

sunshine ! Yes, by untiring, persevering effort, we had climbed into the light.

And so shall it be with him who mourns in secret and trustfully lays his troubles before his Maker. Art thou sitting in darkness, poor weary one ? and is thy candle extinguished in the conflict, like those of the two miners in the depths of the earth ? To remain thus without an effort on thy part is eternal ruin. Arise and climb towards Him who is the Light of the world, and every step shall bring thee nearer to the region of purest joy, where the Sun of Righteousness rains His splendour upon the lovely land. Is thy daily labour much, and thy bread little, and do thy hungry children often look towards the empty cupboard and ask for food in vain ? Tell it to Him who is the Guider of His people. Fling away thy garment and kneel before the Son of David, and in His own time deliverance shall come ; the beauty of heaven shall beam upon thy path, and the shadows of sorrow flee away. Step by step, and the desert is passed ; the gloomy ravine is left behind ; the rugged ridge is surmounted ; and the Canaan of repose is reached, which "hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it : for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof."

J. H.

Almost and Altogether.



WAS almost in time, but the train had started just two minutes before," said my friend, as he returned disappointed from the railway station.

"I almost saved him," I heard a man say, as he related a sad boat accident in which one poor fellow was drowned.

"I am almost certain this is the way," said my guide, as he pointed out a road, which in the end proved to be quite wrong.

In each of these cases what a fatal difference between