

Here was John Calvin, now at the very height of his reputation, and with him Knox soon formed an intimacy which ultimately ripened into the most cordial affection. The two reformers had but little in common, for Knox was a "rough, unbending, impetuous man," while Calvin was "calm, severe, often irritable, but never impassioned." Notwithstanding these differences of character, they were perfectly agreed on most points of faith and discipline; and in respect of the forms of public worship, their practice was all but entirely harmonious. Knox seems to have been delighted with the purity of religion established in Geneva. "In other places," he tells us, "I confess Christ to be truly preached; but manners and religion to be so sincerely reformed, I have not yet seen in any other place beside."

Towards the close of the year 1554 Knox left Geneva to take charge of a congregation of Protestant refugees at Frankfort, but he had scarcely entered upon his duties when differences of opinion arose respecting the order of public worship, one section urging adherence to the English Liturgy, and another contending for a simpler form. Several attempts appear to have been made to unite the parties, but here it is necessary to notice one only. In the *Brieffe Discours of the Troubles begonne at Franckford*, ascribed with great probability to William Whittingham, we find the following passage:—

"The congregation could not agree upon any certain Order; till after long debating to and fro, it was concluded that Maister Knox, Maister Whittingham, Maister Gilby, Maister Fox, and Maister T. Cole should draw forth some Order meet for their state and time; which thing was by them accomplished and offered to the congregation (being the same Order of Geneva which is now in print). This Order was very well liked of many; but such as were bent to the Book of England could not abide it. . . . In the end another way was taken."

This occurred early in 1555, and in March of that year Knox found it necessary for his own peace of mind to withdraw from Frankfort. For some time he resided at Geneva, but a longing to visit his native country had come upon him, and he returned to Scotland. In the meantime, Whittingham—who,