

the British Conference, to warrant the measures which have been taken for the publication of a new hymn book; and which in our own Conference found distinctive expression, and will have largely to do with the ultimate decision—the adoption of a book, revised and prepared with special view to the requirements of a United Church, would form a noble memorial of denominational union—happily inaugurated and destined, we trust, to embrace all the Methodism of the Dominion.

An ideal hymn book, for “the Methodist Church of Canada,” would be a selection of some eight hundred and fifty hymns with a few select psalms, largely taken from the new hymn book, but also inclusive of several other compositions dear to the whole Church of God. Nearly five hundred of these should be Wesleyan hymns, thoroughly revised, so as to occupy about the space of four hundred in the present volume, and the balance of three hundred and fifty from the “accumulated treasures” of ancient and modern Church song, arranged in somewhat the same order as the new supplement, affording sufficient variety for all occasions, ordinary and extraordinary; and yet, like the volume to which we have been long accustomed, “comprised in so moderate a compass as to be neither cumbersome nor expensive.”

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## THE BUOY-BELL.

BY THE REV. CHARLES TENNYSON.

How like the leper, with his own sad cry,  
Enforcing his own solitude, it tolls !  
That lonely bell, set in the rushing shoals,  
To warn us from the place of jeopardy !  
O friend of man, sore-vest by ocean's power,  
The changing tides wash o'er thee day by day ;  
Thy trembling mouth is filled with bitter spray,  
Yet still thou ringest on from hour to hour.  
High is thy mission though thy lot is wild—  
To be in danger's realm a guardian sound ;  
In seamen's dreams a pleasant part to bear,  
And earn their blessing as the year goes round ;  
And strike the key-note of each faithful prayer,  
Breathed in their distant homes by wife or child.