

If a religious life is good for those who possess it, it is good for those who do not; and what we can do decorously in our acquaintanceship to put forward our principles and extend our limits, only adds that much support to the principles we espouse, and, as we believe, to the cause of truth and the good of humanity. As to a practical means in this direction, we trust that this publication may in a modest way serve a part. Its pages are open to reflection upon the great problems of God and nature, and our relation to God and nature. Through care and attention, through encouragement and courage, there may be increased the personal powers of us all: and if they bear the impress of the Divine, our Society shall prosper.

Will Friends kindly send us the names of relatives or others at a distance to whom we may forward copies, with a view to increasing the subscription list. While mentioning this perhaps it would not be out of place to ask you to consider whether by subscribing for one or two extra copies to be placed in other hands, you would be doing for the good of the Society anything commensurate with the additional expense.

We should be ungrateful indeed did we not recognize the generous assistance of those in each meeting to whom we first applied. The kindly and speedy response gives us courage and faith in our undertaking, and a cheering outlook upon our Society.

TRUST.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

A picture memory brings to me;
I look across the years and see
Myself beside my mother's knee.

I feel her gentle hand restrain
My selfish moods, and know again
A child's blind sense of wrong and pain.

But wiser now, a man gray grown,
My childhood's needs are better known,
My mother's chastening love I own.

Gray grown, but in our Father's sight
A child still groping for the light
To read His works and ways aright.

I bow myself beneath his hand;
That pain itself for good was planned,
I trust, but can not understand.

I fondly dream its needs must be
That, as my mother dealt with me,
So with His children dealeth He.

I wait, and trust the end will prove
That here and there, below, above
The chastening heals, the pain is love.

HOME CULTURE AND THE FIRST-DAY SCHOOL.

Because we are fully persuaded of the vast importance of the proper training and true development of the young mind, and on account of the responsibilities which such a training places on individuals, on heads of families, and on Religious Societies, we consider it our duty to make the subject a prominent one in our journal. We have full faith in the possibility of leading a child in rectitude through the slippery paths of childhood and youth until permanency of character is established, and it can stand alone. That the subject is an important one all acknowledge. That the First-Day School is a prominent factor in the work, most people accept, but we must ever place a proper parental training and home influence first. The establishment of First-Day Schools in our Society, opened up a broad field for usefulness to our younger members. Young Friends, we want you to take advantage of it. It will tend to instruct you in our principles. The scope of our paper will confine us mostly to you, young people—the part you should take in this work, and the benefits to be derived by you in such participation. We have faith in the future of our Religious Society. We have faith in its fundamental principles, for we believe them to be in accordance with Truth and with the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth.

There are a few things in connection with First-Day school work which seem at first glance of minor importance, yet experience has taught us to believe are essential to the success of any school. 1.—The older members, the young and the little ones, should all take part. 2.—The school should be graded. Don't mix the little ones, who cannot read, with good readers, nor the half-grown with the adults;