

Young - Friends' - Review.

'Neglect Not the Gift that is in Thee.'

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TOO LATE

What silences we keep year after year
With those who are most near to us and
dear!

We live beside each other day by day,
And speak of myriad things, but seldom
say

The full, sweet word that lies just in our
reach,
Beneath the commonplace of common
speech.

Then out of sight and out of reach they
go—

Those close, familiar friends who loved
us so;

And sitting in the shadow they have left,
Alone with loneliness, and sore bereft,
We think with vain regret of some fond
word

That once we might have said, and they
have heard.

For weak and poor the love that we ex-
pressed

Now seems beside the sad, sweet unex-
pressed

And slight the deeds we did to those un-
done,

And small the service spent, to treasure
won,

And undeserved the praise for word or
deed,

That should have overflowed the simple
need.

This is the cruel fault of life -- to be
Full visioned only when the ministry
Of death has been fulfilled, and in the
place

Of some dear presence, is but empty space,
What recollected services can then

Give consolation for the "might have
been"?

—Nora Perry, in *Chicago Israelite*.

WHAT IS THE GREATEST NEED OF QUAKERISM?

Paper read by Lemoyne D. Allen in Friends' Meeting
House, Granville, N. Y., on the evening of 17th mo.
25th, 1895.

When we see the Friends' Society
gradually decreasing, until we fear that
in the future it will be a thing of the

past, it is important that we inquire into
the cause, and find what is needed to
bring about a change. I think its
greatest need is more spiritual life in
our meetings, and especially in our
silent gatherings.

We are too apt to forget that each
one of us as we sit down for silent
worship has a duty to perform to help
make the meeting acceptable to Him
who has promised that "Where two or
three are gathered together in My name
there am I in the midst, and that to
bless," and we oftentimes deem it an irk-
some duty instead of a blessed
privilege

When I read of the silent meetings
in the early days of Quakerism where
the silence was not broken by a single
voice, yet where those present were
nearly all melted to tears by the admon-
itions of the Unseen Teacher to their
inner consciousness. It seems that
there must have been a Power and
Presence felt differing widely from our
Silent meetings of to-day. Not that I
doubt His speaking to us the same
now as then, but we forget to listen and
sit down in silence almost from mere
force of habit, having degenerated into
a lifeless form of service, simply sitting
in outward silence, and think by so do-
ing we have done our whole duty, and
forgetting that we must not only have
the outward waiting but a waiting of
our souls also upon God for Inspiration
that we may be taught of Him.

If Friends would all do this wherever
the Society exists, they would surely be
a power in the community, as in the
days of old, and those outside the So-
ciety would, feeling that power, be
drawn to meet with them.

And just here let me say that
Friends are too much afraid of spread-
ing their doctrines and making prosy-