

the hymn book at all," says Mr. Gregory, in the *City Road Magazine*, "we would remind that Providence has otherwise decreed. You can no more forbid readjustment and expansion in the psalmody of Methodism than in any other part of its high-typed organization. Few things seem to have struck the Shah of Persia, in his European travels, more than a chronometer in the palace of Frederick the Great, at Potsdam, which had been stopped at the moment of the monarch's death, and never suffered to be set in motion since; so that with its elaborate mechanism, it was allowed no further service than to for ever indicate the point to which its hurrying hand had reached when Frederick breathed his last. There are a few friends of Methodism, and many foes, who would destine it to some such funeral office, to signify to all future generations the precise point which it had reached at Wesley's death, or at some more arbitrarily chosen moment. But Wesley left the hour-hand moving, and to arrest it at any time would be not to make it an impressive memorial of the great man whom God employed to construct its exquisite machinery, but a useless monument of the imbecility of his degenerate sons."

The revision of the "Collection" has resulted in the omission of thirteen hymns, the exclusion of some sixteen stanzas of over a hundred lines, and the addition of twenty verses containing a little over a hundred and thirty lines. Two dramatic hymns on the crucifixion: "Ye that pass by behold the Man," and "O thou dear suffering Son of God," have been left out. The lyre of Charles Wesley was consecrated above all to the grand and matchless thoughts and themes of a living, dying, and ever-lastingly exalted Saviour. But the hymns in question, while in "moments rich in blessing, which before the Cross we spend," they might be read with adoring and sympathetic interest, have justly, on account of their literalism and strong language, been deemed unsuitable for purposes of public worship.

The funeral hymn, "Ah! lovely appearance of Death," etc., has been also excluded in the revision. It contains many lines that could scarcely be truthfully uttered even as the language of triumphant faith; but even congregations have been occasionally requested to sing—