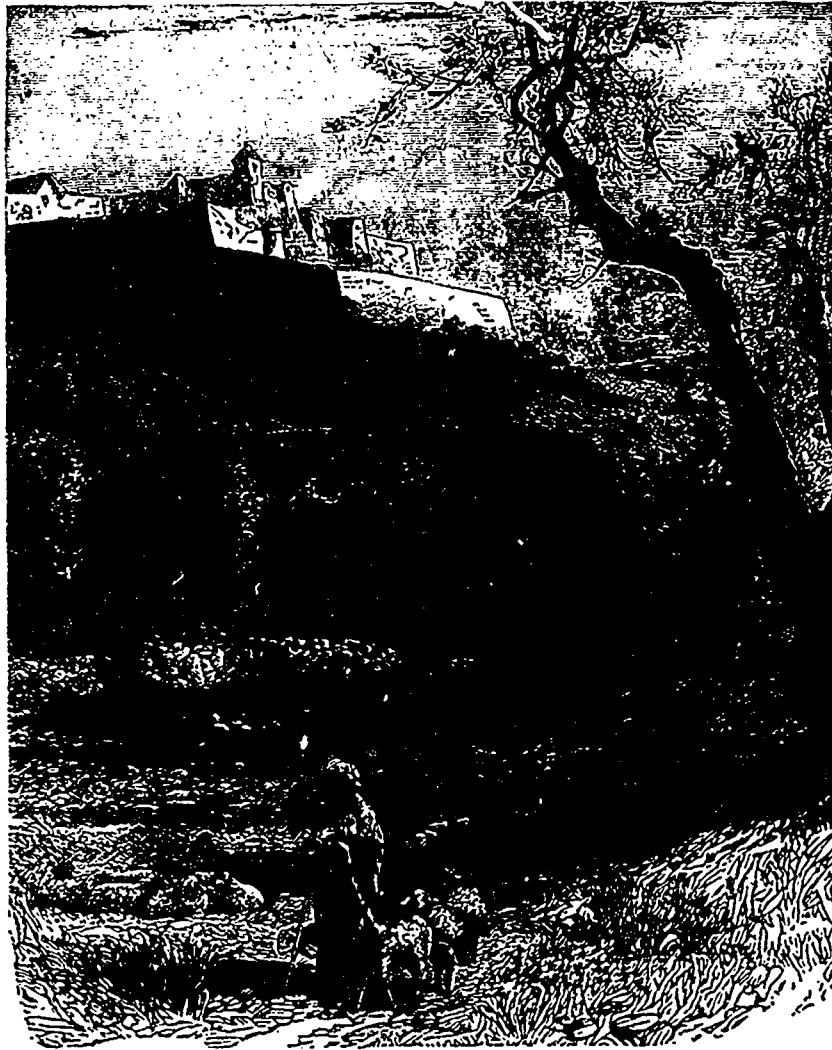


Young People's Department.



UNDER THE WALLS OF BETHLEHEM.

O, LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM.



O LITTLE town of Bethlehem !
How still we see thee lie ;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by ;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light ;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given !
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love,
O, holy Child of Bethlehem !
Descend to us we pray ;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.

O, morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth !
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.
We hear the Christmas angels,
The great, glad tidings tell,
O, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel !

—Phillips Brooks.