

# Young - Friends' - Review:

"NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE."

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## GOD LOVETH US.

God loveth us. In pain or bliss  
O heart, be true and strong !  
God loveth us, and knowing this  
We know life's sweetest song !  
God loveth us, O hands that grasp  
At human tenderness.  
And then in emptiness unclasp !  
He waits to fill and bless.  
God loveth us, O weary feet  
That find the journey long !  
His love provides a rest so sweet  
The hope of it makes strong !  
God loveth us, O eyes that find  
Life's lessons hardly read !  
By fears of loss made dim and blind,  
Learn his great love instead.  
God loveth us, O fallen one !  
Creep upward to the light—  
God's radiant stars shine on and on  
Until the dawn grows bright.  
God loveth us—the world grows old  
Yet falls the light and dew.  
God loveth us—the world grows old,  
But love is ever new.

## A COMMENCEMENT ESSAY BY G. L. B.

AN APOSTLE OF LIBERTY—FOX.

Nearly fifteen hundred years after the dawn of Christianity, the world had not learned its great teaching of universal freedom. At the beginning of the sixteenth century the entire civilized world was in servitude; every man was subject to one above him in rank, and all bowed down to the supreme authority of the Pope. No freedom, either in thought or speech, was allowed, and, as was natural under these conditions, the heaviest burdens fell to the lower classes. Those people in whom there was any sense of justice rebelled against this state of affairs, but seemed powerless to remedy it.

The masses were entirely without

learning, for education was granted alone to the clerical order. Since the nations were in such a depraved condition, we are not surprised to learn that they were in constant turmoils. The poor peasants continually chafed under their galling yoke of oppression, and the nobility were in constant fear lest these should break forth into open rebellion. Everything was in an unsettled state. The world needed a reformation. Savonarola, an Italian, was one of the first who recognized the need of a reform, and set to work to bring it about but he was put to death almost before he had made a beginning.

The work once started other reformers followed—Colet, Erasmus, and Thomas More. These men, though they were enlightened concerning many things, yet committed one great error, for while they saw through the vain teachings of the Catholic Church, they nevertheless upheld the authority of the Pope. Martin Luther took up the work while these three men were still living, and under his zealous efforts the reform made great progress. He fought boldly against the evils of his age, and stood firm for what he considered the *right*, but at his death he left the work seemingly incomplete. The nations of Europe were as unsettled as ever. Catholics persecuted Protestants and Protestants persecuted Catholics.

About this time the New World was beginning to attract people, and hither they came seeking freedom of worship, but those who had so earnestly sought freedom for themselves withheld it from others. So here, as in all Europe, tolerance was unknown.

There was need of a man to com-