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THE SOWER.



OUR dear Lord Jesus used very often to teach His disciples and those who came to hear Him by telling them beautiful stories, which are called "parables." One day He told them this parable of the sower:

There was once a sower, He said, who went forth to sow, and, as he scattered the seed abroad, some of it fell by the wayside, where the earth was hard, and the seed could not sink into it. Presently the birds came flocking down and ate up the seed, so that it was lost, and could never grow or bring forth fruit.

Some of the seed fell upon dry, stony places, where there was just sufficient earth for it to grow up quickly, but no depth of soil into which

to plant the roots, so that as soon as the heat of the noonday sun shone upon the seed it withered up and died.

Some of the seed fell amongst thorns and weeds, and the weeds choked it, because they spread more rapidly than the blades of corn.

Some seed fell upon good, rich soil and took root, and grew up tall and strong and ripened, so that when the reapers came to gather it it had increased a hundredfold.

The people who listened to Jesus' words could well understand the truth of the story, though they did not grasp the hidden meaning contained in it.

Most likely they had all watched a sower sowing seed, and many of them must even have sown seeds themselves, and known quite well



REARQUHAR PUBLIC SCHOOL.

WITH

MR AND MRS ANDREW CARNEGIE'S
BEST WISHES.

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