

**HYMNS AND
VERSES, ORIGINAL
AND TRANSLATED**

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Hymns and Verses, Original and Translated by Henry Downton

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HENRY DOWNTON

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ORIGINAL and TRANSLATED

BY HENRY DOWNTON, M.A.

RECTOR OF HOPTON, SUFFOLK, DIOCESE OF ELY

LATE ENGLISH CHAPLAIN AT GENEVA



HENRY S. KING & Co.

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PREFACE.

FINDING THE FIRST HYMN in the following small volume placed prominently on the lists of Missionary hymns recently published by the two great Church Missionary Societies—the S. P. G. and the C. M. S., and others of the number included in many popular collections of hymns, notably in Lord Selborne's 'Book of Praise,' I have been encouraged to collect and publish the few efforts of this kind which I have made, not seldom at the request of friends, and for special occasions.

Among the translated hymns are included all I have been able to find of Alexandre Vinet's compositions of this nature, as well as one of Adolphe Monod's, the latter being the only hymn ever written by that celebrated preacher and excellent Christian.

Several of the sonnets, and many of the hymns and occasional verses, have appeared in the 'Sunday Magazine,' 'Good Words,' and other periodicals.

Having mentioned the honoured name of Lord Selborne, I would take this occasion of rendering to him a public acknowledgment of the kindness which has turned for me circumstances of trial, too notorious to require further allusion to them, into a subject of congratulation.

If in the retirement of a village Rectory I shall find heart and leisure to attempt something further in the way of hymn-writing, I shall owe, in great measure, to that distinguished hymnologist, under God, both the time and the encouragement.

H. D.

GENEVA: *February, 17, 1873.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
MISSIONARY AND OTHER HYMNS	1-47
HYMNS FROM THE FRENCH	51-79
SONNETS	81-90
OCCASIONAL VERSES	91-114



HYMNS AND VERSES.

MISSIONARY HYMNS.

I.

LORD, her watch thy Church is keeping ;
When shall earth thy rule obey ?
When shall end the night of weeping ?
When shall break the promised day ?
See the whitening harvest languish,
Waiting still the labourers' toil ;
Was it vain—thy Son's deep anguish ?
Shall the strong retain the spoil ?

Tidings sent to every creature
Millions yet have never heard :
Can they hear without a preacher ?
Lord Almighty, give the word !

L

B