

Young - Friends' - Review.

"Neglect Not the Gift that is in Thee."

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THE NEW YEAR.

In this new year
Let every heart God's higher comfort
share!
Climbing to all holier heights above—
Hiding dark hate beneath the wings of
love!
And in despite of storm and stress and
strife,
Living the larger and the lovelier life!
— *Selected.*

WHAT IS QUAKERISM?

Read by Lydia J. Moher in Friends' Meeting House, Granville, on the evening of 12th mo. 25th, 1895.

So ably has this question been answered by eminent ministers and others now living, it may seem superfluous, if not presumptuous, for me to attempt an answer to it. However, I believe there are many to whom this question suggests nothing but a small religious sect, holding peculiar views, which they do not care to explain to others.

There is much said in these days against doctrinal preaching and in favor of practical religion, and this is a step forward, for it meets the needs of humanity. Yet, underneath all practice lies belief, for that our actions are influenced by our belief no one will deny, and when we put our belief into words we call it doctrine. Friends have no creed, and their doctrines are few and simple, but deep and far-reaching. We believe in the Scriptures, and call them the words of our God to us, but we do not call them the "Word of God," because they themselves tell us that "in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God," and "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." This shows clearly that the Word is not the Bible, but

Christ, the power which caused the Scriptures to be written.

So highly do we reverence the Bible that we endeavor to obey it in all things, finding its commands always agree with God's will, as revealed to us in our hearts. Thus in obeying the command—"Swears not at all." Friends have suffered imprisonment and death; and from the teachings of Jesus Christ came forth our testimonies against war, slavery, and all intemperance, which, in the early days of our Society, caused such suffering to those who so nobly stood by them.

We do not practice outward baptism, because John said, "He that cometh after me is mightier than I. He shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost and with fire," and Paul testifies "there is but one baptism." We accept that of Christ, rejecting the outward. Thus also in regard to what is called the Lord's Supper.

We do not believe that when our Lord kept the Passover with His disciples that He meant to establish a permanent institution. Before this, when speaking of Himself as the bread from heaven, of which if any man partook he should live forever, His own disciples so misunderstood Him He had to tell them plainly "it is the spirit which quickeneth, the flesh profiteth nothing; the words which I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." But communion with Christ all Friends believe in, and most binding upon us do we feel the injunction, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and sup with him, and he with Me."

We believe that true worship is spiritual, as Jesus told the woman of amaria; therefore we hold our meet-