

Young Friends' Review.

"Neglect Not the Gift that is in Thee."

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IT IS WELL.

BY A. A. HOPKINS.

The air has borne some tender words,
As sweet as melodies of birds,
And benedictions soft and clear
Have trembled on the waiting ear ;
But never sweeter accents fell
Than Faith has uttered—"It is well."

Hope sits through each to-day and waits
The opening of to-morrow's gates,
And Patience wearily abides
The veil that each to-morrow hides ;
But whether good or ill foretell,
Faith sweetly whispers—"It is well."

Alas for him who never hears
The words that quiet doubt and fears ;
Who, bent with burdens, plods along
With never any heart for song ;
Who murmurs, come whatever will
To bless or chasten—"It is ill !"

How dark the night when shine no stars !
How dull and heavy being's bars
When through them faith can never see
Green fields beyond and liberty !
How sad the day when wailing knell
Is louder than the "It is well !"

As soothing as a soothing balm,
A grand and yet a tender psalm
Is floating ever on the air,
Is blending with the mourner's prayer,
And saddest plaints that ever fell
Find answer in the "It is well !"

Written for YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

ORTHODOXY.

BY JESSE H. HOLMES.

It is sometimes made a matter of reproach to Friends of our branch of the Society that we are not orthodox. This word and its congener heterodox are two which may at one time have been desirable and respectable words in the English language ; but at the

present time they have degenerated to the class of epithets which, in the opinion of the writer of this article, ought to be banished from the vocabulary of all who believe in plain language. They are words without clear meaning. They are never used except in controversy, and they never add anything to the clearness of controversy.

If we go back to origins we find that the word *orthodox* comes from two Greek words, meaning *right* or *correct thought*. The modern application of the word is to correctness of religious doctrine, especially with reference to the Trinity, the miracles and the resurrection. *Heterodox* is derived from Greek words, meaning *different thought*, and in common English usage means the opposite of orthodox. Those who use these words must, I think, fail to realize the arrogance of assuming absolute correctness for their own point of view in matters about which earnest men and women have differed widely in all ages. It is far removed from the humility which should characterize the Christian, to assume that we have the absolute right and true—that we have been selected from all the children of God in all ages for clear revelation. It is becoming to remember that others have been just as sure of the correctness of opinions quite the opposite of our own. It is wise to look back to the day when it was pronounced "un-orthodox" to believe that eastern lands could be reached by sailing westward, and to recall the fact that Columbus but narrowly escaped the censure of the Church for this opinion. If we fully realize that in proclaiming