkable evidence of the finger of God controlling the purposes of men, and working by their means the accomplishment of his own providential designs.

As a tribute to the memory of those great and good men who stood foremost for the Truth in dark and perilous times, and as a contribution to popular literature, worthy, in subject at least, of being studied by those who venerate the noble champions of our Christian liberty, these narratives are offered to the people of England as MEMORIALS OF THE DAWN OF THE REFORMATION IN EUROPE.

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