

profligate persons of both sexes; and have also afforded one of the strongest temptations to dishonesty, especially to young persons, to obtain the means for this mode of excitement and amusement. While these lines are being written, an instance of this kind has occurred in our city. Four boys entered a shop, and by some artful management, succeeded in carrying off a till containing money, and being immediately sought after by a police officer, they were all found in the new theatre, called, it would seem, as a cloak, by the pleasant name—the *Academy of Music*. Probably the owners of the building are among the orderly, and what are called the respectable citizens, and doubtless some, if not all of them, members of Christian Churches. Of course, they are unwilling that any such temptations and evils should occur; but they do and frequently will take place, and those owners will, at the awful day of divine and final reckoning, be accountable for them, and for all other evils which result from that mode of injury as to religious and moral principles and conduct. They are also affording temptations and allurements to contamination and various injurious consequences, in their own families, as well as the rest of society. All these modes and practices of sin and folly, and ensnaring inducements to evil, which have just been mentioned, or alluded to, and which often result in present and eternal ruin, are entirely inconsistent with religious instruction, precept, and conduct; and should never be practised, or sanctioned, in any Christian family. But, unhappily, most, if not all of them, are indulged in by very many parents; and thus, their children are induced and encouraged to follow the pernicious example, and the ensnaring and ruinous evils are perpetuated from generation to generation. It is, therefore, not at all surprising, that with all the public ministrations of divine truth, the ordinary prayer and special revival meetings, the labours of evangelists and missionaries, Sunday Schools, Bible Classes, Christian Associations, and other means and efforts, so few, comparatively, of young persons are really religiously trained, and truly converted to their God and Saviour. That indulgence by parents, in the evils which have been named, and other pernicious courses and habits, and their consequent neglect of the divinely commanded religious instruction, and training of their children, form, in truth, the chief hindrance to the conversion of the children, and the rapid and general progress of pure Scriptural Christianity. Such parents form the chief portion of the worldly and careless class described in Scripture, as existing in