

THE SOWER.

THE WELL OF SYCHAR.

"Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well; and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink."—Jno. iv. 6, 7.

"Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well, whose branches run over the wall." Gen. xlix, 22.

A well of water in Scripture is the symbol of *grace*, and our blessed Lord, by the very same well which was given of Jacob of old to Joseph his son, may be viewed as the *true Joseph*, with his branches indeed running over the wall, namely his love going forth beyond the bounds of that people to whom alone He was sent (Matt. x. 5, 6; xv. 24) to bless, not only this poor Samaritan woman, but all in like manner whose souls are, like hers, athirst for the water of life.

Sweet was the hour, O Lord, to Thee,

At Sychar's lonely well,

When a poor outcast heard Thee there

Thy great salvation tell.

Thither she came, but Oh! her heart

All filled with earthly care,

Dream'd not of Thee, nor thought to find

The Hope of Israel there.