

The Higher Life.

Not only for the light of loving hearts
 That cheered my lonely life, I thank Thee, God ;
 Not for my childhood's home, nor tearless eyes,
 Nor pleasant paths of peace my feet have trod ;
 But that, the idols, tenderly embraced,
 By this weak heart, and falsely called mine own,
 Thou didst withdraw, that I in time might learn
 To lean upon Thy holy arm alone.
 For the sharp reed that pierced this feeble hand,
 Nor thorn-torn feet that Thou alone couldst see,
 For the deep fount of tears by Thee told o'er,
 I thank Thee, Lord. They brought me nearer Thee.

DIVINE COMMUNION.

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."—PSALM xci : 1.

OUR gracious God has many visitors, and has a kindly welcome for all who come to Him. Some come as His poor dependents, knocking at the back door and seeking to get their basket filled with the scraps they need. Well, these shall not be sent empty away; but, alas, how much they lose! They have His gifts, but they never see His face, they never hear His voice, they never know His heart.

Some are His servants. They dwell with Him. They seek to know His will, and set themselves to do it earnestly. They commune with Him. And yet they do not dwell in the innermost circle. Having done His work, they turn to their own. There are limits and divisions of interest.

Some are His children. They are always with Him. They live in His presence; they are ever at home with Him. Unto them He saith, "Son, thou art ever with Me, and all that I have is thine."

Pauper, servant, son—which are we? This psalm is the song of one who dwells with God. The psalm of the Son, from which the tempter fetched the quotation with which he feathered his arrow: "If thou be the Son of God . . . for it is written. . . ." He whose heart can sing this song has found in God a rest, a satisfaction, a delight, a home.

It is supposed by many that this psalm was written by Moses. Certainly there are in it allusions that would come most naturally from one in his circumstances. This first verse gathers a fulness of new meaning as we think of it coming from his