

And gladly did he grant the boon ;
The boy had pleaded well,
And to the eager child he said,
" Yes, you shall ring the bell ! "

Oh, what a proud and happy heart
He carried to his home,
And how impatiently he longed
For the Sabbath-day to come !

He rang the bell ; he went to school,
The Bible, learned to read,
And in his youthful heart they sowed
The Gospel's precious seed.

And now to other heathen lands
He's gone of Christ to tell ;
And yet his first young mission was
To ring the Sabbath bell.

THE FIRST SCHOOL IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

IN no part of the Earth have missionary labors done more good than in the Sandwich Islands. The inhabitants of that important group are now amongst the best taught and the most religious nations in existence. But the case was very different in 1820, when the messengers of mercy first landed upon their shores. At that time they were a people without knowledge. They had no written language, no schools, no teachers, and, what was worse, they did not feel their wants, or wish to have them removed. Ignorance is bad ; but indifference is worse. Now the Sandwich Islanders were both ignorant and indifferent. This was the case with all classes, the young and the old ; the chiefs and the people. The children did not like to plod away over letters and words, spelling and stammering out strange sounds. They would rather climb cocoa-nut trees, or sport in the surf, or chase one another along the coral beach. And their fathers or mothers preferred heathen games and intoxicating drinks to books and slates and Christian teaching.

It was therefore very difficult at first for the missionaries to collect and carry on a school. If by coaxing and kind words one or two were persuaded to come for a little while, they soon got tired. Many of them indeed would stand around the house to see what was doing there, and would stare, and laugh, and shout