HISTORY OF THE SCOTTISH METRICAL PSALMS; WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE PARAPHRASES AND HYMNS, AND OF THE MUSIC OF THE OLD PSALTER

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Trieste

HISTORY

OF THE

Scottish Metrical Psalms;

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF

THE PARAPHRASES AND HYMNS,

AND OF THE

MUSIC OF THE OLD PSALTER.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

TWELVE PLATES OF MS. MUSIC OF 1566.

BY

REV. J. W. MACMEEKEN,

LESMAHAGOW.

PRINTED FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

GLASGOW:

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1872.

In

Psalmorum Laudem.

Chorus. 1. *Angelorum*, &, 2. *Hominum*.

Chorus. The Psalms *are Paradises Spring;*
Streaming Refreshments every way.

They, 1. Wine, 2. Oyl, 1. Milk, 2. And Honey bring,
1. To Cheer, 2. To Cure, 1. To Feed, 2. T' Allay.
1. When we are merry, Psalms we sing,
2. When we're afflicted, Psalms we say.
1. They Heav'n's, 2. And Earth's Devotions wing,
1. While Angels Praise, 2. Or Men do Pray.

Chorus. The Psalms *are Paradises Spring,*
Streaming Refreshments every way, &c.

From the Italian of Gio. Francesco Loredano, 1656,
by Lord Coleraine. 1665.

In Token of

SINCERE REGARD,

and

IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF

LENGTHENED, GENIAL, AND MUCH-PRIZED

COURTESY AND KINDNESS,

This Work is inscribed to

J. B. GREENSHIELDS, of Kerse, Advocate,

F. S. A. Scot., Associate of the Brit. Arch. Association,

etc., etc.

by

THE AUTHOR.

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PREFACE.

The recent introduction of the "Scottish Hymnal," on the authority of the General Assembly, as a supplementary manual of praise in the Church of Scotland, gave rise to considerable discussion and comment throughout the district in which the Author resides. By one party the step was condemned as an unwarrantable innovation, interfering with the conservatism of good old ecclesiastical forms, whilst by another it was vindicated as a *re*-novation instead of an *in*-novation—a returning to the practice of the Church as inaugurated by the First Reformation. The Author embraced the opportunity thus afforded of calling attention, by means of a short article in a local newspaper, to the Liturgy introduced by Knox, and used in the Reformed Church;—quoting the titles of the fourteen spiritual songs which appear immediately after the Psalms, with instructions as to the tune to which each was to be sung. The Article concluded with this paragraph:—"Some of our readers will, doubtless, be astonished to think that John Knox used a Liturgy; but such is the fact. On a future occasion we may give a short historical detail of the steps by which our metrical version of the Psalms has been developed into its present authorised condition."

In accordance with the purpose thus indicated, a series of Chapters on the "History of the Scottish Metrical Psalms" forthwith appeared in the columns of the Paper referred to. These excited considerable attention, and were favourably received by many under whose notice they were brought; so much so that, during their progress, the Author was frequently urged to issue them in a separate form. With these solicitations he resolved to comply—more especially as much additional matter, consisting of important, interesting, and