

# Young \* Friends' \* Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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## THERE'S NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT.

There's no time like the present ;  
To-morrow's far away,  
And what our hands may find to do  
God bids us do to-day.

Be ready in the golden Now  
To do a helpful deed,  
And never let a chance go by  
To meet a sister's need.

Don't wait until another time,  
For she who waits may lose  
The grandest chance of all her life ;  
It is not ours to choose.

The opportunities to do ;  
They come at God's behest,  
And she who never squanders one,  
Is she who lives the best.

[Eben E. Rexford in Ladies' Home Journal.]

## THE INSPIRATION OF THE MINISTRY.

While it is the claim of the Ministry of the Society of Friends that those who minister are moved by the inspiration of the Divine Spirit, and that without such an inspiration, received directly for the occasion, there can be no true ministry such as is acceptable to God, and beneficial to man, yet, to those who are not, or have not been called into that service, it seems surrounded by so much of mystery that they are unable to comprehend it. It is, therefore, the object of this paper to present the thoughts and experience of the writer, with the purpose to endeavor to clear away the mystery which, to the young at least, seems to envelop it, and to furnish them as far as he may the evidences of the character of that inspiration, and of the manner in which it is conveyed to, and received

by, the individual called into such a service, as well as how the individual thus called may know that the call is a correct one ; also when we may know that the word of command or direction is given to minister.

When we speak of the inspiration of the Divine Spirit we usually mean to be understood as referring to the immediate revelation or direction of that Spirit to the spiritual nature of man, coming to the man by an internal, yet conscious, impression that some special work is to be performed, or that some truth is needed for us to understand and comprehend, which may become in some after time needful for us to bear testimony to.

Such inspiration or immediate revelation is not by any means confined to those who may receive, or may have received a call to the ministry, but we hold that, to the regenerated soul, all knowledge of such duties as are necessary to be performed to secure a continued acceptance, or unity with the Divine, must be received from such an inspiration, and so, too, does the conception of every truth essential to perfect man's happiness, or to equip him for the Lord's service, come from the same source, even though the truth may have been delivered through human instruments ; yet, it is by the inspiration of the Divine Spirit we are enabled to understand and comprehend it.

This, then, being the nature and character of inspiration as we understand, and will further consider it, it remains for us to enquire into its relation to the individual called to the work of the ministry.

Its first work in these does not materially differ from that required of all