

# Young Friends' Review

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## THE AWAKENING.

(Continued.)

If we cannot, or if a Society cannot, in ordinary times, estimate its true bearing and influence on the world, it should not become impatient, and blindly judge that it is of no more use. We cannot see the tree grow, but we know by comparison that it has grown, that it grows. If we plant a seed we must not be over anxious and dig it up daily to see if it has sprouted. Nature must have its course, its time. If we would have the seed to sprout, and the plant to grow, we must not disturb the laws of birth and growth. The seed

needs earth, moistened by the rain and dews, and warmed by the vivifying sun light. The plant needs more sunlight and rain and air. Not more necessary is it for a plant to obey the laws of growth, than for a Society, if it would fulfil its mission.

We hear from our foremost members the encouraging report of a reawaking within our borders. A new life is being infused from some source, and for some purpose. To what extent we do not know, we may not prophesy. Enough for us to find out our own part in the work, and finding out to act; for Society depends upon individuals, and its success upon individual faithfulness. Might we not, profitably, learn a lesson from the plant life? We must check our impatience, and keep our over-anxiety from disturbing the laws of growth. "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin" They do not fret and worry and get over anxious about their growth. They just simply drink in God's sunlight and air and grow unconsciously until they open out their white lips in thankfulness for all Position is everything to them. So is it with Society. But as Society depends upon its members for position, it is our duty to place it where it will drink in the sunlight of God's love and the free air of His favor. Then will this reawakening into new life continue and result in outward works that will diffuse an odor of sweetness over the earth like what comes to us from the glorious deeds of our brave and faithful ancestors.

But Society, we said, depends upon individuals. Therefore we, the members, must get ourselves into the position and condition where we will be surrounded by God's love and favor. This is the duty of every Christian. It is the law of spiritual growth. To live in the favor and love of God we must carry out His commands and do His will. Nothing but implicit obedience will bring us into the sunshine of His countenance. He has a work for each