

# Augustine Birrell

## Quotes

*Book, Men, Library, History, Reading, Mass, Matter, Wise, Soul, Inspirational, Affection, Anger, Mother, Believe, Birth, World History, Blood, Ideas, Doubt, Sight*

[Milton] calls the university "A stony-hearted step-mother."

~Augustine Birrell

Good as it is to inherit a library, it is better to collect one.

~Augustine Birrell

Libraries are not made, they grow.

~Augustine Birrell

There were no books in Eden, and there will be none in heaven

~Augustine Birrell

It is the Mass that matters.

~Augustine Birrell

A conventional good read is usually a bad read, a relaxing bath in what we know already. A true good read is surely an act of innovative creation in which we, the readers, become conspirators.

~Augustine Birrell

Friendship is a word, the very sight of which in print makes the heart warm.

~Augustine Birrell

Great is bookishness and the charm of books.

~Augustine Birrell

Any ordinary man can...surround himself with two thousand books...and thenceforward have at least one place in the world in which it is possible to be happy.

~Augustine Birrell

I am far too much in doubt about the present, far too perturbed .about the future, to be otherwise than profoundly reverential about the past.

~Augustine Birrell

That great dust-heap called 'history'.

~Augustine Birrell

History is a pageant and not a philosophy.

~Augustine Birrell

The man who has a library of his own collection is able to contemplate himself objectively, and is justified in believing in his own existence.

~Augustine Birrell

It is the Mass the matters.

~Augustine Birrell

A great library easily begets affection, which may deepen into love.

~Augustine Birrell

Poetry should be vital--either stirring our blood by its divine movements or snatching our breath by its divine perfection. To do both is supreme glory, to do either is enduring fame.

~Augustine Birrell

Few men can afford to be angry.

~Augustine Birrell

A poet's soul must contain the perfect shape of all things good, wise and just. His body must be spotless and without blemish, his life pure, his thoughts high, his studies intense.

~Augustine Birrell

Personally, I am dead against the burning of books.

~Augustine Birrell

There are no habits of man more alien to the doctrine of the Communist than those of the collector

~Augustine Birrell

It can never be wrong to give pleasure.

~Augustine Birrell

It is pleasant to be admitted into the birth-chamber of a great idea destined to be translated into action.

~Augustine Birrell

Is this true or only clever?

~Augustine Birrell

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