

Young - Friends' - Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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A HYMN.

Go forth to life, O child of earth !
Still mindful of thy heavenly birth ;
Thou art not here for ease or sin,
But manhood's noble crown to win.

Go on from innocence of youth
To manly pureness, manly truth :
God's angels still are near to save,
And God himself doth help the brave.

Thou forth to life, O child of earth !
Be worthy of thy heavenly birth ;
For noble service 't'ou art here—
Thy brothers help, thy God reverse.

—[Samuel Longfellow.]

HINTS ON CONDUCTING A BIBLE CLASS.

Essay read by Edgar M. Zavitz at the First-day School Conference, at Yarmouth, Ont., 8th Mo., 21, 1888.

Right methods in study will insure success more certainly than talent or genius. The latter make surprising growth at the start, but right methods, when once formed, remain through life, and it is they who hold out to the end that win the race. If this paper will help any one to a clearer conception of the right methods in studying the Bible—that inexhaustible storehouse of knowledge then my trouble, and the time I occupy of this Conference, will not be spent in vain.

It was once said and it has been repeated often, that "there is no royal road to learning." As it is not a Bible expression I trust I may take exception to it without being cannonized as an unbeliever. I have come to think that there is one true way and only one; that there are right methods in acquiring knowledge; that there is a "royal road to learning."

We, as a Society insist on worship through the Spirit, let us insist also on study through the Spirit, for "the letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life" in study as well as in worship. I do not mean merely invoking the divine Spirit to our aid. That we already acknowledge is important. He knows the most truly and wisely who lives nearest the great Source of all knowledge, which is God. But I mean here and now an entering into the spirit of the thing we call study. The vain repetition of words by the mouth is of no avail. Unless the fact, or the image, that the words attempted to describe, pass before the mind's vision and leaves its impress stamped thereon, there is no true knowledge acquired. Words at the most are symbols, but are too often tinkling symbols. They are nuts without any meat inside; husks without any kernel; a sound without any soul. These similes very perfectly, and very painfully represent the knowledge we might say of the majority of mankind. What vast opportunities! How very few utilized! How little we really know compared even with what we might know! How then can we move faster? My answer is by moving slower. Be thorough, instead of superficial. Let your companion, blessed with greater genius, fly at a hare's pace, if he will, through the husk of things, but be thyself contented to take the tortoise gait if necessary, but go into the heart of things. It is not profitable to feed the mind on husks any more than the body. The body must have the kernel; the mind must have the image, as the soul must have the Spirit.

"Except ye eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of man, ye have no life in you." Except the body eat