

Young People's Department.



PLACE WHERE ST. STEPHEN WAS STONED.

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY.

THIS may not seem a very interesting picture to you, especially at this season, when you look for something about Christmas in all your magazines and picture books; yet this shows you the place where St. Stephen, one of the first of Jesus' followers, was killed by wicked men. You know, St. Stephen's Day is the day after Christmas, December 26th. Perhaps that seems strange, too. Such a sad day coming next to such a happy one! But this is always the way. Our happy days and our sad ones are all mixed up, and one often follows quickly on the other.

You know the story of St. Stephen's martyrdom. He was a good man who preached about Christ to the Jews, and the Jews hated him for it and made up their minds to kill

and, oh! the cruel way they did it. A number of them picked up huge stones and threw them at him till he died, all wounded and bleeding. And yet though they were so cruel to him he prayed for them before he died; and isn't this a lesson for us?

When people hurt us we nearly always have hard feelings towards them, and very, very seldom do what St. Stephen did for his murderers and pray for them, and yet we know we should do this.

Then, too, St. Stephen's Day teaches us not to be selfish in our Christmas joy—not to be so full of our own happiness that we forget how sad many of our neighbors are. And so, dear children, in your happy Christmas season, try to remember some poor little neighbors, and help them, too, to have joy at Christmas time.