

**THE GIRL IN CHECKS:
OR, THE MYSTERY OF
THE MOUNTAIN CABIN**

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The girl in checks: or, The mystery of the mountain cabin by J. W. Daniel

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J. W. DANIEL

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BY REV. J. W. DANIEL.



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TO
My Aged Father and Mother,
TO WHOM, UNDER DIVINE GRACE, I OWE EVERY THING,
AND TO
My Beloved Wife and Children,
THE JOY OF MY LIFE,
I Lovingly Dedicate This Volume.

AUTHOR.

(3)

NOTICE.

THE scenes and thoughts recorded on these pages have struggled within me for utterance. I have given them to whosoever shall read this volume. I believe they will stimulate thought on the part of the reader, and prove suggestive to every earnest heart.

I have no apology to make for any thing within these pages. The scenes, anecdotes, and incidents have been drawn from real life; many of them are true. I am free to say the book contains more "truth than poetry," no matter how poorly expressed.

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THE GIRL IN CHECKS.

CHAPTER I.

BOYHOOD'S VISION REALIZED.

BLUE jeans and cottonade checks, as articles of apparel, are as inseparably connected with the people inhabiting the mountain-ranges of Upper Carolina as the provincialisms of their "cracker" dialect. Indeed, there seems to be an "eternal fitness" existing between the mountaineer and his toilet. He appears as much out of place clad in broad-cloth or other fabrics as a woman at the mast's head. Four things, from some cause, have been indissolubly joined together: home-raised tobacco, clay pipes, blue jeans, and the mountaineer.

In early boyhood I have stood many a time in the long, old-fashioned piazza of the old