

Young - Friends' - Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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UNFINISHED FRAGMENTS.

The Master will guide the weary feet,
Choosing for each, and choosing aright
The noontide rest in the summer heat;
For some the glory of Alpine height,
For some the breezes fresh and free
And the changeful charm of wave and sea;
For some the hush and the soothing spells
Of harvest fields and woodland dells;
For some it may be the quiet gloom
Of the suffering couch and the shaded room.
Master, *our* Master, oh let it be
That our leisure and rest be still with Thee,
With Thee and *for* Thee each sunny hour

—FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL.

THE FAITH OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

ESTEEMED EDITORS OF "REVIEW."

—I give below an attempt to illustrate the views of the Society of Friends, almost entirely in the language of Scripture, yet clearly, forcibly, and unequivocally expressed, avoiding dogmatical terms and pet phrases, in which all sects are so prone to indulge. I have called it the "faith" of Friends, because I like that word; for it signifies something, not merely accepted by the understanding, but believed from the heart, interfused through the whole being, and shining forth in our daily words and actions. As will be seen, it is in the form of a First-day school exercise; and I leave the reader to judge whether I have not here set forth Quakerism as held by our branch of the Society of Friends, and in its ancient purity, simplicity and vigor. Much is said, from time to time, about the cause of our decline. If I were to attempt to state it in a broad and general way, I should say the reason is, that many of our members hold but a half-belief in the principles of Friends.

Some are leaning towards rationalism, agnosticism, ethical culture, and the like; and some incline to think the mode of worship of other churches is more interesting and suitable to their needs, and delight in a more intellectual ministry. A belief in spiritual life and the true process of growth in it must be taught anew to every generation, and the simple religion of Friends will always be needed. But if there is to be a revival in our Society, it can only come through the faithfulness of those who truly believe in its mission among men, and who make that mission their mission; for "life alone can impart life."

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Believing that, in the world of thought and life, the Society of Friends has a sacred mission to fulfill, we are bold to testify, in humble confidence, to the faith that is in us; remembering the words of the Divine Master: "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven."—(Matt. x., 32.)

What do Friends believe concerning God?

We believe in "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—(Eph. iv., 5, 6, Revised version.)

What do we believe concerning Jesus Christ?

We believe in "Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people."—Luke xxiv., 19); "who was, in all points, tempted like as we are, yet