

# Young Friends' Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

VOL. VIII.

LONDON, ONT., ELEVENTH MONTH, 1893.

NO. 11

## "HE WENT ABOUT DOING GOOD."

He never bent on altar stairs  
To utter any formal prayers,  
But in his heart did often feel  
A deep desire for human weal.  
When at his meals he took his place,  
He never spake the words of "Grace,"  
But for the bounteous gift of food  
He felt a sense of gratitude.  
It seemed mechanical, he said,  
To kneel and pray beside his bed,  
So he retired without a word,  
Trusting the deeper voice was heard.  
He did not own one day as blest  
Supremely over all the rest,  
But felt that every day and hour  
Was held by him as sacred dower.  
Small was the aid he could afford  
In rearing temples to the Lord ;  
But much he labored to secure  
More shelter for the houseless poor.  
No sacred spot he e'er would own,  
Made so by lofty piles of stone ;  
But felt an inner sense profound  
That every place is "holy ground,"  
When consecrate to human need  
By holy thought and holy deed.  
No written word, he said, could be  
Infallible authority,—  
But trusted more the "Inner Light"  
And Reason to direct him right.  
"A change of heart," by mystic spell  
Of some o'er-mastering miracle,  
Or stern oracular command,  
He said he could not understand,  
But owned that he had come to know  
How very good it is to grow  
In common graces, day by day,  
Putting the childish things away,  
Still gaining more and more control  
Over each impulse of his soul,  
He did not go to any priest  
To be from sin and shame released,  
Nor did he deem it wise or good  
To rest on Christ's atoning blood ;  
He dared not trust the mythic scheme  
Of any Oriental dream,  
But owned the Prophet wisely taught  
That his salvation must be wrought  
By his own works and efforts true,  
To noble be and nobly do.

He ne'er assumed a pious mood,  
But yet his spirit was imbued  
With that warm glow, that love-lit flame,  
Which all can feel, but none can name.  
Now tell me, ye whose heads are wise,  
Whose hearts are leaning tow'rd the skies,  
Who competent to draw the line  
'Twixt things profane and things divine,  
Tell me, in your sincerest thought,  
Was he *Regenerate* or not ?

*H. S. K., in "Scattered Seeds"*

## THE DISTINCTIVE VIEWS OF FRIENDS'.

BY JOHN J. CORNELL.

"Let your light so shine before men  
that they may see your good works, and  
glorify your Father which is in heaven."  
—Matt. 5:16.

The primal distinctive principle which was claimed by the early Fathers of the Society of Friends was that God immediately reveals to the souls of those who place themselves by their own volition in a proper attitude to receive such a revelation, the knowledge of every duty that is necessary for man to perform, in order that he may live in unison with the laws of the Divine Being, whom we call God, has instituted to guide and control him in the present life, so as to enable him to overcome all temptations to wrong, whether of commission or omission, and thereby save him from the commission of sin and being alienated from his Father and Creator. And, while acknowledging the value of such instrumental means as the Bible and the ministry of men called by God to declare the glad tidings of His Gospel, they did not, nor do we believe that these instrumental means ought to or can supplant the immediate revelations of the Divine Spirit, and man become cognizant of