

the Latin translation, the Vulgate, which brought him much criticism because ^{while} there was no standard text, there were many different version of the Vulgate, yet it was the authoritative Bible in the eyes of most of the people of the day. He began trying to improve the text and brought much criticism upon himself for it. It is very interesting to read an account ~~in which~~ which was written by Erasmus some time after this of a visit which he made to Canterbury. We mentioned Canterbury a few minutes ago. Canterbury at this time was the, as it is today, the headquarters of the ecclesiastical life of the Church of England. There at Canterbury at that time, the outstanding thing was the residence where St. Thomas of Canterbury. It was common at that time as it is today in all Roman Catholic countries, it is common to go to shrines of saints and to revere everything that has been left from those saints. Now, of course, ~~that~~ Colet was not much interested in that sort of thing. Colet was interested in the Bible and the teaching of it and the life which it advocated. He was rather disgusted to find people who were giving their attention to revering saints and relics of saints instead of trying to live Christian lives and to teach others how to do so. So Colet and Erasmus went, Colet with a real burning dislike for anything that he felt to be a perversion of Christianity, Erasmus with more of a satirical amusement at things which he thought to be perhaps rather silly. So he wrote a description of this great church dedicated to St. Thomas and told of the visit of himself and an Englishman of note and ~~that~~ authority. He doesn't give the name in his writings years later but everybody agrees it was Colet. He ~~tells~~ describes the great church and then says "on the altar is the point of the sword with which the archbishop's skull was cloven." Thomas, you know, had been the right hand man of the laymen of King Henry II. Henry II in order to get control of the Church of England many centuries before this time had made his right hand man, the archbishop and then the man turned against him and put the church first, and this irritated Henry so that Henry expressed the desire that someone would do something about this man who was so treating the