

**IN THE
CLEARING**

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In the Clearing by K. G. Wells

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K. G. WELLS

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BY
Mrs. K. G. Wells
Mrs. K. G. WELLS.



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PUBLISHERS' NOTE.

OUR denominational literature, so rich in most particulars, has been seriously deficient in books especially adapted for Sunday-school libraries; while it has been extremely difficult to find, outside the denomination, books of a distinctively religious character, unblemished by objectionable theological dogmas.

The Sunday-school Society, desirous of doing something towards remedying this defect, offered, in May, 1867, *three premiums*, of \$100, \$50, and \$25, respectively, "for the best three manuscripts of books calculated for Unitarian Sunday-school libraries, and adapted to children under ten years of age." Of course these were designed as a beginning only; the intent being to publish a few choice books each year, till a large and valuable list should be obtained.

In response to the offer, twenty-nine manuscripts were handed in, and carefully read by the committee. Of these, eight were selected as most suitable for the purpose in view, and as possessed of the highest degree of literary excellence, joined with a pure

moral and religious tone. Five have been already published, and have met with the warm approval of those for whose benefit they were specially designed. Their titles are,—

WATCHWORDS FOR LITTLE SOLDIERS. By Miss SARAH H. FOSTER, of Portsmouth, N.H.;

LITTLE SPLENDID'S VACATION. By Mrs. C. W. T. FRY, of Chicago, Ill.;

FORREST MILLS. By Miss LOUISE M. THURSTON, of Lynn;

FATHER GABRIELLE'S FAIRY. By Mrs. MARY C. PECKHAM, of Providence; and

STORIES FOR EVA. By Miss ANNA E. APPLETON, of Reading.

Two more volumes of the series are now published; viz.:—

IN THE CLEARINGS. By Mrs. E. G. WELLS, of Boston;

FAITHFUL TO THE LIGHT, AND OTHER TALES. By Mrs. EDNAH D. CHENEY, of Boston.

It is confidently believed that these volumes will be found in all respects equal to those that preceded them, and that they will be warmly welcomed, by both parents and the young, as a valuable addition to our juvenile literature.

AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION,
42, Chancery Street.

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CHAPTER I.

THE DEPARTURE.

" NEVER can get ready in time. I do think, Will, it is the most dreadful plan that I ever heard of. It is no fun to go down to Maine and be buried alive, whether I want to be or not; and when there are so many parties."

"Jennie!" Was it the sadness or the tinge of sternness in the voice, that sent the color up Jennie's cheeks, and made her bend more closely over her packing! Yet after a few minutes she threw back her head, and turning almost defiantly to Will, exclaimed again, "Well, it is no fun; and I can't help liking fun: it was born in me, and you can't make me good right off. Down in Maine I shall have to do every thing, and" —

"You will be head of the house," mischievously interposed her brother Frank.