

Young * Friends' * Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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AS YOU GO THROUGH LIFE.

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

Don't look for the flaws as you go through life;
And even when you find them,
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind
And look for the virtues behind them.
For the cloudiest night has a hint of light
Somewhere in its shadow's hiding;
It is better by far to hunt for a star,
Than the spots on the sun abiding.

The current of life runs ever away
To the bosom of God's great ocean.
Don't set your force 'gainst the river's course
And think to alter its motion.
Don't waste a curse on the universe,
Remember it lived before you;
Don't butt at the storm with your puny form,
But bend and let it go o'er you.

The world will never adjust itself
To suit your whims to the letter;
Some things must go wrong your whole life
long,
And the sooner you know it the better.
It is folly to fight with the infinite,
And go under at last in the wrestle;
The wiser man shapes into God's plan
As the water shapes into a vessel.
—From Ladies' Home Journal.

SERMON.

DELIVERED BY ISAAC WILSON AT HALF-YEAR'S MEETING, IN LOBO, EIGHTH MONTH 24TH, 1890.

"Dress the garden and keep it clean." When these few words were presented to the view of my mind during the gathering of this interesting company, I said in my heart "What are these among so many?" But I believe in the same marvellous power that is able to magnify, multiply, and supply the wants of His people now as He ever was. And I now see before me many honest hearts seeking after truth—honestly seeking instruction in regard to religious life—and however incom-

petent we may feel ourselves we must trust and move to the directing of His holy will. And I feel thankful that He has inspired my mind with this thought: That He took me back beyond theory and theology to the very first commandment given to man. It seemed to beautify in an especial manner that promise that He will be an all-sufficient helper in every time of need. There are a great many systems and theories taught among men concerning godliness, and many ideas in regard to faith and doctrines, and yet with them all there is none more plain, simple and practical than is contained in this particular one, "Dress the garden and keep it clean." It meets the arguments that are entertained and put forth in this our age relative to the true relationship between God and His children, in which argument there is somewhat of discredit and censure thrown in the face of our Lord. As a Christian people, which we all profess to be, we are almost accusing our Creator of having brought into existence a sinful life, a depraved condition of humanity. We find by this first commandment that the man was to keep his own life as He, the Creator, had made it. It was the same God, who is universal and testifies himself to be unchangeable, which I endorse, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. Not only are His purpose and design the same, but His laws and the effects of His laws are the same. If this be true, whence cometh all this evil in the world? Let us see where it originated. I am curious to get at the reason why—to go back to the cause that produced this effect. While the command was given to Adam to keep the garden clean, it was through transgression that it was not kept clean.