

Ulric Zwingli

Ulric Zwingli, Whose name in the annals of Protestant reformation ranks second only to that of Luther, was born in 1484. As he early evinced a taste for study, he was sent first to Bale and Berne, and finally to the university of Vienna, to receive an education. On return he was pastor of a large parish near his birthplace, and afterward preacher to the cathedral church of Zurich. Here he made a special study of the scriptures, committing to memory the whole New and a part of the Old Testament. His theological researches led him to see the corruptions of the Romish Church, and he commenced declaiming against them, especially against papal indulgences, until he effected the same separation for Switzerland from the Catholic dominion, that Luther did for Saxony. These religious dissensions brought on a civil war in Switzerland, and Zwingli, who accompanied his army as chaplain, was slain on the field of battle, 1531.