

*Owen, Manton, Poole, and twenty-three others.* "The translation which is now put in thy hand, cometh nearest to the original of any that we have seen, and runneth with such a fluent sweetness, that we thought fit to recommend it for thy Christian acceptance; some of us having used it already, with great comfort and satisfaction."

*Boswell,* "Some allowance must no doubt be made for early prepossessions. But at a mature period of life, after looking at various metrical versions of the Psalms, I am well satisfied that the version used in Scotland, is, upon the whole, the best, and that it is *in vain to think of having a better.* It has in general a simplicity, and unction of sacred poesy; and in many parts its transfusion is admirable."

*Romaine.* "You may find fault with the manner of eking out a verse for the sake of the rhyme, but what of that? Here is every thing great and noble, although not in Dr. Watts' way or style. It is not like his fine sound and florid verse; as good old Mr. Hall used to call it, *Watts' jingle.* I do not match those Psalms with what is now admired in poetry; although the time was when no less a man than the Rev. T. Bradbury, in his sober judgment, thought so meanly of Watts' hymns, as commonly to call them *Watts' whymns.*"

*Dr. George Burns, late of St. John, N. B.* "The translation was made by a very distinguished Hebrew scholar, Francis Rouse, Esq., M. P., one of Cromwell's counsellors of state, and preferred, on account of his acquaintance with the Greek and Latin languages, to the Provostship of Eton School. His translation underwent various corrections, by a committee of the General Assembly. In many instances, the versification is far from being smooth, or agreeable to the ear. The fact is, a *literal* was more an object of attention, than an elegant translation, and we have the satisfaction to know, that we utter praise in the very words of inspiration. It is the best and most exact we have to put into the hands of the common people."

*McCheyne.* "The metrical version of the Psalms should be read or sung through, at least once in the year. It is truly an admirable translation from the Hebrew, and is frequently more correct than the prose version."

*Sir Walter Scott.* "The expression of the old metrical translation, though homely, is plain, forcible, and intelligible, and very often possesses a rude sort of majesty, which perhaps would be ill exchanged for mere elegance. I have an old fashioned taste in sacred as well as profane poetry: I cannot help preferring even Sternhold and Hopkins to Tate and Brady, and our own metrical version of the Psalms to both. I hope, therefore, they will be touched with a lenient hand."