

Young - Friends' - Review.

"Neglect Not the Gift that is in Thee."

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THE LAMP.

Hast thou a lamp, a little lamp,
Put in that hand of thine?
And did he say, who gave it thee:
"The world hath need this light should be;
Now, therefore, let it shine?"

And dost thou say, with bated breath:
"It is a little flame;
I'll let the lamps of broader wick,
Seek out the lost and cheer the sick,
While I seek wealth and fame."

But on the shore where thy small house
Stands dark, stands dark, this night,
Full many a wanderer, thither tossed,
Is driven on that rock and lost,
Where thou hast hid thy light.

Though but a candle thou didst have,
Its trimmed and glowing ray
Is infinite. With God no light
Is great or small, but only bright,
As is his perfect day.

The world hath sorrow, nothing more,
To give or keep for thee.
Duty is that hidden flame,
And soaring joy; then rise, for shame
That thou so dark shouldst be.

Rise, trim thy lamp; the feeble past
Behind thee put and spurn,
With God it is not soon or late,
So that thy light, now flaming great,
Does ever fiercer burn.

Fierce with its love, and flaming great,
In its humility;
Shunning no soul in sinful need,
Fearing no path where he may lead,
Glowing consumingly.

Thou shalt not want for light enough,
When earthly moons grow dim;
The dawn is but begun for thee,
When thou shalt hand, so tremblingly,
Thy empty lamp to Him.

—Independent.

When a man has been guilty of any vice or folly, the best atonement he can make for it is to warn others not to fall into the like.—Addison.

NOTES ON A SERMON

DELIVERED BY JOHN J. CORNELL, AT
COLDSTREAM, 8MO. 7TH, 1898.

"Except a man be born again, except he be born of water and of the spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

This language of Jesus viewed in the literal seems full of mystery. Even Nicodemus, to whom it was addressed, did not comprehend it. And yet it is made the ground-work in most churches for the requirement of faith, on which is demanded a supernatural process popularly termed conversion or change of heart. Now, instead of looking at this new birth, as a great supernatural overturn of character and life, I look upon it as the natural working of divine law in the growth and development of our spiritual natures. I conceive man to be a three-fold being, each capable of development and along parallel lines. We know how the physical grows. It is a gradual advancement made by partaking of proper nutriment in proper quantities and at proper times. Likewise, gradual is the intellectual development. It is a daily growth by the daily accretion of knowledge. The child commences with a simple audible sound, and in time it learns to articulate words and by and by, to form them into sentences. In all the branches of knowledge it is necessary to learn the rudiments first, then by gradual accretions the science is mastered.

It is just the same in the spiritual life. Its growth is just as natural and just as gradual. It is a progressive development. When there comes in the mysterious and marvelous experience of regeneration, the new birth?

The child in its early years is taught by its parents. It depends upon their