

ex liturgica, and were used only at processions and on high festivals. The desire of the Reformer was, however, that the congregational song, instead of being almost entirely subordinate, should form the chief element of the musical part of the service. "I wish," says he, "after the example of the prophets and ancient fathers of the Church, to make German psalms for the people, that is to say, sacred hymns, so that the Word of God may dwell among the people by means of song also." And here we may note the difference of opinion which existed between Luther and Calvin as to what should form the leading ingredient of congregational praise. The former placed the psalms in a subordinate position, giving the chief place in the service of praise to hymns; the latter reversed this order of precedence, assigning to the psalms the first place, and supplementing them only by a very limited hymnology.

It was in 1524 that the first Protestant hymn-book appeared. To what extent Luther himself had co-operated in compiling the collection is not certain, but at any rate, in both this and subsequent editions (of which there were several), there are undoubtedly many hymns from his pen, some being original, others mere adaptations or translations of old Latin hymns, which the Reformer counted as among the good things kept alive by the power of God. According to the latest German authorities, the apportionment of Luther's work as a hymn-writer should be as follows:—

Original hymns	...	...	...	...	...	5
Hymns based upon passages of the Bible	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hymns based upon Latin psalms	...	...	...	...	...	7
Corrections or arrangements of early German hymns	...	...	...	...	...	4
Amplifications of early German translations of Latin hymns	...	...	...	...	...	2
Translations and arrangements of Latin hymns	...	...	...	...	...	10

The immediate popularity which these first Protestant hymns secured was immense. "They were taught in the schools and carried through the country by wandering scholars until his enemies declared that Luther had destroyed more souls by his hymns than by his writings and speeches."