

amusement. They are respectfully requested to consider now, whether they are prepared to give an account to God for this alarming waste of time and property? and what is more to be lamented the corruption of public morals!

If the Theatre cannot be approved by the wise and good, what shall be said of *races* and *boxing matches*, where cruelty to man and beast is necessarily committed in what is, falsely called amusement? And what are most painful to the Christian, or sober man, are the drunkenness and profaneness, which these assemblies cause, or are calculated to produce?

Rulers, parents and teachers are very respectfully, but most earnestly entreated to examine the amusement, which they recommend, and do all in their power to reform all abuses.

Let no amusement be recommended but such as may tend to promote health and good morals.—  
 “Amusement and instruction should ever be united.”

—◆—

*Hymn on Gravity and Decency, by Dr. Watts.*

Behold the Sons, the Heirs of God,  
 So dearly bought with Jesus' blood!  
 Are they not born to heavenly joys,  
 And shall they stoop to earthly toys?  
 Can laughter feed th' immortal mind?  
 Were spirits of celestial kind  
 Made for a jest, for sport and play,  
 To wear out time, and waste the day?  
 Doth vain discourse, or empty mirth,  
 Well suit the honours of their birth?  
 Shall they be fond of gay attire,  
 Which children love, and fools admire.  
 What if we wear the richest vest;  
 Peacocks and flies are better drest;  
 This flesh, with all its gaudy forms,  
 Must drop to dust and feed the worms.  
 Lord, raise our hearts and passions higher;  
 Touch our vain souls with sacred fire:  
 Then, with a heaven-directed eye,  
 We'll pass these glittering trifles by.  
 We'll look on all the toys below  
 With such disdain as angels do;  
 And wait the call, that bids us rise  
 To mansions promis'd in the skies.