

4. Outreach:

a. England

1556, Whittingham in Geneva edits a Psalter of 51 psalms and a few other things. This will be revised in 1562, and another version (complete) will be out in 1641 with a new version in 1696. We do not spend so much time with England for, while the Psalter was important in the Anglican church, it did not (my judgment) have the great influence there that it had in other places and likewise did not receive the great corrective and demonstrative help.

b. Scotland

The Scots refugees in Geneva (Knox among them) were taken by Calvin's ideas and the development and great growth of the Psalter as a music tool is due to them.

C. The Scottish Psalter

1. A close call with the Germans...I will tell you about it but not write much!
2. 1564-1650...The Scottish Psalter built heavily on the English and the Anglo-Genevan Psalter. Most of its editions were in words only. ..with tune titles. Since no instruments were used there was little need for written music. And since most of the Scots churches favored unison singing (part singing was known, however) there was even less use for music. I am told (by the books I read) that the form was heavy and unnatural and the Psalter began to lose favor with the singing public. A revision of 1635 was intended to correct this and it did produce a number of healthful changes:
 - each Psalm was intended to have its own tune (not fully realized)
 - proper tunes were marked for those who could read music, etc.
 - common tunes were readily available to all.
 - repetitive tunes featured segments where the words might be repeated for effect while a long note was held, etc.

In this version the melody was in the tenor and the other parts were known as treble, contra and bass.
3. 1650...The Scottish Psalter...to last for about 300 years.
 - a. Believe it or not, King James had tried to have a revised Psalter and had actually done a few metricizations himself. Others finished his work to some degree and the Jamesian Psalter rather precluded any further work in this line until the English revolution.
 - b. Following the break with Parliament and the King, Francis Rous issued a paraphrase (metric version) of the Psalter which became the basis of study by the Westminster divines as they worked to issue a new book of Common Worship along with their more famous confessions.