

the way is plainly marked out in the Bible. The experiences of a great many good men are given while travelling on the way, the dangers they met and overcame, all the bars and quicksands on which wrecks have been made, are carefully pointed out, that they may now be avoided. But the best of all experiences is that of Jesus himself, who went all over the way and left a careful record that we might follow in his footsteps. If it is a slough of despond, He knows how to help us. If it is a valley of humiliation, He humbled himself to help us there. If it is a hill of difficulty, He provides resting places for the pilgrim. If it is the valley of the shadow of death, His rod and staff will comfort us. All through the way the light from the Sun of righteousness will shine upon the path and lead safely to His home prepared for those who overcome the trials of the way.

If a blind man were walking along the road it would be all the same to him whether the sun was shining or it was pitch dark. So all the things I have been writing about in this paper would be of no use to us unless our eyes were open and our minds enlightened. When children, or older people, are starting on the new way they don't feel at home (so to speak) at first. They go in new company, and engage in new employments; they practice new habits, and, as with a child born into the world, everything is to learn. Gracious provision is made for all this. The Holy Spirit enlightens the mind to see all the rich provision made for us in the gospel of his grace, and, under His teaching, everything becomes plain, and like the child we grow into a more perfect knowledge of all the good things prepared for us; thus the path grows brighter and brighter to the perfect day. You, children, I hope have not thought me tedious. I have tried to show you how God, by his angels, will defend you in the way; how His holy book will direct you in the way, and how His Holy Spirit will open your eyes to see what He has done for you. And may you all be led by that blessed Spirit into the paths of righteousness, the end of which is eternal blessedness!

ABOUT TOBACCO.

1. An orphan boy named George applied for a situation in a store. The merchant liked his looks and was on the point of engaging him, when he saw a cigar sticking out of his coat pocket. Then he said "You won't do for me, my lad. I don't want a boy who smokes." George had some companions who had learned to smoke, and he was following their bad example. He was greatly distressed at the thought of losing the place he wanted to get. He went to his room, threw himself on his bed, and burst into tears. He remembered the words of his dying mother, how she had warned him not to follow the example of bad boys. Then he kneeled down and confessed his sin to God. He asked God to forgive him and give him grace to do better. After this he went right back to the merchant and told him about his mother's counsel; how sorry he was that he had forgotten it; how he had asked God to forgive him and help him to do better, and how he had made up his mind to try and do so. "And now, sir," said the boy, with tears in his eyes, "all I ask is that *you will just try me.*" He did try him, and never had cause to regret it.