

The Young Churchman

"Feed my Lambs."

No. 7.]

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[Original.]

"PRAY WITHOUT CEASING."

An explosion recently occurred in a large cotton-mill at Stockport, Great Britain, which caused the death of several individuals.

In digging amongst the ruins, there was found the body of a young factory girl, who had been employed in the establishment. She was quite dead, though un mutilated. The manner in which the beams and bricks had fallen, had preserved her person from being crushed, but she had been suffocated by the smok and dust.

When discovered, *she was on her knees, with her hands clasped together in the attitude of supplication. Her spirit had evidently passed away in the act of prayer!*

Now, dear young friends, often think upon this touching little story! Your life is quite as uncertain as was the life of that poor factory girl of Stockport, who very probably expected to see as many years pass over her head as you do.

One thing, however, is plain, that she must have made prayer *a habit*. If such had not been the case, when she found herself dying by inches, so to speak, away from her parents, companions, and friends, with no human eye to pity, no human hand to succour her, she never could have commended her departing spirit into the hands of her Strength and her Redeemer! She would have been terrified, unnerved, and confounded: even like the man upon whom the midnight robber makes an unexpected attack!

Oh! remember then your Creator in the days of your youth! Pray to Him regularly and from the heart, when every thing is bright, and prosperous, and happy around you. "Seek the Lord while he may be

found; call upon Him while he is near." Then, though death should come upon you in an unlooked-for moment, and in his most terrible form, you will be prepared to meet him. You will be enabled calmly to exclaim, "*All is well!*" "*For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain!*"

"Supreme in wisdom as in power
The Rock of ages stands;
Though him thou canst not see, nor trace
The working of his hands.

"He gives the conquest to the weak,
Supports the fainting heart;
And courage in the evil hour
His heavenly aids impart.

"Mere human power shall fast decay,
And youthful vigour cease;
But they who wait upon the Lord,
In strength shall still increase."

R. J. M.

[Original.]

THE CHURCH SCHOLAR'S NOTES ON THE NEW TESTAMENT.

The Gospel accordi... to St. Matthew.

CHAPTER IV.

Ver. 1. *Then*] *i. e.* immediately after the baptism of our Lord.

—*into the wilderness.*] The particular part of the neighbourhood of the Jordan here called the wilderness cannot of course be precisely ascertained. That it really was a wild and unfrequented region we infer from the expression used by St. Mark (i.13)—"he was with the wild beasts," *i. e.*, in parts where wild animals were to be met with. A locality, westward of the Jordan, and a little north of the Dead Sea, used to be pointed out to pilgrims as the scene of our Lord's temptation; and there it probably