

Just published by West & Richardson,
No. 75, Cornhill,

THE CHORISTER'S GUIDE; or an Adaptation of Music, selected from the Songs of the Temple, with reference to Belknap's Psalms and Hymns. Also, the same, adapted to Watts's Psalms and Hymns. Both printed in small volumes for the pocket.

"Alterum alterius auxilio eget."

PREFACE.

It is evident to most people, who attend public worship, and especially to those, who unite to true devotional feeling a chaste musical taste, that, among the various choirs in our religious assemblies, there is a great want of proper adaptation, in the tune selected, to the psalm or hymn read from the desk. There is often such incongruity, contrariety, and combating, (if the expression be allowed,) between sound and sentiment, that the serious and devout, particularly those who delight in the "sacred song," are highly wounded and disgusted. Some choristers have supposed, that a right metre and key were the only requisites in selecting the music, not once thinking that the sound should "seem an echo to the sense." It is time an attempt was made to cure this evil, and the present work aims at such an object. Whether it will in any degree be successful, remains to be ascertained. Certainly there has been no lack of industry and attention in the undertaking.

It will be seen that the numbers and metres only of the psalms and hymns are inserted, with the names of such tunes as are thought to be suited thereto, averaging about six to each. Drs. Watts and Belknap have been selected, as being more in use than any other psalm or hymn books. The music may all be found in the *Songs of the Temple*. Here it may be well to observe that all fanciful airs and clamorous fugues, all wildly-warbled slurs, graces, and laboured cantabiles are totally inconsistent with divine worship. "Procul, O! procul este profani!" Let no sacrilegious mockery be offered up in solemn praise and adoration to the great Jehovah.

To some, perhaps to many, this humble production may be thought of no importance; yet it is sincerely and devoutly hoped that, in some measure, it will be effectual in regulating and improving our taste in the most exalted and most delightful of all employments.