

THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

A FRIEND of a dying clergyman, to whom he was dictating a letter, had written, "I am still in the land of the living." "Stop," said the gasping man, "correct that, and make it read, I am still in the land of the dying, but hope soon to be in the land of the living."

THE BIBLE IN THE HEART.

I HAVE often heard children repeat the beautiful hymn that begins

"Holy Bible, book divine,
Precious treasure, thou art mine!"

I wonder how many of them really felt what they said. A treasure is something that is worth a great deal; something that we take great care of, because we value it very much. It is in this way we should look upon the Bible. It is the greatest treasure any one can have, for it tells us how to escape from hell, how to find pardon for our sins, and teaches us to love God, and delight in doing His will.

In some countries the people are not allowed to have any Bibles. The priests will not let them read the Word of God, and, if they find a Bible, they burn it.

There was a little boy, living in one of these countries, who had somehow got a Bible. He was very fond of it, and carried it with him wherever he went, and, when he had a moment of spare time, he would open it, and read again and again the story of the blessed Saviour's love for sinners.

He read it so often that he knew a great part of it by heart. At last the priest found that Larry had a Bible. He sent for him and made him give it up. "I am going to burn it," said the priest. So he threw it into the fire, and watched until every leaf was blackened and withered by the flames. Then he turned to Larry, and saw that he was smiling.

"What are you smiling at?" he asked.

"Because," said the boy, "I was thinking that you might burn my Bible, but you cannot burn the part of it that is laid up in my heart."

Do you love the Bible as Larry did?

Do you lay it up in your hearts? or, when you have been reading it, do you go away and forget it all?

The Bible is not like any other book. It is God's own Word. If we had not the Bible, we should not know anything about God, or the Saviour. It is written to teach us what God wishes