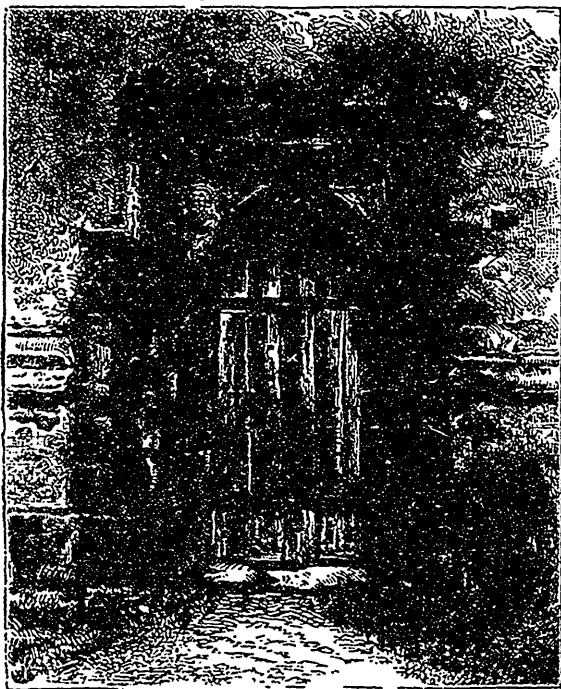


of the author of "The Dairyman's Daughter," is a beautiful village. Cardington ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles), where stands the house once occupied by John Howard, the philanthropist. Cople (4 miles), where Butler wrote his "Hudibras." As we leave Bedford the traveller should not fail to look across the fields at a church on the left. It is Elstow, where, in 1628, John Bunyan was born. He was one of the ringers in Elstow Church.

In the quaint old church is still shown the carved seat in which



BELFRY DOOR, ELSTOW CHURCH.

Bunyan sat and listened to the sermons preached from the old Tudor pulpit. The tower is one of the few in England which stands entirely disconnected from the church. The above cut shows the belfry door at which Bunyan used often to linger. The old Norman door, with its dog-tooth moulding, dating back probably six centuries or more, is shown on page 218. Above the door is a carved representation of Christ, having St. Peter with his keys on the right and St. John the Evangelist on the left. In the door is a wicket, which may have suggested the wicket-gate of the allegory.