

United Associate Synod, to prepare a selection of Hymns to be used in the praise of God. But this matter was not completed till after the late union, when, in May, 1847, the United Presbyterian Synod took the subject into consideration, and appointed a Committee to report on it, at their next meeting.

In the month of October, 1847, this Committee reported that they were impressed with the desirableness of an enlargement of the Psalmody in the form of a volume of Hymns and Paraphrases, that these should amount to five or six hundred if suitable ones could be found, that they should be headed by appropriate titles, and have references to the passages of Scripture which they illustrated, and that the Relief Hymn Book, and the selection prepared by the Committee of the United Associate Synod, should be subjected to careful revision to ascertain how far their contents might be introduced into the New Hymn Book.

In May, 1848, the Committee on Psalmody laid on the Synod's table a copy of a Hymn book prepared by them, when the Synod approved of their diligence, and re-appointed them, with instructions to prepare an index of subjects to be appended, and to supply whatever else they may think desirable for perfecting the volume. They were further instructed to furnish the Presbyteries with copies, and to correspond with authors and other parties having the copyright of Hymns contained in the volume, respectfully soliciting their permission to include therein their compositions or property. The Synod further declared, that while all Presbyteries and members of Court are entitled to make suggestions on the Hymn book, they must forward these to the convener of the Committee before the 1st of January next, it being understood that all Hymns unchallenged at that period shall be regarded as approved of, and that all suggestions offered before that time shall be considered by the Committee, and a digest of them prepared, so that the Synod may be able to dispose of them at its next meeting.

At this meeting, which was in 1849, the Committee reported that they had received numerous reports and suggestions in regard to the Draft Hymn Book, and craved instructions on several points which they submitted to the Synod. The Synod instructed the Committee to make a selection from the Paraphrases and Hymns commonly bound up with Psalm Books, of those which they deem worthy of the Synod's sanction. The Committee were further instructed to print the amended Draft Hymn Book, and send a copy to each Session as soon as possible.

A Committee had been appointed to review the labours of the Committee on Psalmody; and in May, 1851, they recommended the re-appointment of the Psalmody Committee, and that they should be instructed to send down a copy of the Hymn Book, in its present state, to each minister of the Church for examination, and that members be enjoined to transmit to the Committee, on or before the first