

And Thou, O Lord ! by whom are seen
Thy creatures as they be,
Forgive me, if too close I lean
My human heart on Thee !

Shall we ever miss our way if we follow in our Poet's path, and trust ourselves to the "Eternal Goodness," as he did. Will it avail us if we cling ever so tenaciously to any of the creeds of Christendom, or study the different doctrines taught in the various churches, if we fail to grasp that wonderful truth which thus sustained the Christians in all ages of the world ?

CHAPTER VII.

THE INWARD VOICE.

FROM what I can glean from the writings of the Friends, I do not think they lay much stress upon the written Word, or Bible, as a rule of life. Whittier evidently depended strongly upon the leadings of the Spirit, inner light, or inward voice, as he sometimes expressed it in his poems. In the following verses, called "Revelation," he says :—

I pray for faith, I long to trust ;
I listen with my heart, and hear
A voice without a sound : " Be just,
Be true, be merciful, revere
The Word within thee : God is near !