

Young - Friends' - Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

VOL. IV.

LONDON. ONT., FIFTH MONTH, 1889.

NO. 5

"GOD KNOWETH BEST."

SOMETIME, when all life's lessons have been learned,
And sun and stars for evermore have set,
The things which our weak judgments here have spurned,

The things o'er which we grieved with lashes wet,
Will flash before us out of life's dark night,
As stars shine most in deeper tints of blue,
And we shall see how all God's plans were right,
And how what seemed reproof was love most true.

And we shall see how, while we frown and sigh,
God's plans go on as best for you and me;
How, when we called, He heeded not our cry
Because His wisdom to the end could see;
And, even as prudent parents disallow
Too much of sweet to craving babyhood,
So God, perhaps, is keeping from us now
Life's sweetest things, because it seemeth good.

And if sometimes commingled with life's wine
We find the wormwood and rebel and shrink,
Be sure a wiser hand than yours or mine

Pour out this potion for our lips to drink,
And if some friend we love is lying low,
Where human kisses cannot reach his face,
Oh, do not blame the loving Father so,
But wear your sorrow with obedient grace.

And you shall shortly know that lengthened
breath
Is not the sweetest gift God sends His friend;
And that sometimes the sable pall of death
Conceals the fairest boon His love can send.
If we could push ajar the gates of life
And stand within and all God's workings see,
We could interpret all this doubt and strife,
And for each mystery could find the key.

But not to say: Then be content, poor heart!
God's plans, like lilies, pure and white unfold,

We must not tear the close-shut leaves apart;
Time will reveal the calyxes of gold.
And if through patient toil we reach the land
Where tired feet with sandals loose may rest,
Where we shall clearly know and understand —
I think that we shall say God knew the best!

—[CHRISTIAN UNION.]

A SERMON.*

AS outward objects have never been revealed to man in any other way than they now are by the light of the outward sun, so Spiritual truths and realities have always been revealed in the same manner they are at present, for God is unchangeable. His manifestations of love are the same yesterday, to-day and forever. His promises are yea and amen. He is a Spirit and speaks to man, not in the voice of words, but in the silent language of impressions does he make Himself understood. If we hearken to the still noiseless voice and dwell under the regulat-

ing influence of truth we find an anchor sure and steadfast for the tossing waves of life, a helper nigh in every time of need. According to ancient testimony, "There is a Spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding," and the office of this Spirit of God in man as mediator, redeemer, guide and helper, is to bring man, the creature, into harmony with his Creator, by man coming into the image of God, where all is peace. This same Spirit, even the Spirit of truth, abides with us to-day, and is that which is testified of by Him who said that He came to bear testimony to the truth, and who, when He was about to go

*Notes on a Sermon by Serena A. Minard at Monthly Meeting, Coldstream, Fourth mo. 10. 1889.