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 INTRODUCTION.   
   
   
   
   
   
 PRELIMINARY CHAPTER.   
   
   
 OF THE PRESENT WORK.   
   
 1, Tus Edition of the New Testament is undertaken with a view   
 to put the English reader, whose knowledge is confined to our own   
 language, in possession of some of the principal results of the labours of   
 critics and scholars on the sacred text.   
 2. There are of course very many cases where this cannot be done.   
 The English reader must be content to remain in ignorance of all those   
 minute niceties of meaning and connexion, which depend on the import   
 of the constructions and the particles in a language far surpassing our   
 own in its power of expressing the varying shades and slightest turns   
 of thought.   
 3. But it is believed that there are far more cases, where there is no   
 reason why these results should not be imparted to him. And the more   
 we value the inspired word of God, the more anxious ought we to be,   
 that all should possess every help to ensure the purity of its text, and to   
 clear up its true meaning.   
 4. In the present state of the English reader’s knowledge of his Bible,   
 there are two great obstacles to the attainment of these ends. The one   
 consists in his ignorance of the variations of reading in the ancient   
 authorities from which the sacred text is derived; the other in his   
 ignorance of the existence of other and often indisputably better ren-   
 derings of the sacred text than that which the version before him gives.   
 Our Authorized Version is, as a translation, of high excellence, and is   
 never to be thought of by Englishmen without reverence, and gratitude   
 to Almighty God. But it is derived very often from readings of the   
 Greek which are not based on the authority of our best ancient   
 witnesses ; and it frequently gives an inadequate rendering of the text   
 which it professes to translate.   
 5. The principal instances of both these imperfections it is the object   
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