

APPENDIX.

The following hints may be useful in Psalm and Hymn singing.

1. Select the tune according to the character of the psalm or hymn—a lively tune for a song of praise, e. g. Psalm 98.; a more solemn tune (without any drawling,) for a weightier subject, e. g. Psalm 100 or 150.; a plaintive tune to a penitential psalm, e. g. Psalm 51, or Psalm 90.

2. If such psalms as the 51st and 67th be sung to the same tune (which the metre admits,) the effect will be something worse than absurd.

3. Breathing and punctuation are as necessary to observe here, as in chanting, thus:

Let every creature (*breathe secretly*) jointly bless (*breathe secretly*)

The mighty Lord : (*stop*) and thou my heart (*breathe secretly*)

With grateful joy (*breathe secretly*) thy thanks express, &c.

(Not as, alas! one sometimes hears, Let every crea- (*breath*) ture jointly bless (*stop*) the mighty Lord (*no stop beyond taking breath*) and thou my heart (*stop,*) &c., &c.

4. Vowels are sounds : consonants produce distinctness, but they stop the sound. Keep the mouth well open ; and don't let the sounds come too quickly to the front of the mouth.

5. Let the vowels be distinct and definite. Jerusalem not *lum*, worship not *shup* ; Trinity, eternity, purity, charity, not *aty*, nor *uty* ; David not *vud* ; serene, not *sireen* ; *him*, *them*, not *hum*, *thum* ; and, as, not *yand*, *yäs*.

6. The letter *s* especially produces a most unpleasant sensation, if the vowel preceding be not fully sounded. c. g.

Oh! let thy table honour'd be,
And furnish'd well with joyful *guests* !
And may *each* soul salvation see,
That here *its* sacred pledges *taste*.