

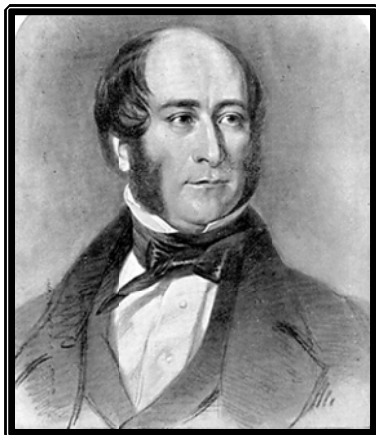
ANOTHER YEAR IS DAWNING

Frances Havergal, Lyrics; Samuel Wesley, Music; 1874

Frances R. Havergal (1836-1879) was an English poet, hymn-writer, musician, composer, and linguist. She came by her talents naturally, as her father William Henry Havergal was also a noted hymnist and composer. She was able to read and write at the age of three, and had her first poems published in the "Good News" periodical, published by the Church of England, at the age of seven. She was fluent in seven languages, and is said to have memorized the New Testament in its entirety. She published 10 books of religious poetry, many of which were sung as hymns in churches throughout England. Hymns she wrote include "Thy Life Was Given For Me", "Golden Harps Are Sounding", "Like a River Glorious", and her most well-known work, "Take My Life and Let It Be".



In January 1874, Frances sent out a number of New Year's cards to family and friends that concluded with a new poem she had written for the occasion entitled "Another Year is Dawning". One of the friends who received that card was Fanny Crosby, the American hymn writer. She immediately wrote back to Frances to encourage her to publish the poem as a hymn. Crosby also suggested a number of hymn tunes that would fit the meter, including a tune by Samuel S. Wesley called "Aurelia". Wesley, the grandson of the famous hymnist and Methodist Church co-founder, Charles Wesley, had written the tune 10 years earlier. The tune had become well known through its pairing with the religious poem, "The Church's One Foundation", written in 1866 by Samuel Stone.



~Tull