Reglect Not the Gift that is in Thee."

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STAND FIRM.

"Build on resolve, and not upon regret, The structure of thy future. Do not grope

Among the shadow of old sins, but let Thine own soul's light shine on the path of hope,

And dissipate the darkness. Waste no tears

Upon the blotted record of lost years, But turn the leaf and smile, oh, smile to see The fair white pages that remain to thee."

-SELECTED.

A LETTER FROM ELIAS HICKS TO WILLIAM POOL, OF WIL-MINGTON, DELAWARE.

JERICHO, 12th mo. 7th, 1823. My Dear Friend,-Thy letters of 9th mo. 18th, 10th mo. 24th, and 11th nio. 26th, that remain unanswered, are now before me. And although I could give several reasons for not answering them, yet I will mention but one, and that is, way has not opened for it until now, and notwithstanding a near sympathy for thee in thy tribulation has been witnessed, yet it may be that infinite wisdom, in the riches of his love, is leading thee off from all outward dependencies, so that thy hope and trust may be more fully and firmly fixed on Him, who is the everlasting and mexhaustible source of strength and consolation. And although the severing of those who have been bound together in the strong bands of conjugal love, is like the parting of bone from bone, yet as all our rich blessings are but the gifts of our kind and generous benefactor, and are only loaned to us during his good pleasure, so when he calls for

them, as they are his just right, we ought cheerfully to surrender them, with due acknowledgements gratitude for the unmerited favor, in suffering us to enjoy them so long as we have. To which I may add, for thy increased comfort, that I have not the least doubt that, although the absence of thy dear companion may seem to thee, at the first view, a great loss, it is to her an eternal gain, and may eventually also, as thou acquiesces in the divine will, bring thee to realize, in contemplation, a portion of that celestial joy that encircles her mansion.

As relates to a memoir of my life, etc., it appears that my reasons for objecting to such a publication are not satisfactory to thee. What those reasons were I do not remember, as I have no copy of that letter, and I seldom keep a copy of my letters unless they are of a controversial kind. But I may now further observe, that I agree with thee that the abuse of a blessing is no argument against its being dispensed; but it must first be proved that the thing is a blessing, and was intentionally dispensed as such by the great dispenser of all real good. I have no doubt when the apostle, under the influence of divine love, addressed an epistle to the Corinthians, that he was rightly directed therein, and as he knew and was led into the right knowledge of their states, so he could administer to their needs and to instruction. But I do not apprehend that he had the most distant idea that he was writing to nations yet unborn, and of whose state and condition he could have no knowledge. Nor do I believe that divine wisdom, when he influenced the