

ourselves into the sea, SUCH AS CAN SWIM FIRST, and the rest to follow, some on "boards," and on "broken pieces of the ship;" and when we have been already cheered and refreshed by the Apostle's counsel and example, and have "taken some meat" and gathered strength for the struggle, and have been enabled to believe that we shall overcome the fury of the waves and the lashing of the surf—then surely, surely, *it is time to leave the ship!* Let all who have "life" leave. Never mind the *dead corpses*; leave all the "useless lumber," what is mere "cargo," and "freight." It may require a sacrifice to take the plunge; it may cause one to shrink and shudder. But there is no help for it. Merchandize, "wheat," money, the dead bodies of dearest friends, and even such as are "alive," if they cannot be induced to leave, must all be forsaken. "Come out from among them" is the solemn command of the Lord, and leave the "ship," and all it contains, to their fate.

And, all poetry and figure aside, when the professing church has so degenerated, and become so mixed up with the world as scarcely to be distinguished from it; when godly discipline cannot be exercised; when a profession of religion has ceased to be any guarantee even of moral honesty, to say nothing of *piety*; when the fact that a man is a "communicant," a "deacon," an "elder," a "churchwarden," a "classleader," or even a "minister," is in itself no proof that he can be trusted, or that he will strenuously endeavour to pay his honest debts according to his promises, and not *lie*; and that he will not cheat you in selling a horse or in putting up a barrel of apples; when neglecting to pay one's debts or to fulfil one's promises,—is a matter so common among church members as scarcely to be noticed; when "smuggling," involving as it does FRAUD! and FALSEHOOD!! and FALS-SWEARING!!! is not considered by professing Christians either a sin or a shame; when intensely worldly men, and even immoral men, whether in the church or out of it, provided they have money and influence, are allowed to control the movements of the church; when in order to obtain money for religious and benevolent objects, such wretched worldly expedients are resorted to as "Bazaars," "Tea-meetings," "Picnics," "Strawberry Festivals," not to mention "*Clam Chowders!*" and *Theatrical Entertainments!!* the FARCES! being composed and acted by members of a Baptist Church!!! the ministers, in all cases, like Aaron at the festival in honor of the "Golden calf,"