

# Young \* Friends' \* Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

VOL. VII.

LONDON, ONT., FIRST MONTH, 1892.

NO.

## A NEW YEAR'S WISH.

"A bright new year, a glad new year,  
May this just entered be.  
A happy, plentiful, peaceful year  
Be granted thine and thee.  
May joys be bright, and griefs be light,  
As onward speed the hours;  
Thy paths be paths of pleasantness,  
And strewn with life's best flowers.  
And may each day that speeds away  
Still leave thee as it goes,  
Fitter for joys that know no end,  
And years that see no close."

## THE GREATEST BOON THAT QUAKERISM HAS GIVEN TO THE WORLD.

As I consider this subject, the thoughts of so many blessings, which Quakerism has brought to the world, come crowding into my mind; it seems to me it would take a volume to do justice to even a part of them. As is well known the Quakers were the pioneers in prison reform, in emancipation of slaves, in securing liberty of speech, in the elevation of woman to the place in society which she was designed to fill, and in countless other reforms, any one of which, if followed out in detail, would disclose a vast amount of permanent good accomplished and suffering relieved. Amidst the corruptions and tyranny of his age, there was not an abuse of any kind against which George Fox did not raise his voice, and his example was followed by Friends at large. But, important and far reaching, as are the reforms thus brought about, I think that, by far, the greatest boon that Quakerism has given to the world is the doctrine taught and practiced of "*immediate revelation*." Perhaps I ought not to say *taught*, as it would be more correct to

say *brought to light*, as the great truth that God speaks to the soul of man, and will be his guide in all things if man will but be obedient, was not a new doctrine, but was taught by Jesus Christ and His apostles, and, as we learn by the Scriptures, it was believed in from the earliest ages. What boon could the Creator have given to man which would equal the priceless gift of His Divine Spirit, which will "guide into all truth" from the days of childhood to the time of old age; and when the last conflict comes, if we have obeyed our Guide, He will bring us heavenly comfort in that dread hour when all other helps are vain. After the rise of the Papacy Christ's doctrine, of an ever present Guide, became so obscured by the false teaching of ambitious ecclesiastics, aided by the superstition of ignorant people, that it was almost lost sight of entirely. In the middle of the sixteenth century a number of persons suffered martyrdom for teaching that God revealed His will to the soul of man. But when George Fox began to teach this doctrine in all its purity it seemed, to most of the people, to be something new and unheard of. It is not within the limits of this article to speak of the great numbers who embraced the truth as taught by George Fox or of the wonderful conversions and other remarkable incidents of that time, and indeed how could it have been otherwise when there were, as in all ages, multitudes who were seeking after light in religious matters and longing for an assurance that they could know and do God's will.

After the barriers were broken down, which man's ambition and ignorance had placed between the soul and its Creator, a flood of light burst forth and