



EASTERN WELLS.

GOD WANTS THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

BY REV. J. E. KETTERIDGE.

God wants the boys, the merry, merry boys,
The noisy boys, the funny boys,
The thoughtless boys;
God wants the boys, with all their joys,
That he as gold may make them pure,
And teach them trials to endure.
His heroes brave
He'll have them be,
Fighting for truth
And purity.
God wants the boys.

God wants the happy-hearted girls,
The loving girls, the best of girls,
The worst of girls;
God wants to make the girls his pearls,
And so reflect his holy face,
And bring to mind his wondrous grace,
That beautiful
The world may be,
And filled with love
And purity.
God wants the girls.

EASTERN WELLS.

FROM a very early period, water was obtained by digging in the earth. Owing to the difficulty of the operation, and the importance of the result, wells have always been highly valued in Eastern lands. A large number of wells are mentioned in the history of the Patriarchs and their descendants, and several places are named from wells. The wells of Scripture were, in some cases, probably no more than basins to receive the water flowing from natural springs. Some of these, in and around Palestine, are of considerable depth, and of so great antiquity that there is little doubt that they are, in certain cases, the very wells of which we read in the Bible. Almost every village has its well for the common use of the inhabitants, but instances occur in which are several wells in a place, and others in which water is supplied by natural springs and fountains. Wells were sometimes owned by a number of persons in common, and their flocks were brought to them for watering on appointed days, in

an order previously arranged. Jacob's well, near Shechem, is said to be 120 feet deep, with only fifteen feet of water in it. Turn to the gospel by John, chap. iv., and read the interesting narrative of the conversation the Lord Jesus Christ had with the woman of Samaria, then ask, have I drunk of the Water of Life, the water the Saviour gives to all who ask for it?

TOM AND NED.

TOM and Ned walked down the street together on their way to Sunday-school. Tom's face was bright as the day itself, but Ned's wore a scowl.

"Father's never satisfied if I don't go to Sunday-school and church," he grumbled. "I think it's pretty hard on a fellow to keep him tied up so!"

"Why, don't you want to go?" asked Tom.

"Sometimes I don't, when it's a nice day like this, and I want to have a walk and a little fun with the boys. There's Will Lawson never goes to Sunday-school unless he's a mind to, and I don't see why my father is so particular."

"It's a pity that Will's father isn't more particular," said Tom, soberly. "You know what trouble Will got into a few Sundays ago."

"O! that was only a little port!"

"But it's the kind of sport nobody likes to remember about a boy. And for my part I am glad that my father cares enough about me to want me to be in a safe place on Sunday."

And so the boys passed beyond hearing, but their words floated on the air, and have dropped down into the *Sunbeam* for our boys and girls to read and think about.

Sometimes father's and mother's desire to have you in the right place seems a little oppressive, doesn't it? Try and remember this: they know the dangers that wait for you far better than you possibly can, and it is because they care for you and love you very dearly that they try to shield you. It is not pleasant for a parent to deny a child what looks like a great pleasure to the child, and you may be sure when it is done it always gives pain to the parent's heart. Do not make the pain greater by your unwillingness to yield to father's and mother's will in the matter! Remember, it is only love that watches over and tries to protect!

To be true, as in God's sight,
Is to walk in holy light.
Light of Love! oh, shine within!
Make me free from every sin.