

time to grow, and give themselves ample range of choice. The *Scottish Hymnal*, of the Established Kirk, the *Hymns for Divine Worship*, of the English Presbyterian Church, and numerous American collections, ought to be carefully gone over, and the gems gathered from every quarter. We trust that no local urgency will be allowed to hurry a work designed for all the churches through many years.

DR. ORMISTON'S ESCAPE.

Under the title of "The Holy War—Pullar *versus* Ormiston," the *Hamilton Spectator*, of May 31st, reprints, from the *N. Y. Independent*, an extraordinary speech of Dr. Ormiston, at the Festival of the American Congregational Union in Brooklyn, and a reply thereto by Rev. T. Pullar.

The occasion on which the said speech was delivered must be understood, in order to appreciate the value of its utterances. We have attended twice on such gatherings, and have often read the reports. Truth to say, we are not proud of the style of the thing. It is too jolly, to be reported, at all events. It partakes too much of the character of a contest of wits. We are hearty believers in laughter, but when a whole evening is given to cracking jokes at a religious anniversary, it is too much. Such, we are informed by an eye-witness as well as by the report, was pre-eminently the character of the gathering in May, 1872. Dr. Ormiston was the last speaker, and, being wrought up to a very high pitch, certainly exceeded all bounds of propriety and courtesy, without the compensation of true humour, when he called our churches in Scotland a "cave of Adullam" for all cantankerous Presbyterians, and "thanked God for the common sewer of Congregationalism."

Granting that it was necessary to take such elaborate notice of it, Mr. Pullar certainly turned the tables upon the doughty Doctor most effectually, and proved from the mouths of Presbyterian witnesses themselves, that the leaders of the great "missionary" movement in Scotland, and the advocates of a converted membership, were men to be held in the highest honour for their works' sake, and that the charge of being a "mixed multitude," lay in another quarter.

But we believe that most of our friends are of the opinion, it is not *we* that suffer by such language, and that the Chairman of the Festival, Rev. Dr. Budington, (also President of the National Council), met the matter in the best way, when he answered not a word, but pronounced the benediction, and dismissed the assembly.

REV. DR. CORNISH'S RETIRING ADDRESS.

To the Ministers and Delegates of the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec.

MY DEAR BRETHREN,—I feel myself in a position of much embarrassment in respect to the choice of a subject on which to address you; and that embarrassment is enhanced by the peculiar position I occupy as a member of this body. For, in a sense, I may be said to be among you, yet not to be of you. But