

Down the Rapids.

HERE is a boat going through the rapids. How it springs, trembles, perhaps careens. Now it feels the current. It is lifted, swayed, yet rides on and on, avoids the projecting ledges, and shoots the last foaming, angry swirl in triumph. It is no wonder when you watch the strong hand on the helm, notice the vigilant look, and appreciate the calm, cool bearing that comes only from experience and skill. The explanation of that successful shooting of the rapids is the man at the helm.

How anxiously we watch the course of our youth as they feel the thrill of those impulses taking them out into the world that beckons and calls. The rapids, they must shoot. We know that they must go alone. We feel for them tenderly. We counsel them. We point out snags and shoals and rocks. We must, however, let them make the voyage alone. O for the Pilot that can and will accompany them and safely carry them through! Christ is that pilot. To bring the youth to Christ, to interest them in One who is already interested in them, is our work as teachers and parents. When Christ is aboard we can sleep in peace. How can we be at ease though when any soul we love may feel the pressure of temptation, be driven before the plunging rapids, and Christ far away?—*Selected.*

Salvation.

THE salvation of Christ is perfect. He saves everlastingly, not only the soul, the spiritual part of man, but the body also. We are distinctly taught that the body shall be raised incorruptible and glorified, and, re-united to the soul, shall live forever.

Christ saves from sin. Not only from its penalty and punishment, but from the power, the dominion, and the love of sin.

He saves from evil. Not only from evil itself, but from the dread and fear of it. "There shall no evil happen unto you." He shall be quiet from fear of evil.

He saves not only in time, but through eternity. "I give unto them eternal life." "None shall pluck them out of My hand."

He saves all who will come to Him. The offers of salvation are not to a favored few, but to the whole world. "Whosoever will, let him drink the water of life freely." "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters."

"Come unto Me, all ye that are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Christ saves fully, freely, willingly, and lovingly. "Without money, and without price."—*F. H. Marr.*

Theatre Going.

I SEE it publicly stated by men who call themselves Christians that it would be advisable for Christians to frequent the theatre, that the character of the drama might be raised. The suggestion is about as sensible as if it were bidden to pour a bottle of lavender water into the great sewer to improve its aroma. If the Church is to imitate the world in order to raise its tone, things have strangely altered since the days when our Lord said, "Come ye out from among them, and touch not the unclean thing." Is Heaven to descend to the infernal lake to raise its tone? Such has been the moral condition of the theatre for many a year that it

has become too bad for mending, and even if it were mended it would corrupt again. Pass by it with averted gaze; the house of the strange woman is there. It has not been my lot ever to enter a theatre during the performance of a play, but I have seen enough when I have come home from distant journeys at night, while riding past the play-houses, to make me pray that our sons and daughters may never go within the doors. It must be a strange school for virtue which attracts the harlot and the debauchee.

It is no place for a Christian, for it is best appreciated by the irreligious and worldly. If our Church members fall into the habit of frequenting the theatre, we shall soon have them going much further in the direction of vice, and they will lose all relish for the ways of God. Theatre-going, if it becomes general among professing Christians, will soon prove the death of piety.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*

