

The popularity of Ps. 5: 1-7 has been impaired not a little by some uncouth lines. The couplet :

"All that ill doers are thou hat'st,  
Cut'tst off that liars be,"

Is an offence to the average ear; but in the selections it appears thus,—

"All evil doers thou dost hate,  
Destroyed shall liars be."

Only decided inaccuracies and striking inelegancies have been touched; and every verse in the whole collection is in form as well as in spirit suitable for singing.

But besides these emendations there are 25 new versions in the collection, 6 in Long Meter, 2 in Short Meter, 5 in 7s. and 6s., and the rest in 7 other meters, each appropriate to the subject of its psalm. They are the very best renderings contained in the above mentioned psalters. Ten of them are second versions of familiar psalms, and fifteen are substitutes where the common meter version was such that the psalms were very seldom used. The change will doubtless rescue these from desuetude and bring some of them at least into popularity.

The new versions are accurate translations of the original, and most of them are in such charming lines that the Committee felt they would be wronging the Church to withhold them. They are set to some of the finest tunes extant; and it is believed that these Selections as thus amended and enriched will make psalm singing decidedly more popular in the Church.

Very great care has been used in selecting the very best tunes, both for the psalms and the hymns.

The tunes set to the hymns in our present books are mostly retained, although some have been replaced by better; and there will be a large number of magnificent new tunes with the new hymns.

As in the case of the hymns, so each psalm has a fixed tune, the same tune answering for several similar psalms. The tunes selected are long-approved and popular psalm tunes. The longer selections have chants as well.

Extensive *Indices* have been added to the Book of Praise. One is an elaborate index of *subjects* which gives not only the number of the hymn referred to but also the first line or part of it. There is also a very full index of *texts* referred to in the hymns.

There will be five *Editions* of the Book of

Praise,—two with music and three with words only.

They are all to be on beautiful and strong paper and printed with Oxford's best type. The sample pages sent to Canada are things of beauty. The binding is handsome, artistic, and durable.

The largest music edition will be a magnificent book of 750 pages 9 by 6 inches. This edition in cloth will sell at the remarkably low price of 90 cents; or in half leather it will cost only \$1.00.

The smaller music edition (which will not be ready till mid-summer) will be a reduced *fac simile* of the larger one, having a page the same size as that of our present Psalter and Hymnal, but will retail at less than half the price of our present book, namely, at 60 cents.

The editions with words only are of three sizes;—the largest at 60 cents is in large clear type that will be a delight to those whose sight is imperfect; and the smallest is in clear agate type and sold at 10 cents or in cheaper cloth at 8 cents; while the medium size will sell at 30 cents. Each of these editions is the complete Book of Praise having both the Psalms and Hymns.

It is confidently believed by those who know the new book that it will not be inferior to any book of praise published, and that its introduction will be a stimulus to the culture and spiritual life of the Church.

In highest terms writes Rev. R. Douglas Fraser of a book, entitled "The Presbyterian Standards," by the Francis R. Beattie, D.D., Prof of Systematic Theology and Apologetics in the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and formerly a minister of our Church.

"The aim is to give a simple, connected exposition of the entire Westminster Standards. The Shorter Catechism is made the basis of the exposition, but the contents of the Larger Catechism and the Confession of Faith are carefully incorporated at every point."

"The aim is faithfully followed out and no other book that we know of covers practically the same ground. It is a work for the trained theologian, but the method of treatment and the style are so eminently lucid and concise that the ordinary reader follows easily. It will be of much service in Bible Classes and Y. P. Societies."