

of its own treasures, it is becoming evident that there is no want of good hymns, and no necessity for the use of the inferior and distasteful rhymes which have too frequently usurped their place.

The Hymns selected have been compared with the original, wherever it was possible, and the author's version given. In a collection for divine service, change is sometimes necessary, especially in the way of omission; but this has been done in the present instance with caution, and with deference to the mind of the author. Where extensive alteration was required in order to make a favourite hymn available for use in public worship, it has been thought better to leave it out than present it in a mangled form.

The majority of the Hymns are of the ordinary measures, but other varieties are introduced. It is a pity that the church should be limited to one or two measures, especially when the loftier and sweeter strains of sacred song frequently take a different form. And yet respect must be had to the general convenience, and to the actual knowledge of sacred music possessed by our congregations. With the Psalms and Paraphrases in con-