

## Young People's Department.



"NAPOLEON AT ST. HELENA."

## NAPOLEON.

**N**EARLY everybody knows who the great Napoleon was. He began as an officer and worked his way up till he became a general. Then he rose to be the head of the French army, and led it on to victory after victory, till it was thought he would conquer the whole of Europe. But in the end he was beaten by the English army at the battle of Waterloo, under the great Duke of Wellington, and was forced to give himself up as a prisoner of war.

What were the English to do with him? With all his faults he was a great man and an Emperor, and had been the greatest man in Europe, so they could not well put him to death, and they did not like to shut him up in a prison, yet he could not be allowed to go free. They therefore banished him to a lonely, rocky island, far away, near the coast of Africa. Here he could move about and talk with his faithful friends, who, of their own accord, shared

his exile with him. He could look up to the blue sky and out upon the waters of the ocean, but that was all. The man who came very near conquering the whole world had only a small, barren island to live in for the rest of his days.

But here he had time to think over his whole life, and to ask himself why it was that he had failed. He spoke several times about Christ, and asked why it was that He, who had been despised, flogged, and killed, had become so great as to have multitudes of followers all over the world. He led no armies and fought no battles, yet men and women in every age of the world were found ready, and even anxious, to die for him. "Why was it?" this great Napoleon asked; "why was it?" And the only answer he could give was that He was more than man. He did, without force, what Napoleon, with all his strength and all his armies, had failed to do. He conquered the world—"smote it with the breath of his mouth." Therefore the great general, in his exile, loved