

**THE BOYS AND I. A
CHILD'S STORY
FOR CHILDREN**

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The Boys and I. A Child's Story for Children by Mrs. Molesworth

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MRS. MOLESWORTH

**THE BOYS AND I. A
CHILD'S STORY
FOR CHILDREN**

THE BOYS AND I



"I used to be the ladies coming to look, and Tom was the footman to open the door."
—Page 25.

THE BOYS AND I

A Child's Story for Children

BY

MRS. MOLESWORTH

AUTHOR OF

"HERMY," "HOODIE," ETC.

"Clouds and sunshine both alike
To the flowers are given,
So does God by smile and frown
Draw us up to heaven."

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY M. E. EDWARDS.



LONDON

GEORGE ROUTLEDGE AND SONS

BROADWAY, LUDGATE HILL

NEW YORK: 9, LAFAYETTE PLACE

1883

251. g. 459.

By the same Author.

UNIFORM IN SIZE AND PRICE.

HERMY. THE STORY OF A LITTLE GIRL.
With Six Illustrations by M. E. EDWARDS.

HOODIE. With Twelve Illustrations by
M. E. EDWARDS.

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THE BOYS AND I.

CHAPTER I.

OUR FIRST SORROW.

"O, it is trouble very bad,
Which causes us to weep;
All last night long we were so sad,
Not one of us could sleep."

SOMETIMES they called us all three just "the boys." But I don't think that was fair. I may have been rather a *tomboy*, but I wasn't quite so bad as to be called a "boy." I was nine then—I mean I was nine at the beginning of the time I am going to tell you about, and now I am fourteen. Afterwards, I will tell you what put it into my head to write it down. If I told you now you wouldn't understand—at least not without my telling you things all out of their places—ends at the beginning, and middles at