

# Young - Friends' - Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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## THE RIVER OF LIFE.

\*SERMON.

The more we live more brief appear  
Our life's succeeding stages :  
A day to childhood seems a year,  
And years like passing ages.

The gladsome current of our youth,  
Ere passion yet disorders,  
Steals lingering like a river smooth  
Along its grassy borders.

But as the careworn cheek grows wan,  
And sorrow's shafts fly thicker,  
Ye stars, that measure life to man,  
Why seem your courses quicker ?

When joys have lost their bloom and breath,  
And life itself is vapid,  
Why, as we reach the Falls of Death,  
Feel we its tide more rapid ?

It may be strange—yet who would change  
Time's course to slower speeding,  
When one by one our friends have gone  
And left our bosoms bleeding ?

Heaven gives our years of fading strength  
Indemnifying fleetness ;  
And those of youth, a seeming length  
Proportion'd to their sweetness.

T. CAMPBELL.

Life ! I know not what thou art,  
But know that thou and I must part ;  
And when, or how, or where we met,  
Known to me's a secret yet.  
Life ! we've been long together,  
Through pleasant and through cloudy weather ;  
Tis hard to part when friends are dear—  
Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear ;  
Then steal away, give little warning,  
Choose thine own time ;  
Why not Good Night—but in some brighter clime  
Bid me good morning.

A. L. BARBAULD.

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved ; but he that believeth not shall be condemned." There is no question in my mind from the profound solemnity of baptism that it is efficacious. I doubt whether there is a soul that does not believe in it. We have all been baptized this morning. I am a firm believer in the virtues of this saving ordinance, if I may be allowed to take my own acceptance of the term. It is one of the essentials to the end of religious attainment. Whether Jesus was what we may call a strict grammarian or not, every word he uttered seems significant and fraught with a deep meaning. Or, if he depended upon his Father for this, his Father did wisely direct him. Notice the little words, they are large with meaning : "He that believeth and is baptized"—not has been, or may be, but is. I have no feelings of condemnation towards any denomination of people that has preserved and practiced the beautiful symbol in the outward from honest conviction of mind as a service required of the soul. For those it is a virtue and a saving ordinance. But the baptism that I am particularly anxious about is being baptized into the spirit of Christ, dipped into the nature and emerged into the very life of Christ, that there may be in all my movements a Christ-like influence radiating therefrom. Every soul is thus sufficiently and abundantly baptized with the Holy Spirit for every required duty. There is thrown around every soul sufficient means for purifying it and effecting a reconciliation between that soul and its Maker. We may have passed through the ordinance of the church and be baptized in outward water, but mere material matter cannot wash out a single stain from the spiritual

\*Notes taken by E.M.Z. on a sermon delivered at Coldstream, by Isaac Wilson, of Bloomfield, on First-day morning, the 13th of 2 mo., 1887.