

more pure morality, more important history, and finer strains of poetry and eloquence, than can be collected from all other books, in whatever age or language they may have been written."

"Had Cicero," says Addison, "lived to see all that Christianity has brought to light, how would he have lavished out all the force of eloquence in those noblest of contemplations,—the resurrection, and the judgment that will follow it! How would he have entered, with the force of lightning, into the affections of his hearers, upon those glorious themes which are contained in the Bible!"

"It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth for its matter, without any mixture of error," said the immortal Locke.

Reader, revere the Bible; read it with attention and prayer; obey its precepts; keep its statutes: this shall be your life.

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### EVILS OF MARBLE-PLAYING.

Marbles, marbles, marbles, are all the rage, at certain seasons, day and night. Children, youth, lads, big boys and little boys, of all colors, grades, forms and shapes, are seen at this silly, pernicious game: this initiatory step to the gambling-table and grog-rooms.

[Keep them at work, busy as bees, at something good and useful. Regular, stated employment is the only safeguard for boys and girls. The very *moment* you let them run loose, idle about, do as they please—that moment Satan begins. Thousands are ruined in the street school, soul and body, for time and eternity.

'While Satan finds some mischief, still,  
For idle hands to do.']

These idle, dirty, foul-mouthed chaps are a perfect nuisance to our cities and villages. [Where are our city officers?] The side-walks are literally thronged, blocked up, by these urchins and ragamuffins. Ladies are frequently insulted and abused.

Swear? yes, all kinds of lewd ribaldry and profanity belch forth, from these vile lips! The very offscourings are here! the filth of creation!

Parent, are you doing a fine business!—if so, go on! Your children take lessons rapidly in Satan's school! The cup of wrath is filling fast! Sow to the wind, by and by you reap the whirlwind!

Beloved youth, can you not engage in something for relaxation or amusement more noble, decent, manly, elevating, than marble-playing? Do you not know, dear friends, that the most degraded in our cities are among these groups? swearers, pilferers, sabbath-breakers, idle vagabonds? This marble business often terminates in hard speeches, disputings, wranglings, fighting and blood! Time is lost, precious, golden moments, for which God will call you to account. Besides, here is your reputation? Who ever saw a respectable youth, a boy of distinguished worth and gentlemanly deportment, engage in the