

## THE SPIRIT OF SCOUTING



THE PATHFINDER.

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# THE SPIRIT OF SCOUTING

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## FOREWORD.

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When I was a boy, I found it very hard to be good. I suppose every boy does. But goodness was made much harder than it need have been by many impositions and taboos which belonged not to goodness, but to civilisation—which is different. I wanted to rampage, civilisation said I must not make my clothes untidy. I wanted to make a row, civilisation said the first chief commandment for a small boy was that he should not be heard. I wanted to play Robin Hood and trace the wild beast to its lair, civilisation said it was trespassing. I wanted to make a raft, civilisation said I was making a mess. Finally, I came to the conclusion that, in order to become a good boy, I should first have to become a girl.

Scouting has altered all this. It gives a boy a chance to be good without being namby-pamby, to be in the world and of use in the world and yet not be conformed to the world but to live according to a higher law. This is not the most obvious thing about scouting, but it is the most fundamental, and it is this training in the higher law which this little book helps a man to understand and to practise.

J. LEWIS PATON.

*Manchester Grammar School.*



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# THE SPIRIT OF SCOUTING.



## The Scout Promise.

“ I promise, on my honour, that I will do my  
best :

To be loyal to God and the King ;  
To help other people at all times ;  
To obey the Scout law.”

With these words on his lips and his hand at the full salute in the presence of his fellows, a Scout enters the great brotherhood of boys which the genius of Sir Robert Baden-Powell has called into being, and which, in the short space of six years, has flung round the world a desire for clean living and right thinking ; a love of the strenuous, open-air life ; and a bond