

Young Friends' Review.

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

VOL. IV.

LONDON, ONT., SECOND MONTH, 1889.

NO. 2

For the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

Hark ; the silence of the midnight hour,
Is broken now by the sound of bells ;
Ringing by a mystic unseen power,
And out from the dome of each church tower,
The joyous sound circles and swells ;
From tongues in a thousand metal throats,
In wild, sweet, echoing, notes,
Over the cities where mankind dwells.

Listen ; the sounds now are dying away,
In fainter tones on the midnight air,
And as they vanish they seem to say,
The old year soon yet longer would stay,
Ere giving place to the New Year fair.
But the notes of the bells are vanished and gone,
The grey Old Year forever has flown,
And is to us now a sweet breathings of prayer.

Pause ; do not hasten to turn from the past,
Let its incense surround us yet for awhile,
As it floats from the embers, now fading fast,
Where the sweet spices of life we have cast,
When joy illumined the face with its smile.
Or where when burdened with cares and grief,
In faith and love we sought relief,
Through prayer, that brought us peace at last.

Remember ; all that was truest and best,
In the Old Year will be helps to us now
In the New Year, and will oft bring us rest
And peace that hath power to soothe the opprest.
And when many New Year have silvered
the brow,
And calmly we pass down life's decline,
Heaven's light o'er our pathway will shine,
Guiding us on to the home of the best.

'Tis promised ; doubt not words so grand,
As those we read in Scripture's pages,
Of the One who leads us by the hand,
And by whose grace we may withstand
The power of sin, of which death is the wages,
Then with Christian zeal and humble heart,
Oh, may we ever perform the part,
That will bear us safe through Eternity's ages.

Yes ; after the Old Year, cometh the New,
Alter the night are the beauties of morn ;
Over the false will triumph the true,
After clouds of the storm, the skies pure blue ;
After doubtings cometh faith newly born,
When duties are done, rewards will be given,
Death opens the door to the beauties of heaven ;
And God's love is with us our whole lives
through.

SETH L. KINSEY.

"YOUNG FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION."*

OBJECTS AND METHODS OF WORK.

The objects of the Young Friends' Association, as set forth in the Constitution recently adopted, are "the attainment of a thorough knowledge of the history and testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends, together with a closer acquaintance and association among those connected with it either by membership or community of interest," and further, as is also intimated in the same article, the awakening of "an active interest and participation in the affairs of the Society, and the intelligent promotion of its principles."

That these purposes may be better understood, a few words explanatory of the origin of the new organization seem to be in place. In the new interest in the affairs of our Religious Society which has been developing during the last few years, and which has found its best expression, perhaps, in First-day school work, there has been experienced by some, possibly by nearly all of those interested, a lack of thorough knowledge of the history and principles of the Society of Friends,—a knowledge which seems to be an essential qualification for accomplishing the best results in that work. At a meeting of a few members of our Society, (all of them I believe interested in First-day school work), it was found that this need of a more thorough knowledge was felt by all ; and it was also discovered that each Friend had formed the purpose to study as thorough a study as possible of our history and principles, and thus satisfy this need.

* Paper read by Isaac Roberts, at the meeting First mo. 14, 1889, at 15th and Race Sts., Philadelphia.