

prove the morals of the men by an abstinence from labor on the Christian Sabbath. Every possible effort will be made to give the crew of each train a Sunday at home which it was impossible to do under the old method of running the trains. This change has, for a year past, been warmly urged by Mr. Vanderbilt."

The plea of necessity so often urged even in our own country for Sabbath railway traffic is thus seen not to be a necessity and we trust that the example of the "Vanderbilt" roads will be widely followed.

"WHAT A SAVIOUR!"

What a Saviour!" How wonderfully constituted! He was God, as it was necessary he should be; and yet not merely God, but man too. A Saviour with two natures; one reaching up to God, the other down to us. How wonderful that he should not only have taken our nature, but come down to our condition, and surrounded himself with our circumstances—become subject to such temptations as we are subject to. O "what a Saviour!" Why, he knows from experience what pain is; he has had the trials I have; he has been through this vale of tears; he knows how I am tried; he remembers how he was tried. He wept over the very city and people whose soil and hands were about to be stained with his blood. I wonder I love him so little; I wonder he is not more precious to me; I wonder they should be offended in him. How can he appear a root out of a dry ground? Why don't all see his form and comeliness?—*Dr. Nevins.*

BURDETTE ON THE THEATRE.

Some theatre-loving, cold-hearted church member is supposed to have been striking at his pastor when he said: "Ha, ha! what funny criticisms people do make. How can you denounce what you know nothing about? And yet many ministers preach savagely against the theatre who have never been to one." To this Mr. Burdette made answer, "Ha, man! many ministers preach against hell who have never been there either." Men can know of the evils of a place without visiting it in person. The theatre is one of them, bear it in mind.

SMALL, STRONG, CHURCHES.

The *Christian Inquirer* has an encouraging word for small churches:

A small school may do more for the pupils than many a large and richly endowed institution, and so a small and poor church may do more for its members than a large, wealthy body. It may be the large and rich church that is really weak, while the church of few members and a 1 of them poor, may be strong in fulfilling the true mission of a church.

The one church may have a famous preacher, while in the other is a pastor of but modest gifts, but if a man will think back and recall the sermons which have had the most effect on his spiritual career, he may find that they have not always been the discourses of the most widely-known preachers. The large church may have gifted men to speak in its conference meetings, but if a man recalls the prayer-meetings in which he has received the most profit, he may find that they have often, if not generally, been small meetings where there were few persons, and none very talented, to take part. A man may be able to do as much good for his brethren and for the world at large, by working in connection with a small, poor church, as with a large, rich one. It may be questioned whether the members of small churches do not, on the average, get more good for themselves and exert more influence for good on their neighbors than do the members of larger bodies. In the large church it is harder to get all the members to work. They crowd each other and stand in each other's light. As plants do not thrive when they are too thickly set, so the members of the large churches may be less advantageously situated for spiritual growth and efficiency than the members of the small ones. It may be the church with the tall steeple, the big organ, the five-thousand dollar minister which is the "weak" church, while the one which we sometimes speak of as "feeble" may be, in reality, a strong organization, giving to its members richer blessings in their own souls, and furnishing them the better opportunities for exerting a Christian influence on the world around.