

PREFACE.

THIS selection of Church Psalmody has been prepared in accordance with a resolution passed at the annual meeting of the Congregational Union of Eastern Canada, held in July, 1844.

The desire for such a publication had become general, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring the volumes now in use;—the great inconvenience of having *two books*, one of which is divided into four, and sometimes five parts;—and the number of psalms and hymns not adapted to Public Worship, and which are seldom or never used in our assemblies.

It was found that by the omission of these, a book sufficiently comprehensive might be produced; which, being more economical, portable, and simple in its arrangement, would contribute greatly to the convenience of the churches, and especially of strangers worshipping with us. Dr. Watts's Psalms and Hymns have therefore been made the basis of this collection; the remainder being taken almost exclusively from the Hymn Book published by the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

It will be found that some excellent compositions in the Congregational Hymn Book are not inserted in this volume;—the reason must be found in the principle upon which this selection has been made, viz: the desirableness of having ONE BOOK FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP,—A