

2. Anne Watson, aged 16 years.

She died early in May 1831, after a long illness. She was a striking instance of the good effects of Sunday schools, and also a blessed proof of the faithfulness of the good shepherd in leading the lambs of His flock to His fold, and preserving them amidst temptations. In meekness and humility this young girl had set at the feet of Jesus, and learnt lessons of eternal truth from the words of His mouth. She was one of those tender plants that grow up and flourish unnoticed by the eye of man.

It was only a few months ago that her parents and this family came to reside in this village. Judging from the general conduct of the family no one would have expected, <sup>to find</sup> that so sick a gem among such rough unpolished stones. Hearing of her illness I determined to visit her, tho' I could not expect a welcome reception from the inmates of the house. But I shall never forget my visit to this poor girl; they belong to the most agreeable portion of my labours. The first time I called I found her lying in a most deplorable condition, almost worn out by consumption and too weak to rise; the general appearance of the <sup>also</sup> room and of the chamber, in which she lay, showed that here was the abode of poverty. But, tho' weak in body, she was strong in faith, and tho' poor she possessed all things, having the pearl of great price. Instead of mourning,

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and had suffered instruction in the way of salvation, she <sup>was blessed with</sup> ~~possessed~~ the knowledge of an advanced Christianity, combined with <sup>genuine</sup> ~~such~~ humbleness of mind, never imagining that she knew more than others, or making any boast. The spirit of the lowly Jesus of Nazareth rested upon her. Asking her the ground of her faith and hope, and what enabled her to look forward to death with such confidence and even welcome, she replied, "Jesus died for me on the cross, and He is good to all, that put their trust in Him." I continued, "and do you put your trust in Him?" "Yes, I do," said she, "I love back Him, and I believe He loves me; He came to seek and save sinners." I again questioned her, "Where my child, did you learn this?" "Never shall I forget the look she gave me, and the smile that brightened up her countenance, when she replied, "I learnt it in my Bible, sir."

She had been a scholar in a Sunday school before she came to live here; and amidst all the sin and depravity in her father's house and in the mill, where she worked, her soul had imbibed the sincere milk of the word; the lamp of life had enlightened her understanding, and she had found her way to the cross of Christ, where Jesus had spoken peace to her soul. Without any human teacher of divine things, or any one who knew what was passing in her mind, the word of God was her guide and light, and, according to her mother's testimony, this blessed book had been her constant companion. During her illness the Bible lay under her

followed, and the precious texts, stored in her memory,  
 were her daily food. On the day of her death, when  
 suffering excruciating pain, she expressed the feelings  
 of her heart and her joyful confidence in that Divine  
 Friend, on whom she depended, by repeating the  
 words, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not  
 want." She was indeed a sheep of Jesus the  
 Good Shepherd, who had led her to the green pas-  
 tures of His Word and beside the still waters of His  
 grace, who healed all her infirmities and was with  
 her in the valley of the shadow of death.

Her submission to the Will of the Lord was  
 strikingly evident. Being once asked by a friend,  
 if she wished to get better, she replied, "As it pleases  
 God." The question being put to her, what she would  
 ask, if the Lord should say to her, as to Solomon, "Ask  
 what I shall give thee," she looked very thoughtful  
 and said, "I would first ask Him what I should say."

On the days of her mental pilgrimages, driven to  
 action she showed great concern for the souls of  
 her companions; and many were the benedictions af-  
 fected, accompanied with fervent prayers, and the en-  
 tire exhortations she addressed to them. "Do not," she  
 would say, "ah! Do not tangle with eternal enemies;  
 Run to Jesus, He is the Good Shepherd. You must

occuring; but Jesus will save you from eternal death, if you believe in Him, and we shall meet again in heaven." She further manifested her desire for the spiritual good of others by requesting, that a Funeral sermon might be preached on the Text, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Psal. 111. A vast crowd of young people attended, and from the stink and attention which prevailed, I cherish the hope, that the Lord made it a blessing to some.

x 3. John Thompson Bell, aged 22 years.

Previous to his illness he gave no indication of <sup>spiritual</sup> life; for, tho' a moral character, his mind was so fixed on earthly pursuits, that it produced a degree of hardness of heart and feeling not often found in one so young. All his affections were enlisted in the acquisition of money, <sup>for</sup> after which he parted with fearful exertions. In this state he continued for a considerable time after he was confined to the house, and even long after it was evident that he would never get better. So hard were his feelings that it was painful to visit him, and so severe was the conflict on his mind when he saw that death would soon put an end to all his schemes, that it was truly distressing. The mental struggle and his fond clinging to life, racked and tormented his soul. Many times have I left the house