

## PREFACE.

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IN offering a new collection of hymns to the public, perhaps a brief apology is due to our brethren. This we freely present them.

Notwithstanding several good collections of hymns have already been published in the Christian Connection, designed by their respective compilers as standard works, yet all of them with which we are acquainted, are, in our judgment, defective in some way or other: 1st: A considerable portion of the hymns found in all of them, are not sung in any congregation, with which we are acquainted. 2d: Most of them are deficient in variety, of such hymns as our congregations need for stated use. 3d: Several hymns are found in all of them, which contain unscriptural expressions, and, in some instances, improper language. 4th: Many excellent hymns are sung in all our congregations, which are not contained in any large collection extant among us, but which have been circulated in small pamphlets, not easily preserved, nor conveniently used in our meetings for worship. All these defects we have endeavored to remedy, as far as the size of our book would permit. Yet, we may have erred in some, or even in all these particulars; but we confidently trust not. We are aware, however, that such is the