

**WORSHIP IN THE SCHOOL-
ROOM. A MANUAL OF
DEVOTION INTENDED
ESPECIALLY FOR THE SCHOOL,
ALSO ADAPTED TO THE FAMILY**

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Worship in the School-Room. A Manual of Devotion Intended Especially for the School, Also Adapted to the Family by W. T. Wylie

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W. T. WYLIE

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A Manual of Devotion

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ADAPTED TO THE FAMILY.

BY W. T. WYLIE.

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Co Teachers

IN THE SCHOOL-ROOM,

AND

TO PARENTS

IN THE FAMILY CIRCLE,

WHOSE GREAT DESIRE IS TO TRAIN FOR

USEFULNESS AND HAPPINESS

THE YOUTH COMMITTED TO THEIR CARE,

THIS WORK

IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

BY THEIR FELLOW-LABORERS,

William Theodore Wylie.

P R E F A C E.

THIS book is offered especially to Educators, as an earnest effort to aid those who feel the importance of using every available means to impress Bible truth on the minds of the young; and to train the rising generation in the practice of Christian life. The wants felt in an experience of ten years as a teacher, led to the plan and execution of the work.

Allow me briefly to call your attention to three things in regard to the book:—ITS OBJECT; ITS PLAN; and the MODE OF USING IT.

I.—THE OBJECT (*a*) is to secure individual attention and united expression throughout the entire service; (*b*) to suggest important *doctrines* and duties in such a manner as to arrest the attention and awaken the interest of the young; (*c*) to familiarize the minds of the youth with the teachings of divine truth on all the great questions of life, and with the richest and sweetest treasures of sacred song; (*d*) to aid in preparing the sons and daughters of our institutions of learning more fervently and effectively to join in the devotions of home and of the great congregation. In one word, its object is to aid in *educating* (both by instruction and by development,) each student, as an accountable religious being, in the performance of his highest duty, and the enjoyment of his greatest happiness.

II.—THE PLAN. (*a*) In preparing the book, the first step was to form an outline of the great Doctrines and Duties of religion, as these regard God and man; giving prominence to such as especially claim the attention of youth, and tend to shape the course of life. (*b*) Selections of Scripture were then made, enforcing and illustrating the given topic by precept, narrative, &c. These selections were afterwards arranged with a view to make them suggestive of the various bearings of the subject as far as practicable. (*c*) After that, appropriate Psalms and Hymns were chosen, keeping constantly in view the combination of strength and beauty, so that the choicest spiritual and poetical productions of our language, in youth might be treasured up for counsel and comfort in after life. (*d*) The adaptation of music to the hymns was considered a most important and difficult matter: several leading composers were consulted, and the final arrangement and adaptation of the music to the words was placed in the hands of T. J. Cook, of New York, whose name is a guarantee for the judicious execution of the work. (See Musical Preface, by Mr. Cook.) (*e*) In view of the fact that many young teachers might hesitate, unaided, to lead their pupils in prayer, each page of the lesson was placed in the hands of some earnest Christian educator, and after its perusal, a prayer was written by him, adapted especially to that particular lesson. We have thus more than 250 leading minds, of all evangelical churches in our loyal land, participating in the service of prayer, thus securing a variety, freshness and adaptation which could be obtained in no other way.

III.—THE MODE OF USE. (*a*) While the book is not arranged by any formal division of days, months, or times, it furnishes material for more than every school-day in the year. (*b*) Each pupil should have a copy of *the lessons*, (the book will be bound in two editions, *the lessons without the prayers* for the pupils.) The teacher proceeding in course, or se-

lecting, or calling on a pupil to select a lesson for the day, all join in singing the Psalm or hymn chosen. The teacher will then read the first verse of the Scriptures, one-half the school read the second verse *in concert*, the other half read the third verse in like manner, and so around. (c) The teacher, (all bowing on the desks,) leads in prayer, using in whole or in part the form prepared, or directing the service in his own language. A Sabbath lesson might be assigned for study on that day, and at least a portion of it memorized.

It will be seen at a glance that the object of the book is to present Scripture truth, and lead to a life of purity and practical religion.

Those who examine the construction of the book will recognise a systematic form of religious truth. The repetition of important thoughts, passages of Scripture, and Hymns, was often deemed very desirable. The idea of adaptation was kept constantly in view; and it may here be observed that full freedom was used, in selecting Psalms and Hymns, to omit such portions as were not suitable to the lesson on hand.

I am under great obligations to those friends of Christian education who have so kindly aided my undertaking by words of sympathy and cheerful contributions of copyright privileges, as well as by other service.

In selecting Psalms and Hymns I had access to a large number of collections published in this country and in England. Among these I cannot fail to mention, The Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book, by Drs. Mason, Phelps and Park; The American Metrical Psalter, by Rt. Rev. G. Burgess, D. D., of Maine; Hymns, by Rev. Henry A. Boardman, D. D. The Plymouth Collection, by Henry Ward Beecher; and Songs of the Church, by Rev. Charles S. Robinson, of Brooklyn; and a small collection of Hymns, by Anna L. Waring, published by the Association of Friends. I am also under obligations to the publishers of the Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book, for their courtesy in giving consent to the use of the Hymns of that book, as well as of the music which they publish.

Many of the Hymns taken from books referred to above, being copy-righted, no one, I would observe, can use them without similar consent of authors or publishers.

To Dr. Lowell Mason I am under especial obligations, not only for counsel, but also for kindly permitting the use of a large number of his valuable church tunes in this work.

Sincere thanks are also due to Messrs. Perkins, Pelton, Kingsley, Root, Seward & Bradbury, and to F. J. Huntingdon, Publisher, for permission to use the tunes which they have severally furnished. All of Mr. Cook's tunes used in this work, except Radiance, Florence, and Herald, are now first published by his permission. He is the owner of them, and to have the use of them in other publications.

The names of the authors of tunes will be found in an Index prepared especially to show by whom each tune has been furnished.

While I would refer to Mr. Cook's Musical Preface for remarks on the musical part of the work, I would earnestly commend to all interested in the improvement of the "service of song," a book called "Hymns and Choirs," chiefly prepared by the authors of the Sabbath Hymn and Tune Book. Pastors, choir leaders, singers, and all church members, will find it worthy of consideration.

The names of earnest Christian educators, who have aided in the completion of this Manual of Devotion, and to whom I am greatly indebted, will be found in full in an index. They are representatives of more than a dozen fruitful branches of the One Living Vine. Knowing this, we need not ask to what denomination each belongs. Are they not all one in Him?

With the earnest prayer that this work may aid Teachers, Parents and Youth, in the happy fulfilment of the great object of life, it is commended to Him who is the Author of every good purpose, and the Sustainer of every good work

W. T. W.

MUSICAL PREFACE.

IN the preparation of the present work, it fell to my lot to select Tunes for the Psalms and Hymns contained in it. It was thought best, by both the author of the work and myself, that the number of tunes should be quite limited, and those of a congregational character be preferred. My object has been to select from the many tunes that have become popular, those of good, solid character, such as musicians, as well as the people like, and which all our children should learn and remember through life. I have avoided the lively Sunday School music, so popular at the present day, principally on account of its ephemeral character.

A few new tunes are given, the greater portion of them being original. Of these latter the number was extended, because I experienced some difficulty in finding music well suited to certain hymns, and thought it best to write, or get others to write, new music for them. Regarding my own compositions, I trust they will be indulgently received, and be deemed, in some slight degree, worthy the good company in which they are found.

841 Broadway, New York.

T. J. COOK.