

Happy Days

VOLUME III.]

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[No. 19.

REVERIE.

ONE would think, to judge from the expression on her face, that it is not a very happy train of thought this dreamy maiden is indulging in. Do you know, young friends, that the thoughts you oftenest entertain leave their impress on your countenances, and declare your characters, as well as even words could, to every observing eye? Well, such is the fact, as any one of considerable experience can tell you; so be very careful, even from this lesser consideration, what you permit yourselves to think about. If you are a studious child, much applied to research after useful knowledge, your face plainly shows it; if merely inquisitive, whether of good or ill, that can be read, too. If you are cheerful and happy-hearted, every one can see it at a single glance; if inclined to sulk and meditate



REVERIE.

upon grievances, they can perceive that just as plainly. The girl in our picture does not look like the kind of a young person last described; she only seems a little puzzled or troubled about the subject of her reverie.

"REALLY IN EARNEST."

"THERE was a little girl in Vermont, who had been taught to have faith that God would answer her prayers. One night, when her sister was sick and not expected to live,

she went to her room and prayed long and earnestly that God would spare her and make her well. Then she came out, and asked her mother if her sister was better.

"No, dear," replied her mother, "she is no better, but worse."

"Then," said the little girl, "I guess the Lord wants to know if I am really in earnest."

So she went back and prayed till midnight, when a change came, and her sister began to recover. The Lord heard her prayer because she was really in earnest.

When we ask God for anything, we must be in earnest. He rewards only those who "diligently seek him." Elijah was in earnest when he prayed seven times for rain, and God heard him. 1 Kings 18. 41-45. The blind men were in earnest when they wanted their eyes opened, and Jesus heard and answered their prayers. Dear young friends, the

Lord is just as willing to hear your prayers when you ask him, to help you to overcome your wicked ways, to forgive your sins, and help you to do right. Only you must be really in earnest.—H. W. Pierce.