

SELECTIONS FROM THE PSALMS AND OTHER SCRIPTURES IN THE REVISED VERSION, for Responsive Reading in Church Services, and on Special Occasions. Edited by Rev. JOSEPH T. DURYEA, D. D. Boston and Chicago : Congregational Sunday-School and Publishing Society. Pp. viii., 132.

THIS selection of devotional Scriptures is well adapted to the uses of responsive reading. The contrasts of type in the portions to be read by

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the minister and the portions to be read by the congregation is the chief excellence of the book. The heavy black type makes it almost impossible to lose the place, or to confuse the people's part with that of the minister. The convenience of this arrangement will be appreciated by those clergymen who (as was once the case with the writer in Dr. Duryea's own church) have tried to read by alternate verses while the congregation is at the same time reading by alternate clauses. The selections are chiefly from the Psalms, with additional readings for Christmas, Easter, the Lord's Supper, Missions, and Fast-Day. About two thirds of the Psalter is used, the omissions including some of the vindictive and of the longer historical Psalms. The Revised Version is adhered to throughout.

The compiler has not attempted the impossible task of finding an antithetical division throughout the Psalms, but has provided only for clauses of convenient length for purposes of reading.

Until the time comes when congregational chanting becomes familiar, responsive reading is to be encouraged, and a distinct plea is properly made in behalf of those who have no music in them, and could never join in song or chant, but who can *read* praises unto the Lord.

Montgomery's hymn beginning

"Prayer is the soul's sincere desire
Uttered or unexpressed,"

is subjected in the preface to a minute dissection, which can be justified only if hymn-writers are held down to the requirements of verbal inspiration.

George Harris.