

HOLD FORTH THE WORD OF LIFE.

We remember to have read a traveller's conversation with the keeper of the light-house at Calais. The watchman was boasting of the brilliancy of his lantern, which can be seen ten leagues at sea, when the visitor said to him :

"What if one of the lights should chance to go out?"

"Never ; impossible," he cried, with a sort of consternation at the bare hypothesis. "Sir," said he, pointing to the ocean, "yonder, where nothing can be seen, there are ships going by to all parts of the world. If to-night one of my burners were out, within six months would come a letter, perhaps from India, perhaps from America, perhaps from some place I never heard of—saying, such a night, at such an hour, the light of Calais burned dim, the watchman neglected his post, and vessels were in danger. Ah ! sir, sometimes in the dark nights in stormy weather I look out to sea, and I feel as if an eye of the whole world were looking at my light. Go out ? burn dim ? O never."

Was the keeper of this light-house so vigilant ; did he feel so deeply the importance of his work and its responsibility ; and shall Christians neglect *their* light, and suffer it to grow dim—grow dim when, for need of its bright shining, some poor soul, struggling amid the waves of temptation, may be dashed upon the rocks of destruction ? No. "*Hold forth the word of life.*" This is the way to save souls, "Holding forth the word of life," says the Apostle ; why ? "That I may rejoice, in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, nor labored in vain."

"For sadder sight the eye can know
Than proud barque lost, or seaman's woe,
The shipwreck of the soul."

 INTELLIGENCE.

THE REV. DR. MORISON.—On Sabbath last, the Rev. Dr. Morison officiated in the Independent Chapel, Ardrossan. We remember him some twenty years ago, when the Kilmarnock Associate Presbytery, with a keen scent for heresy, very unwisely, as we think, brought him to their bar, and in a manner peculiar to Presbyteries, succeeded in expelling him from the body. He was then a popular minister ; crowds hung upon his lips, and from his meeting place in Clerk's Lane, an influence extended to the surrounding country very much resembling that witnessed