

## MIND THE LIGHT.

*Written for the Young Friends' Review on  
reading the editorial in 12th mo.*

Scatter the seed with a liberal hand,  
Harrow the ground, it will soon expand,  
Look for the blossoms with fragrance sweet,  
Lo ! they have turned to fruit replete.

Some find their work in sowing the seeds,  
Others see duties in cutting the weeds ;  
Thou hast reopened a broad field of work,  
Thou would'st find beauty in blossoms that  
lurk.

Beauties now latent, if but brought to view,  
Would brighten and strengthen the love for  
the true ;

Beauties of thought, the blossoms of mind,  
That soul may with soul in unity bind.

Great is thy mission, and brave and true  
The work thou hast set thyself to do.  
May the love that erst inspired thy zeal  
Burn pure and steadfast, as thou art leal.

Thy voice, may it be a silver tongue  
That shall reach the heartstrings of the young,  
Waking the slumbering spirit's desires,  
To kindle and feed their altar fires.

Such altar fires as the Friends of old  
Guarded and fanned with love untold ;  
Replenished with truth, a fire make bright,  
Living and loving, with "mind the light."

Yea, mind the light, the blossom perdu,  
Its beauties, its uses, its guidance so true,  
Is thy mission to youth, more precious than  
gold,

May the harvest yield be folds untold.

C. A. G.

*Farmington, N. Y., 12, 28, 1887.*

## WHAT IS TEMPERANCE RE- FORM AND HOW PROMOTED.

*Editors of Young Friends' Review :*

The answer to the above query briefly stated is character building, which must antedate all statutory law, for good government and good laws are the outcome, not the primary cause of reform, and although good laws

honestly enforced may be a terror to evil doers, the reform, if there be any, will come through the arising in the soul of the Son of Righteousness with healing in His wings. If I were asked to define the meaning of the word temperance I would answer it is the avoidance of all excess, whether in thought, word or deed, and therefore to me the question of temperance reform involves the whole broad subject of self culture, which, of course, includes self subjugation and self control, embodying social and all other moral purity. Some poet has said that "If good we plant not, vice will fill the place, And rankest weeds the richest soil deface."

For truly the mind of man may be compared to a garden, which, if rightly cultivated, may develop all the noble qualities comparable to the choicest fruits or the fairest flowers, and in short everything that is calculated to elevate and adorn humanity, but, if on the other hand, this all important work is neglected, the mind may become as "a desert land," or "a waste howling wilderness," abounding in noxious weeds, or overrun with briars and thorns, and "full of doleful creatures" eventually rendering life a burden to its possessor, and hence the great importance of a general diffusion of useful knowledge not only in regard to "alcohol and its effects upon the system," but in regard to all the other evils (and their name is legion) with which we are confronted in this probationary state, and I rejoice in the belief that the religious Society of Friends is becoming aroused to the all importance of this subject of education in its length and breadth and height and depth, an education that cannot be wholly confined to schools, for it should begin with life and can only end with it.

A. COLEMAN.

*Irondequoit, 12 mo., 29, 1887.*

Advice is like snow; the softer it falls the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.