

**SONGS OF ZION;
BEING IMITATIONS
OF PSALMS**

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Songs of Zion; Being Imitations of Psalms by James Montgomery

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JAMES MONTGOMERY

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BY

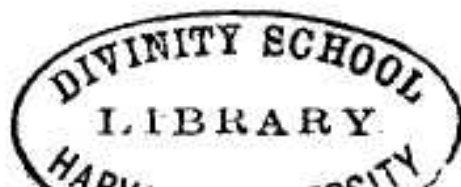
JAMES MONTGOMERY.

☉ come let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. *Psalm xcv. 1.*

BOSTON:

WELLS AND LILLY--COURT-STREET.

1823.



781

MINISCAPIA

Preface.

In the following Imitations of portions of the true "*Songs of Zion*," the author pretends not to have succeeded better than any that have gone before him; but, having followed in the track of none, he would venture to hope, that, by avoiding the rugged literality of some, and the diffusive paraphrases of others, he may, in a few instances, have approached nearer than either of them have generally done, to the ideal model of what devotional poems, in a modern tongue, grounded upon the subjects of ancient psalms, yet suited for Christian edification, ought to be. Beyond this he dare not say more than that whatever symp-

toms of feebleness or bad taste may be betrayed in the execution of these pieces, he offers not to the public the premature fruits of idleness or haste. So far as he recollects, he has endeavoured to do his best, and, in doing so, he has never hesitated to sacrifice ambitious ornament to simplicity, clearness and force of thought and expression. If, in the event, it shall be found that he has added a little to the small national stock of "psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs," in which piety speaks the language of poetry, and poetry the language of inspiration, he trusts that he will be humbly contented and unfeignedly thankful.

Sheffield, May 21, 1822.

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