

* A CHILD'S THOUGHT OF GOD.

They say that God lives very high !
But if you look above the pines
You cannot see our God. And why ?

And if you dig down in the mines,
You never see him in the gold,
Though from him all that's glory shines.

God is so good, He wears a fold
Of heaven and earth across his face—
Like secrets kept, for love, untold.

But still I feel that his embrace
Slides down by thrills, through all things
made,
Through sight and sound of every place :

As if my tender mother laid
On my shut lids her kisses' pressure,
Half waking me at night, and said :
"Who kissed you through the dark, dear
guesser ?"

E. B. BROWNING.

* Selected by Walter S. Way, Lyles, Pa.—
Eds.

HOME CULTURE AND THE FIRST-DAY SCHOOL.

I believe there is not a brighter outlook for the growth of our Society to-day than we see in the untiring efforts of the earnest workers in the cause of the First-day School. When the "well done good and faithful servant" is spoken, it will be heard by those devoted ones who have been willing to give their time and talents under untold discouragements, for the sake of the truth and humanity, to promoting establishing, and successfully carrying on, and, I am sorry to say, without the recognition or help of the Society, a First-day School on the *very ruin of some meetings.*

I have just received a private letter, in which I find the following : "Our meeting is very small, and I am pained to the heart's core when I confess I fear it will be smaller before it will be larger. Our First-day School has been more prosperous, in many respects, than

ever before. There are but few of the scholars Friends' children. Out of the number enrolled, which is between sixty and seventy, only nine are birthright members. When those who were invited to the wedding refused to come, then went they out into the by-ways and hedges, and from thence a large company were assembled and for them a bounteous repast spread—a blessing rich and comforting. There is at times a ray of hope that there will be a gathering together sometime in the old meeting house of those who are willing to work in the Master's cause, and as they have received gifts be willing to impart them."

In speaking of another Friend, the same writer says : "Stripped of all his immediate loved ones, alone to keep house, and alone to go and keep up First-day School, in which there is not a single member among Friends." And yet this Friend with his wife, until her death a few years ago, kept up this school for twenty years, and without recognition or help from Society. It seems a sad commentary on our religious organization that it has not recognized such generous efforts and given those schools its care, encouragement, and help. These instances should give new life to us who are laboring in the same cause under more favorable circumstances, and should be an inducement also to establish schools where there are none.

S. P. P.

FRIENDLY NOTES.

By circular we are informed that Chappaqua Mountain Institute, a boarding school for both sexes, under the care of Friends, reopens 10th mo. 12th, in new buildings well equipped. The school is beautifully situated on the N. Y. and Harlem R. R., thirty-two miles from New York City. S. C. Collins, M.A., is still retained as Principal.

We regret to record the death, which occurred 10th mo. 1st, of Elma, second daughter of Dr. A. J. and Nellie Ingersoll, of Corning, N.Y., aged 14 years and nearly 9 mo's. She was grand daughter of the late Edmund Vail, once a member of Genesee V. M. of Friends.