

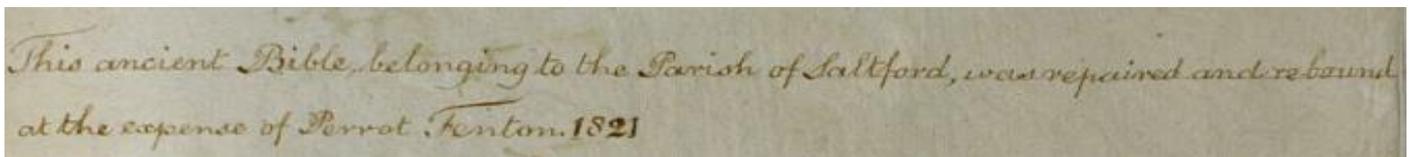
Holy Bible, printed by Robert Barker, London 1611 & 1613

Report on condition and rebinding.

Condition when received

Overall the pages were in good condition. The stitching was fairly firm with the exception of a few leaves at the front and back which were coming loose. The original or later binder had trimmed the book quite hard, cropping the printed area on some leaves. Several leaves at the beginning and end of the Bible were worn and damaged. Some paper repairs had been carried out previously, probably when the book was rebound (see below). In particular the title page to the Old Testament had been cut out and laid down on a leaf of early nineteenth century paper. These repairs were breaking down. Many minor paper tears were in evidence throughout the book.

The Bible had been bound in undressed calf over rope boards in 1821 as the attached ms inscription from the front free endpaper shows.



The binding was in extremely poor condition with the undressed calf being entirely lacking from the lower board, damaged on the front board and only fragments of the spine remaining. The cords were broken and the upper board, the spine and the front free endpaper were all detached. No evidence of any earlier binding was found during the work.

Repairs.

The earlier paper repairs were removed. All minor tears were repaired with tissue and starch paste. Missing areas of some leaves were replaced with Griffen Mill paper. The title page of the Old Testament was laid down on a suitable new leaf. The loose leaves at the front and rear were reattached

Binding.

The Bible was rebound with Hewits repair calf and marble paper over millboards. New endpapers of Griffen Mill paper were added with a concealed linen reinforcement stitched in. New headbands were made from unbleached linen thread over hemp cores. Vellum strengtheners were placed on the fore-edge corners of the boards under the marble paper. On the spine, over an Oxford hollow, double raised bands were made of hemp cord. The glue used throughout was Hewits reversible pva and all papers and boards are acid free.

January 2013

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